

Internal Security

Emerging Challenges & Solutions

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India Policy Foundation
भारत नीति प्रतिष्ठान

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Introduction

India is on the move to make a place for itself in the community of developed nations of the world and reclaim its past glory. The most important hurdle on its way is its failure to govern which can negate or retard its progress.

A critical component of governance is to ensure safety and security of its people, upholding rule of law and ensuring legitimacy of power by those who wield it. In case the country fails in this endeavor, history will deplore us that in spite of all suitable opportunities India could not do what it could have done.

In the present world scenario the failure of internal security is the main factor for degradation and instability. It would not be completely correct to suggest that it is only external aggression which stops and retards the forward move of any country.

The post war period has witnessed failure, disintegration; break down of political and constitutional systems of 80 per cent States due to internal conflicts and violence. The reasons for internal security failure ranged from political turmoils, sectarian violence, and economic hardship to social breakdowns. When ever there is internal failure, the external factor usually jumps in and catalyses the process to unmanageable limits. In other word the internal turmoil lures and invites the external elements to destabilize the State. When a State fails to address the external factors it loses its capacity to control the deluge. Therefore, the fine linkage of internal security with the external factors makes the situation difficult to tackle with the conventional law and order approach to meet the challenge of internal security threats.

India's geo-political situation, neighborhood factor, historical experience with long and treacherous borders apart from long maritime boundaries make it highly vulnerable to external threats. On the other side its communal, caste, linguistic and ethnic fault lines, economic deprivation, political conflicts and turmoil provide opportunity for external forces to endanger the internal security of the country. This scenario, has taken a turn for the worse in the last two decades. Therefore, conventional model of internal security problem of the past, where the causes were mainly home grown, have now got linked up with the external machinations. In view of this background, while

the stimulants whose politico-strategic objectives, planning, motivation, finances, resources are external, only the consequences and depredations are domestically experienced. While doing so the external forces have an advantage of deniability and it very easy for them to characterize it as an internal security problem. Such problems of internal security become difficult to deal within the frame work of law and order without considering the supreme security interest of the country. India has been facing externally sponsored internal security threats for a long time now and has been paying heavy price for it in terms of money, material and human life.



CRUCIAL FACTORS

In view of the close linkage of internal security threat with the external factor, the internal security system needs to be re-looked and while forming the policy to contain it the following factors need to be kept in mind:-

Fighting face to face war is proving to be cost ineffective instrument to achieve strategic and political objectives. Moreover, in a scenario of an all out war there is no guarantee of success even for a stronger power. Therefore, to fight by hiding within the civil society is a preferred strategy. The defeat of a military power like Soviet Union in Afghanistan, America's experience in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan and Pakistani Army losing out to Shanti Bahini in Bangladesh are some illustrative examples of defeat of a stronger power in war against a much weaker opponent.

Thus, a new strategy of proxy war has been envisaged where civil society has become a battle ground which is controlled both by the violent anti- state groups and the external State. In such proxy wars, hostile States bleed their adversaries by patronizing armed groups operating in enemy's country. This asymmetric warfare has opened a window even for a weaker State to take on a stronger State at low cost by launching covert action. The strategy of asymmetric warfare and covert action has an advantage of it being carried out for a longer period because of the deniability factor attached to it. Pakistan's strategy for India is on the same lines and its operations continue

to succeed because of India's soft governance, nuclear blackmail and its security vulnerabilities.

Another, disturbing factor is the hidden groups' resource mobilization capacity, international linkages, up-gradation of weaponry, interlinking with different violent groups, access to sophisticated weapons and modern communication equipments which make it difficult for the existing infrastructure of a State's national security apparatus to match it. The same thing is happening in India where terrorist groups operating in India are on the one hand being supported by Pakistan and on the other hand are in close nexus with the local mafia and gun runners who indulge in drug trafficking, organized crimes, hawala rackets etc.

Our conventional approach to tackle this menace is through customary approach of law and order problem. This is an infirmity of security management which treats even gruesome violence committed by the hidden groups' as normal crimes, punishable through due process of law, and not as an act of war. The law of the land is heavily weighed in their favour, and therefore, the police and judicial systems find it difficult to penalise and deter such groups from doing such acts. Country's political factor is also responsible, to a great extent, in dampening the morale of our security apparatus in tackling covert actions of such groups as they fail to enact appropriate deterrent laws and their enforcement with full political will. The lack of political will coupled with the factor of corruption has led India to soft governance which has eaten the vitals of State power. The withdrawal of Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) is an example of politicization of internal security management.

Liberal democracy like India is also faced with non-state actors like media, NGO's and think tanks who most of the times, restrain the hands of security management, they sometimes publish the acts of terrorism in such a manner which instead of encouraging the acts of security apparatus criticize them to the extent that they get demoralized. Moreover, undue publicity is given to those groups which help them in building public perception in their favour.

Inappropriate response

Immediately after the attack on World Trade Centre on 9.11.2001, United State of America revamped its security system and enacted stringent security

laws and brought in new infrastructure for security management. America created a new department named as Department of Home Land Security and an institution, Director National Intelligence. President Bush announced that “It values individual freedom but should it get in conflict with the national interest, the latter will prevail”. The United States created e-connectivity for terror related information from the top intelligence organization to the remotest police stations. It also created a centralized counter intelligence data bank which was accessible to all those engaged in the fight against terrorism.

On the contrary India, even after the ghastly incident in Mumbai on 26.11.2008, instead of systemic improvements, merely resorted to quantitative response hoping that enhanced force level, without bringing about a change in training systems, equipment etc. Thinking that it would be sufficient to counter terrorism and fight insurgencies. The Indian Government though remains disproportionately focused on the threat—its intensity, manifestations, damage caused etc. To meet the challenges related to national security a State is, in fact, essentially required to meet the anticipated threats- both at the strategic and tactical levels. Correct threat analysis and anticipation is an essential prerequisite, but by itself provides no solution unless followed by a determined and real time response. It is possible only when the State displays political will, mobilises its best human and material resources, brings about systemic improvements and builds capacities to neutralize the threat. India however, did not learn its lessons even after the ghastly incident of Mumbai, which was a wakeup call, and so far it has miserably failed to improve upon its strategy and tactics.

The State Police is the most visible symbol of administrative authority and its failure to effectively maintain law and order has not only eroded the credibility of the Government, but has also emboldened criminal elements to persist with their unlawful activities with impunity. Hence, there is need to restore fitness, capacity to process a well thought out training regimen and improved living and working conditions. There is a need to be adequately sensitized Police forces to the demands of their profession and meet the expectation of the people. Besides, an exercise to modernize the police apparatus and simultaneously improve its image has to be undertaken on a priority basis.

The Central Para-Military Forces (CPMFs) have played commendable role, but have been deputed for prolong periods on a variety of duties other than those for which they were raised. This has adversely affected their training and recuperation schedules. It is strongly felt that each Para-Military force should revert to its original roles. These forces should also be modernized and trained to cope with the tasks expected of them in the prevailing internal security scenario.

Para-Military forces are deployed on several types of duties. In terrorist and insurgency affected areas 22 per cent troops are deployed on duties to protect themselves and other 45 per cent on protecting the VIPs and vital installations. With 11 per cent personnel on leave and training reserves, 5 per cent are engaged on administrative duties; what is really left to mount field operations is less than 20 per cent. For want of powerful laws, enhanced operational level intelligence, bold political decisions, lack of new strategic and tactical ideas, we have got entrapped in conventional stereotype response with reduced output to internal security.

During last two decades there has been paradigm shift in India's Internal Security scenario. India's Internal Security concerns of the past i.e. conventional pattern of civil disorders, communal disturbances, social and economic concerns and political conflict have been substituted by covert actions sponsored by hostile external powers. They target country's internal fault lines to achieve their objectives. With the economic growth of the country and social transformations the conventional internal threats steadily went down except for the left wing extremism and in its place the external factor got in to promote terrorism, insurgencies, espionage, subversion, cyber space violations, currency counterfeiting, hawala transactions, demographic invasion etc.

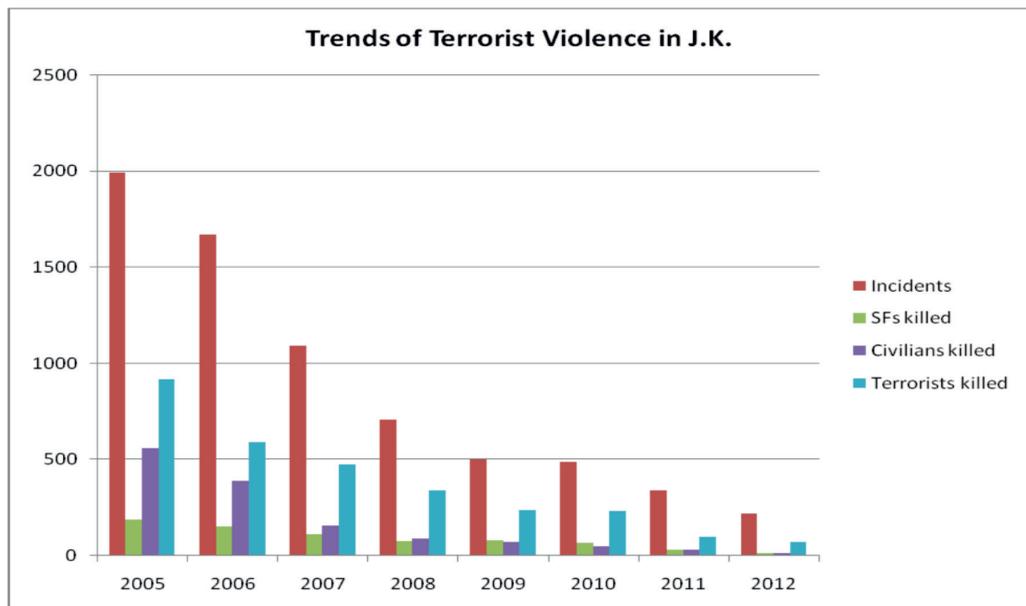
A theory to balkanize India by promoting internal disturbance was propounded in late 1940s by the senior most Pakistani police officer, Qurban Ali. He was the Deputy Director in India's Intelligence Bureau and in the wake of partition left for Pakistan where he was appointed as Director of Intelligence Bureau. His theory is known as the "Qurban Ali Doctrine". This doctrine calls for "1000 cuts to bleed India to death, to balkanize the country into much smaller States incapable of securing itself or their neighbours". This process was started as early as 1948 in Kashmir and in the words of Gul Hasan Khan, the commander-in-chief of the Pakistani armed forces, it is candidly admitted that an "elder statesman – Qurban Ali" of his country had

Trends of Terrorist Violence in J & K

Table-1

Year	Incidents	SFs killed	Civilians killed	Terrorists killed
2005	1990	189	557	917
2006	1667	151	389	591
2007	1092	110	158	472
2008	708	75	91	339
2009	499	79	71	239
2010	488	69	47	232
2011	340	33	31	100

Source: [http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AR\(E\)1213.PDF](http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AR(E)1213.PDF)



arranged covert supplies of weapons to Islamist gangs battling the accession of Hyderabad to India. Then in 1951, Pakistan calibrated the destruction of telephone lines, bridges and guest house in J&K. The process was expanded in other parts of India by Gen. Zia-ul-Haq after taking over in 1977. Since 1990s Pakistan has intensified this form of war-fare against India.



NEED TO TRANSFORM INTELLIGENCE GATHERING SYSTEM

After attainment of independence, India inherited an intelligence apparatus structured to protect the political, military and economic interests of the colonial empire. India continued to hold the same secret arm of security management without redefining its organizational objectives and evaluating the needs and vulnerabilities of free India, both from within and outside. Thus, the same old system of intelligence gathering became an instrument to protect and perpetuate the rule of those in power with the result it became conditioned in its working, ignoring its multifarious responsibilities which continue to have a bearing on national perspective.

Somehow or the other it became the principle of intelligence gathering system that serving the political interests of the person or persons in power was their duty. This basic infirmity, to some extent, was rectified when the NDA Government for the first time defined the charter of intelligence agencies, following the recommendations of the Group of Ministers in 2001.

However, after the Chinese debacle in 1962, there was all round cry for urgent need for reforms as a result committees were set up and some cosmetic changes were brought about. In spite of these changes, time and again, question arises about intelligence failure whenever any episode triggers the cycle. When ever any such situation arises and the Indian intelligence fails to meet the national expectation, an excuse of global phenomenon is put forward with a plea that India is no exception to the all around appearance. However, it is also a fact that often intelligence organizations are criticized without any basis because of its functioning under secrecy. The fact that intelligence achievements are shrouded in secrecy while its failures, often are issue of loud public debates based on surmises, conjectures and lack of understanding without taking into consideration the complex operation of intelligence machinery, honest and dedicated workings of its professionals.

There is no doubt that of late there have been significant reforms in the intelligence gathering system, but in view of the increased global and neighborhood complexities and in view of the internal and external security threats, India needs to transform and not reform its intelligence apparatus. Indian intelligence needs to start looking at the world purely form futuristic

scenario. There is urgent need to re-design the intelligence machinery to effectively meet the portents of the future.

Without transforming the intelligence machinery it would be difficult to meet the challenges posed by Pakistan which has established a massive Covert Action infrastructure with western assistance and global networking of radical Islamic groups, Muslim world, drug syndicates, gun runners etc during the war in Afghanistan. It has repositioned this apparatus to bleed and destabilize India. It wants to replicate the Afghan model in Kashmir, hoping to transform the threat into a global Jihad. The covert apparatus has become a part of Pakistan's war machine and an instrument of its State policy. Pakistan is not going to low down its appliances of Covert Action, as it remains a low cost option against India in spite of political or diplomatic talks. With the acquisition of nuclear and missile capability by Pakistan, India's option of utilizing its conventional military superiority stands under check to a great extent. If India wants to force Pakistan to revise its operational plan, India will have to revisit its operational doctrines, acquire new capabilities and to develop new leverages. This task will have to be addressed by intelligence agencies. But all this requires a strong political will.

Intelligence is required to neutralize about three hundred ISI created modules operating in India. A large number of Pakistani youth trained by ISI and disguised as Indian citizens have been strategically positioned as part of covert network. Mushroom growth of madras and Islamic institutions have become a matter of worry as most of them have become part of Covert Action network and have been propagating an ideology of hate and exclusiveness in border areas. The ISI has established anti-India espionage, subversive and saboteurs network in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Middle East etc.

The conventional system of intelligence gathering is proving inadequate to track such a vast network of Pakistan's Covert Action. Therefore, a transformed intelligence is the only way out to play a pro-active role in meeting these threats.

The main component of the Indian intelligence agencies till a few years back, was human intelligence i.e. intelligence collection through human beings. Though, since recent past the use of technology has been included in its working, but upgradation of technology and its integration by the intelligence agencies will be one of the major futuristic requirements of Indian intelligence.

Community Policing

Maintenance of internal security for a country as vast and diverse as India is difficult unless there is participation of citizen. The British had created 'chowkidari' system where a chowkidar used to be a part time worker of a police station but whose's primary task was to collect information at village level and pass it on daily to the officer-in-charge. This was a very effective system of intelligence collection. After few years of independence this system was abolished. Time has come to revive chowkidar system.

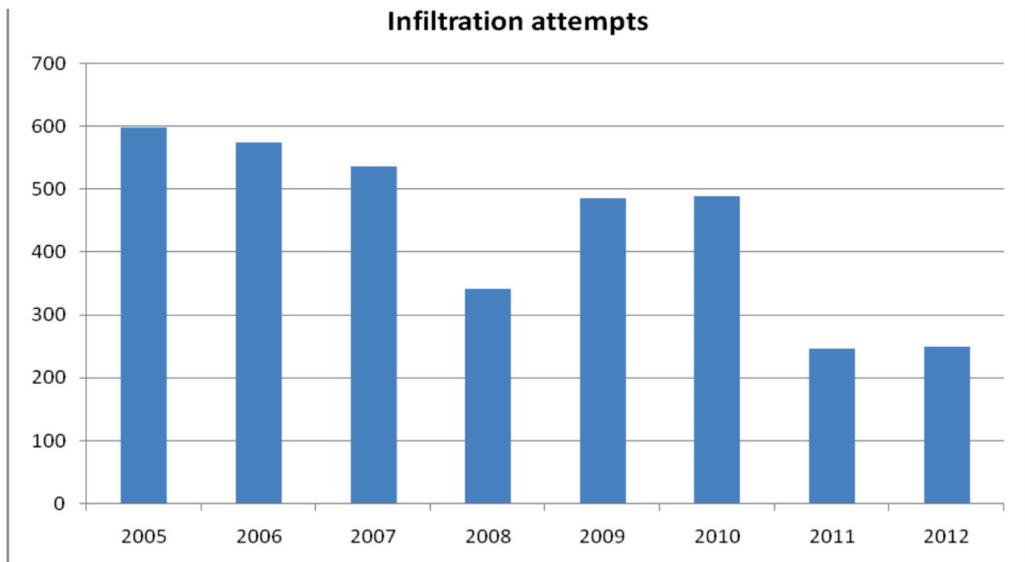
Besides, there are large number of highly nationalist citizen who would like to extend their support in not only maintaining peace and order in civil society, but also play a supportive role in combating terrorism, insurgencies, extremism and other forms of threat to the nation. It needs to devise innovative methods of involving the communities in exercising vigil for the security of their areas and their neighbourhood on self help basis with constructive coordination with the police stations.

Infiltration attempts in J&K since 2005 till Oct. 2012

Table-2

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Oct. 2012
Total	597	573	535	342	485	489	247	249

Source: [http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AR\(E\)1213.PDF](http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AR(E)1213.PDF)



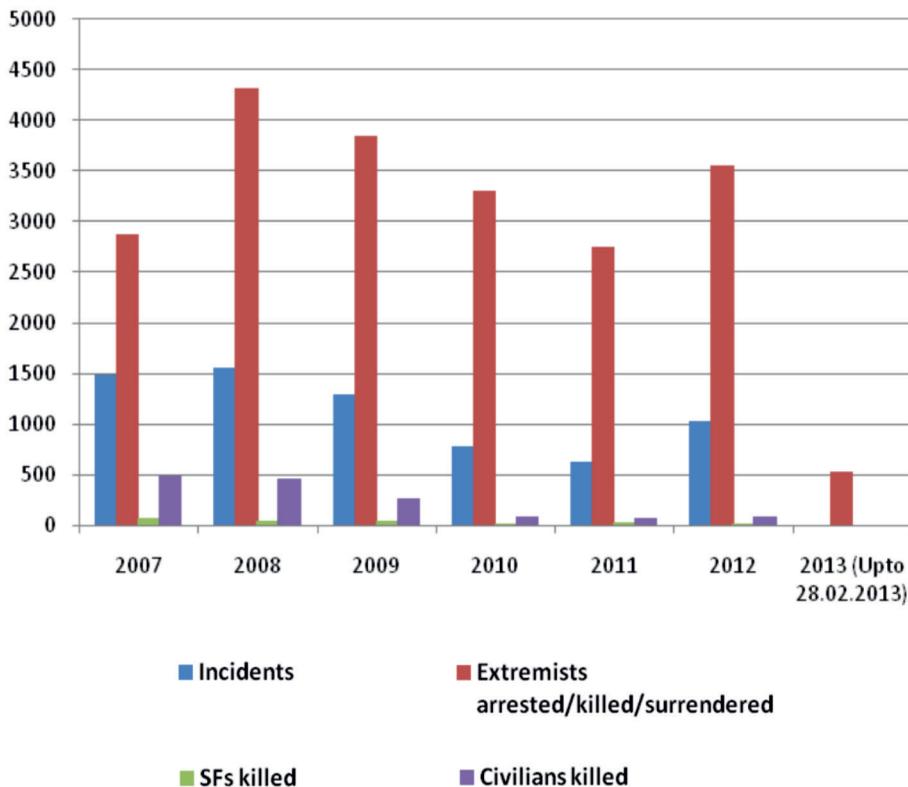
Security Situation in North Eastern States During the Period 2007 to 2013 (upto 28.02.2013)

Table-3

Head	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 (upto 28.02.2013)
Incidents	1489	1561	1297	773	627	1025	
Extremists arrested / killed/surrendered	2875	4318	3842	3306	2746	3562	524
SFs killed	79	46	42	20	32	14	004
Civilians killed	498	466	264	94	770	97	007

Source: [http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AR\(E\)1213.PDF](http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AR(E)1213.PDF)

Security Situation in North Eastern States During the Period 2007 to 2013





LEFT WING TERRORISM

Besides Jehadi terrorism, Left Wing Extremism has emerged as country's most serious internal security challenge. It assumed serious proportions after 2004 when PWG, MCC, Party Unity along with other splinter groups, merged together to form CPI (Maoist). The steady growth of LWE has been alarming for furtherance of their political objective of seizing power through gun. They have exploited and alienated a large section of tribal and also non – tribal people and have given a call to launch armed struggle against social and economic injustice, large scale displacement of tribal population due to major hydro- electric projects and extensive mining in tribal areas. This has led to an increase in their influence from 53 districts in 9 states in 2001 to nearly 252 districts in 18 states by now, thereby spreading its tentacles in around 40 per cent land of the country. The most affected States are Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, and Bihar.

The strength of armed guerillas has swelled from less than 7, 000 in early 2004 to some where around 16000. Left wing extremists, today, have many more weapons which include around 900 AK 47 Rifles, 200 light Machine Guns and locally fabricated Rocket Launchers. They have over 85 campuses where they impart training in tactics and field craft. They have a strong financial back to pay regular salaries to members of its Army known as the 'People's Liberation Army.' They raise funds nearly to the tune of Rs. 1, 200 crore a year. The extremists have acquired tactical skills, terrain knowledge and intelligence capabilities, that too, in inaccessible rural and forest hinterland, security agencies are finding it difficult to cope with the situation.

Fighting with Maoists in jungles has become more difficult than to fight with separatists and terrorists in Kashmir and insurgents in the North- east. Official data from Union Home Ministry shows that at least one security personnel loses his life to Maoists in every three days. While the death toll of security personnel killed between 2011 and 2013 was 371 in the Maoist zone; the number of incidents of violence in this zone was 4, 311. High intensity conflict zones like Jammu and Kashmir, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Meghalaya seems safer than the Maoist bastions of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh or Odisha where most of the security personnel killings have

taken place. The death toll in all insurgency affected areas was 237 in the same period and the number of incidents of violence 3,123.

Terrorism is a product of enemy countries. But that is not the case with Maoists. They are receiving support from many quarters within the country. The Government is restrained against them. Insurgency in North-east has been controlled, to a great extent, but that is not the case with Maoists. The main force fighting the Maoists is the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), which is most, affected by the tough conditions at hand. The attrition rate in CRPF is highest among paramilitary forces. Besides, the CRPF also accounts for nearly 40 per cent of suicides that take place in Para-military forces. This is perhaps because of their highest degree of depression due to many factors including constant difficulties faced by them in jungles and difficult terrain. This disturbing trend has become a cause of worry for the Home Ministry. The Maoist insurgency has taken its toll on the force in more ways than one. In the last five years the force has seen more than 700 people taking voluntary retirement.

State-wise Left Wing Extremist violence from 2009-2012

Table-4

	2009		2010		2009		2010	
	Incidents	Deaths	Incidents	Deaths	Incidents	Deaths	Incidents	Deaths
Andhra Pradesh	66	18	100	24	54	09	67	13
Bihar	232	72	307	97	316	63	166	44
Chhattisgarh	529	290	625	343	465	204	370	109
Jharkhand	742	208	501	157	517	182	480	163
Madhya Pradesh	1	0	7	1	08	00	11	0
Odisha	266	67	218	79	192	53	171	45
Uttar Pradesh	8	2	6	1	01	00	02	0
West Bengal	255	158	350	258	92	45	06	0
Others	5	0	5	0	06	01	08	0

Source: [http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AR\(E\)1213.PDF](http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AR(E)1213.PDF)

Civilians in the Maoist infested areas fare no better. In the last three years, around one thousand civilians have been killed in the fight between the rebels and security forces. The civilian death count in other insurgency zones was 389. In fact, the number of civilians killed in Maoist infested areas is much more than the number of security forces and the number of Maoists killed.

The Left Wing Extremism embodies many features that make the problem intractable. It is difficult to dominate and sanitize large inaccessible and scantily governed terrain no matter what force levels are pumped in. The Maoists have advantage of large number of alienated population that has suffered decades of social and economic neglect. Thus, the prevailing condition make it easy for the Maoists to propagate among them a promise to establish an order that will deliver Justice, freedom from exploitation, jobs and protection of their way of life. The prevailing conditions for the Maoists to propagate their ideology among them with promise to establish an order that will deliver justice, freedom from exploitation, jobs and protection of their way of life. The prevailing corrupt and callous governance makes the innocent people an easy prey to Maoist propaganda. The Maoists are able to exploit all local grievances and conflicts to gather support by promising different things to different people.

The main body of the CPI (Maoist) has a well structured organization. Its highest decision making body is the Central Committee which consists of six members. Thereafter it has State committees, zonal committees, District Committees, Divisional Committees and Local Area Committees. It also has Technical and other specialist committees for specific purposes. Besides these there is a separate committee named - Central Military Committee (CMC) which is responsible for directing guerrilla activity, buying and supplying arms.

The entire organization is controlled by the Central Committee and around 30 commanders of its armed cadre known as the member of PLGA (People's Liberation Guerilla Army), which is the military component of the CPI (Maoist). They determine the political line, control the resources and design the strategy. The bulk of 16, 000 odd armed cadres and many a times supporters are only naive tribal and poor people misled by vicious propaganda and lured by money. Besides these factors, the poor tribal some

time find no way out except to join Maoists because of their gun power. It has been often seen in tribal belt that who so ever opposed them were either killed or made disable. However, of late there has been ideological dilution, dissensions, demoralization, due to strong Para-military actions and neutralization of its top leaders and activists. It has also come to notice that there has been leadership struggle, disruption in sources of funding and misappropriation of funds which is substantially weakening the movement. Devoid of ideological plank among its supporters the movement is reduced to a problem of organized crime. Hence besides police action, a credible, focused and sustained psychological offensive is needed to expose the movement.

Maoists raise funds through extortions, collections from corrupt Government officials, protection money, levies on rich landlords, businessmen, contractors, transporters etc. Paradoxically, increase in Government outlays for development activities in affected areas has strengthened them financially as enhanced outlays are not backed up by effective and accountable administrative machinery. Hence legal actions are required against such fund providers. It is estimated that they are able to collect nearly 1200 crore rupees a year. The collection of huge funds is an important factor to empower the Maoists to raise new cadres, procure weapons and expand their area of influence. A freshly recruited youth is being paid rupees 2000 to 2500 per month, which is a good sum in a poverty stricken area to lure them to join the rank.

IV

NORTH – EAST & DEMOGRAPHIC INVASION

Demographic invasion from Bangladesh has assumed a serious security dimensions. Unabated illegal immigration in many of the bordering districts has brought about a total demographic transformation as the original inhabitants are being forced to sell their lands and flee to safer place. Due to apathetic attitude of the Government, the situation has worsened to the extent that the illegal migrants are becoming more biting and emboldened, considering their migration as a matter of right as voices are rising in support

of greater Bangladesh both in Assam and Bangladesh. It is a matter of worry that even after such dangerous developments; the political leaders have given deaf ear towards it because of vote bank politics.

The illegal immigrants do not remain confined to North-Eastern borders only but have spread out and found new habitations in length and breadth of the country. Due to lack of inadequate identification process and prevailing corrupt practices, most of them have been able to acquire identity documents with local political patronage. In some areas local Muslims facilitate their settlements and help them to procure ration cards, identity documents, shelters, job, and political patronage.

The large scale illegal migration has not only caused demographic changes but increased social conflicts, denied economic and civic amenities to our own people and endangered the internal security as it provides support base to terrorists, shelter facility to those terrorists and fundamentalists who are now using Bangladesh as a new safe base. The porous border of Bangladesh, support from Bangladesh Rifles, and corrupt practices on Indian side facilitate the illegal migration without much difficulty. The push factor in Bangladesh and pull factor on Indian side, if not checked would take such an alarming proportion which would not only prove a security threat but might break the country in future.

After Pakistan, Bangladesh has become epicentre of Jehadi terrorism where militant groups like Harkat-ul-Jehadi Islami, Harkat-ul-Ansar, Okaye Jote, Jamait-e-Islami Bangladesh and over dozen of militant outfits with highly sinister objectives have already established their firm foot. This development in Bangladesh has direct bearing on India, particularly in North- Eastern part of the country. Interrogations of arrested Pakistani and Bangladeshi terrorists' are revealing mind boggling informations. These militant organizations have been subverting the Indian youth, getting them trained in Bangladesh, equipping them with arms to use them for terrorist activities in India. For tactical reasons, mentors of these groups who are themselves based in Pakistan and Bangladesh have advised them not to strike till they fully prepared and required political environment is created. In the meantime they have started the process of political consolidation of immigrant Muslims, in collaboration with Muslim leaders. With these long term preparations, a violent armed uprising can not be ruled out in future, if India does not initiate corrective measures at the earliest.

Insurgency in North Eastern States is another matter of worry as far as internal security of the country is concerned. The region shares 5,215 kms of border with China (South Tibet) in the north, Myanmar, in the east, Bangladesh in South-West, and Bhutan to the North West. While China with which India does not have friendly relations, shares a border of nearly 1,561 kms in the NE region, India and Bangladesh share a 2,429 mile long border. Thus, external factor has and will continue to remain a vital factor of our management of North – Eastern security.

China had a dubious record of meddling with North – Eastern insurgent groups till mid eighties. After a long lull, there are increasing evidence of China reviving its covert offensive in North- East. Chinese renewed interest in NE insurgency can not be taken lightly in view of emerging aggressiveness, military activities in border areas, claims on Arunachal Pradesh and linkages of Left Wing Extremists with North – Eastern insurgent groups.

Bases of insurgents in Bangladesh and Myanmar are the main sustaining factor of insurgencies North-East. In addition to the safe havens these countries are being used by insurgents to smuggle weapons, impart training and providing transit route for their leaders. One of the strategic considerations to provide sanctuaries to them is the advantage it provides in pushing illegal migrants to India.



SOLUTIONS FOR COUNTERING INTERNAL SECURITY THREATS

Some of the steps suggested strengthening internal security management:-

- The National Security Council (NSE) and Cabinet Committee on security should evolve an effective counter strategy against security threats posed by the Pak ISI. The strategy should be pro- active rather than reactive
- The Union Government should sensitise the Chief Ministers about the need for them to devote the highest priority to security management issues.

- The Chief Minister and the entire state administration must devote special attention to the implementation of various developmental schemes, while the security forces are carrying out anti- insurgency/ anti terrorist operations.
- Union Government should be requested to maintain efficient police organization to effectively maintain law and order.
- The State Police forces have to be modernized for which Central Government should provide modernization grants.
- The Union Government should provide assistance to the States to maintain well trained and equipped civil and armed forces.
- Every State must be encouraged to create specialized forces to meet it requirement.
- Each State should take action to set up a well equipped and modern forensic science laboratory.
- State Governments should restore the orderly and systematic functioning of police stations.
- The Centre and the States should ensure close collaboration between the State Special Branches and the Intelligence Bureau along with upgradation of the capabilities of the former.
- Modernization of Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs) is urgently needed as their ultimate objective is to meet the challenges of internal security and counter insurgency
- In operation against insurgency, militancy and terrorism, arrangements for co-ordination of operational planning, deployment etc should be evolved, in close consultation with the Central and State authorities.
- There is an urgent need to revamp the criminal justice system, including making use of provisions of Evidence Act and Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) by trial courts, for expeditious conclusion of trials.

- A strong law for Prevention of Terrorism like POTA should be enacted as early as possible for dealing effectively with terrorism.
- Steps should be taken in consultation with and on the advice of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to secure international cooperation in countering the challenges posed by organized crime.
- For tackling economic offences, effective co-ordination must be ensured among the concerned regulatory agencies. The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB) may play a nodal role in this regard.
- Even though in the present constitutional frame work it is difficult for the Union Government to monitor and bring about improvement in the governance of the States, an accountability mechanism is needed to be built, in respect of the schemes being financed by the Central Government.
- A mechanism may be worked out, in consultation with States, whereby the Central Government could guide and help the State Governments, in providing good governance.
- Action should be taken to create awareness of duties, responsibilities of citizens, through introduction of imaginatively conceived modules in the educational curriculum in the schools, colleges and professional training institutions.
- The rich potential of the electronic media should be exploited by the Government to make people, even those who are illiterate, aware of their duties and obligations.
- Political parties have a significant role to play in ensuring that the faith of the people in the system is maintained. The Ethics Committee of Parliament could lay down norms and guidelines for sensitization of members and constituents of political parties to the need for maintaining exemplary conduct. A similar code should be devised for the Government servants.
- Time has come, when those occupying high public offices should set an example for the people to emulate and follow. And those of them

who are found guilty of violating their legal or constitutional obligations should be dealt with sternly.

- Civil Defence :- During times of war, national calamities and similar other emergencies civil defence has traditionally played a vital role in guarding the hinterland, supporting the armed forces, mobilizing citizen and helping civil administration in discharging its responsibilities. Over the years, however, new and complex challenges have emerged, the preparedness of the civil defence personnel have also suffered, as its periodic exercises have become routinised and tended to get neglected. It is essential therefore, for the Central Government to carry out an in-depth review of the organisation's effectiveness, identify its weaknesses and the new challenges it will be required to meet, in the contemporary scenario and evolved a concrete plan to revamp it. This important task needs to be undertaken in close collaboration with the State Governments. This exercise should be undertaken on an urgent basis.
- Steps should be taken to secure the involvement of communities in exercising requisite vigilance and in supporting and assisting the functioning of civil police. Defence parties may be formed in villages. Similar defence parties could be formed in urban areas, in each mohalla and ward.
- The prevention of money laundering is essential for safeguarding internal security. Given the close nexus between drug trafficking, organized crime and terrorism, it is also necessary to improve the effectiveness of the Narcotics Control Bureau.
- Concerted efforts to choke Maoists source of finance and channels of procuring weapons deserve high priority.
- In case of Maoists' action political statements and counter statements, Centre versus State blame game, accusations of intelligence and security failure, even though relevant, but leading nowhere, should be avoided at all cost. Lack of credibility of the Government is a serious matter. It becomes all the more important when it relates to security matters as lack of credibility may lead to the erosion of legitimacy, potentiality threatening country's stability. The country can ill afford that.

- There should be clear and unequivocal message to the perpetrators about enunciation of a new national policy and strategy, initiatives towards capacity building and pressing into action innovative tactical plans.
- There is needed to give a loud and clear message to the extremists that the State will use all its power to protect its sovereign rights.
- The front organizations, masquerading as NGOs and think tanks, which skillfully assist the extremists in exploiting discontent, tend to subvert them to take recourse to gun must be made accountable. Those who provide them intellectual and ideological space by projecting them as social revolutionaries are as guilty as the gullible people who take to arms.
- India needs to strengthen its coastal security considerations to protect its vital economic interests in two million – sq km of EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone). Security enhancement in this vital area has been delayed for a bit too long now.