



STRATEGIC AND SECURITY ENHANCEMENT IN INDIA: REFERENCING WITH FIGHTING AGAINST PROXY WAR

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Abstract

India has an excellence security forces and has no fear for direct war situation from any neighbouring countries but from the covert offensive of the adversary and alert the defense forces against the proxy war that India was exposed to at the hands of a hostile neighbour. Recent attack on Pathankot Airbase is the example of Pakistan sponsored proxy war against India, has thus alive again. India is always emphasising the importance of peace and security for economic development. The neighbouring countries are playing the role for un-declared war against India. This paper is exploring the situation of proxy war and strategic and security techniques in combating proxy war in advance basis.

Key Words: Proxy war, Strategy and Security, War, Militancy, Terrorism.

Introduction

Crimes against the government may range from protests, illegal demonstrations, and strikes to espionage, political whistleblowing, assassination, and terrorism. The terrorist is the epitome of the political criminal. India facing the challenges of proxy war in last 60 years through its neighbouring country. Proxy war is a substitute attacks on civil and military persons in the name of the terrorism. Terrorism may be distinguished from tragic acts of war in its wilful and calculating targeting of innocents. This can be defined as ‘the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.’ Proxy war can be defined as the said war in which two opposing countries avoiding direct war, and instead supporting combatants that serve their interests. In some occasions, one country is a direct combatant whilst the other supporting its enemy. This definition is not according to the situation among the countries like India and Pakistan and also Afghanistan. Insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir of India is directly going through from Pakistani inland areas since 1989. A war instigated by a major power which does not itself become involved: the end of the cold war brought an end to many of the proxy wars through which the two sides struggle to exert their influence. Proxy wars can have a huge impact, especially on the local area and this has generally destabilising effect. In general, the lengths, intensities and scales of existing armed conflicts are often greatly increased when belligerents’ capabilities are augmented by external support. Belligerents are often less likely to engage in diplomatic negotiations, peace talks are less likely to bear fruit, and damage to infrastructure can be many times greater. Perhaps India is the worst victim of proxy war in this era.

The report of the Task Force on Disorders and Terrorism (US) provides the following typology of terrorism:

- **Political Terrorism:** this is defines as ‘violent criminal behaviour designed primarily to generate fear in the community, or a substantial segment of it, for political purpose.’
- **Non-political Terrorism:** non-political terrorism also attempts to elicit fear by means of violence, but is undertaken for private purposes or gain. Example of this type would include activities of organised crime.
- **Quasi-terrorism:** quasi-terrorism describes ‘those activities incidental to the commission of crime of violence that are similar in form and method to true terrorism but which nevertheless lack its essential ingredient.’
- **Limited Political Terrorism:** limited political terrorism refers to ‘act of terrorism which are committed for ideological or political motives, but which are not part of a concerted campaign to capture control of the state.’
- **Official and State Terrorism:** official or state terrorism occurs in ‘nations whose rule is based upon fear and oppression that reach terroristic proportions.’

One might add ‘state-sponsored terrorism’ in which countries support terrorism as ‘war on the cheap’. This is the result of introduction of modern technology in the defense. The approaches of wars have also been changes from fight in the borders to diplomacy and international pressures and cooperation. For instance, Pakistan wants to proxy war against India and chances of proxy war is very high.

Proxy War Fighter: Who They Are?

The legal category of ‘unlawful combatant’ was introduced by the United States government in the aftermath of 11 September and the invasion of Afghanistan. According to the US government, many of the individuals captured by US forces in Afghanistan (who were clearly ‘combating’ the invasion) did not meet the criteria in Geneva III defining ‘combatants’. The US claimed that they failed to wear distinguishing uniforms or making or carry their arms openly, and opted to create the



new category of ‘unlawful combatants’, meaning that much of the protections contained in the Geneva Conventions could be denied to them during detention. International Humanitarian Law makes no provision for such a category. A person who has ‘committed a belligerent act and fallen into the hands of the enemy’ but whose status as a combatant is under any doubt shall be treated as a prisoner of war until his status is determined by a ‘competent tribunal’.

Pakistan’s Role of Insurgency in India

Since Pakistan sponsored militancy first erupted in the Kashmir valley in 1989-90 and cries of Independence rent the air, the pendulum of public opinion in Kashmir has swung away from thoughts of Jihad to more ‘mundane bread and butter’ issues (Gurmeet : 2010).

Graphic details of wars between India and Pakistan, which intensified in 1987, are provided by writer and Historian Dilip Hiro in his book ‘The Longest August’. The proxy war between India and Pakistan lies in Afghanistan. It all started after the collapse of Dr. Najibullah’s regime in 1992, which had been backed by the former USSR, which coincided with the establishment of Pakistan backed mujahideen government and then Taliban regime.

Neighbouring country’s sponsored unlawful combatant infiltrates into India’s several border States. This is high cost of Kashmir province which is the integral part of India. With state sponsored jihadists turning their guns towards India after being prohibited, killing innocent citizens and bombing the cities, it is that India would not support them in any way. However, India needs to step forward and strengthen the security and plan of strategy in order to fight against this undeclared war of terrorism.

Strategy for Combating the Proxy War

It is summarises counterterrorism measures in terms of nine policies on strategic and security level: diplomatic measures, better intelligence gathering, tighter security measures, legal and social measures, more public awareness, military and police action, arms and explosives controls, media self-regulation, and maintenance of public composure.

India needs to establish effective deterrence to combat proxy war which may need to be exercised from time to time in order to demonstrate its credibility. If India fails to take such action even now, then the last posts and the show will simply go on as hithertofore. The cross border links of the terrorists and mafia which includes politician; money laundering through hawala, narcotics trade and diversion of funds to terrorist organizations as reported by NIA from time to time and hinted by veteran R&AW officers should be prevent strategically by government strongly.

India has to be fully geared to deal with the proxy war. India will give a befitting reply to Pakistan’s proxy war. In this regard, sanction must be imposed on offending regimes (state terrorism and state-sponsored terrorism) as always suggested by Indian war expert Major General (retd.) G.D. Bakshi.

India object to a perceived lack of general international agreement on the definition of both war crimes and crimes against humanity, claiming ‘wide divergence’ of state opinion on the specific elements of crimes and leaving open questions as to issues such as whether non-international armed conflict is included. The international community also needs to play its role in the resolution of Indo-Pak disputes and proxy wars rather than rushing every time when another conflict erupts between the two rival countries.

Following may be considered for better functioning of the security on strategic basis in fighting against proxy war:

1. Increase the percentage of available funding directed to financing activities of defense.
2. Expand efforts to utilise modern equipment and services whenever possible and to encourage domestic enterprises and institute to increase capabilities to provide high quality equipment and associated warranties and services.
3. Rely increasing on Indian specialists to training programme.
4. Encourage the international participation in its security oriented courses by offering an industrial security specialisation to the security person and general students.
5. Give greater attention, in both training and implementation activities, to developing personal commitments on the part of Indian force to fulfil their responsibilities for ensuring the proper functioning.

Always in Mind of Nuclear Threat

A special inter-academy working group should be established to develop both recommendations to governments and project proposals in the general area of nuclear security. Increase the priority of and resources for a ‘security first’ agenda for reducing the risks of proxy war with unbelievable war of demolition.



Studies of the many dimension of information security including clarification of the importance and scope of national strategies, to improve protection of critical network and identification of area, where international cooperation should be strengthened. Studies of the role of mass media in terrorism situations and in shaping public attitudes toward terrorism should also be priority take up.

Joint activities will be beneficial at adapting to the Indian environment in training specialist to deal with the terrorism, in developing organizational mechanisms for coordinating activities of many organizations in preventing and responding to terrorist attacks in using forensic techniques to assist in the search for the instigators of terrorist acts.

Conclusion

Terrorism threats of the future promise to be more nuclear, more urban, and to involve wealthier and more skilled terrorists-often as proxy armies for sponsor countries like Pakistan. Terrorism is a problem to be managed rather than solved. Attempts at international cooperation are hindered by the very ideological disputes that often give rise to terrorism. A precedent does exist with respect to international cooperation: piracy, a historically common practice, has been virtually eliminated through international agreement. At one time, countries hired pirates in a form of 'war by proxy', but for centuries they have been declared *hostis humani generis* (common enemies of mankind), outlaws whose act fall under the jurisdiction of all states. Perhaps a similar uniform international policy will evolve regarding cross-national terrorism.

It is axiomatic that there can be no military solution to an insurgency. The security forces can only restore functional normalcy so that the law and order situation is under control and the write of the civil administration runs in the state.

A public opinion must be mobilised to express the nation's solidarity with the Kashmiri people in their long drawn out and courageous struggle against Pakistan sponsored proxy war. A sustain political campaign must be immediately launched to win the hearts and minds of the Kashmiri people assuage their feelings of hurt and neglect and restore their bruised and battered dignity. Nevertheless, India should continue to strive to achieve normalcy in its relations with Pakistan and other neighbouring countries and must keep all channels of communications open.

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