Farmers' 'Delhi Chalo' March

Why in News?

Recently, the Union home ministry has deployed at least **50 companies of central paramilitary forces** in Haryana to deal with any law and order situation **during** <u>farmers' 'Delhi Chalo' agitation</u>.

Key Points

- The Haryana police have asked farmers not to participate without permission in a planned march to the Capital.
 - According to the official sources, the Haryana government had requested the Centre to deploy at least 64 companies of central paramilitary forces, including the Rapid Action Force (RAF).
- In 2020, the farmers protested against the three laws which after one year of their protest on Delhi borders were repealed in 2021.
- Delhi Chalo was announced in December 2023 demanding the following:
 - A legal guarantee to <u>Minimum Support Price (MSP)</u> for all crops.
 - Implementation of <u>Swaminathan Commmission's formula.</u>
 - Full debt waiver for farmers.
 - Pension for farmers and labourers.
 - Withdrawal of cases against farmers during the 2020-21 protest.
- Farmers protest 2.0 is being spearheaded by different unions. After the 2020 protest,
 - farmers' unions witnessed several factionalism.
 - More than 200 farmers' unions from across the country would participate in the 'Delhi Chalo' march.
- The steps taken to not allow farmers to enter Delhi:
 - **Section 144** has been imposed in Delhi.
 - The Haryana government sealed its borders with Punjab.
 - Barbed wire, cement barricades, nails on roads have been put.
 - Massive security at all entry points to the national capital.

Minimum Support Price (MSP)

- It is the guaranteed amount paid to farmers when the government buys their produce.
- It is based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), which considers various factors such as cost of production, demand and supply, market price trends, inter-crop price parity, etc.

Swaminathan Commission

- The Swaminathan Commission was established in 2004.
- Its report states that the government should raise the MSP to at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. It is also known as the C2+ 50% formula.
 - It includes the imputed cost of capital and the rent on the land (called 'C2') to give farmers 50% returns.

Rapid Action Force (RAF)

 It is a specialised rapid reaction wing of the Central Reserve Police Force, established in October 1992 to deal with riot and crowd control situations.

The Vision

 It is a zero-response force that can be deployed to crisis situations within a minimum time, instilling confidence, and security among the general public.

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