

The Divergent and Devastating Tentacles of Violence as a Threat to Internal Security of India, Cannot We Stop?

An overview on major root causes of violence

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Abstract

India is a yardstick of diversity in culture, religion, linguistics, caste and geography, it has been sensitively evolved within the ethical limits materializing the development of a composite culture, but too often it had been strained by divisive and destructive tentacles of violence born out of heterogeneous elements. The present overview tried to depict that majorly threats to the internal security of our nation falls under three varied heads 1. Armed insurgency in North east 2. Left wing extremism in certain states 3. Religious fundamentalistic driven separatism and terrorism (majorly by infiltration) in Jammu and Kashmir. Armed insurgency in North east is mainly driven for sovereignty of their concerned regions. A Wide array of armed insurgents (militant groups) operate to materialize this aim and wage regular militant attacks against civil and military establishments, extortion is the source of their funding. Their demands are born out of their cultural protection and decadal negligence which alienates them, some of the groups are NSCN (IM) (mother of all insurgencies), NSCN (K), for nagalim, ULFA for independent asom, NDFB for bodoland and others even existing feud between different tribes for instance between mizos and chakmas, mizos and reangs, Manipur meiteis and nagas, nagas and kukis to protect their inhabitable lands all these compounds to the already existing complex and vicious circle of violence. In order to counter these AFSPA has been deployed in north eastern states (persons like Irom Sharmila is on strike to repel it, recently Tripura has revoked it). With respect to left wing extremism in certain states ranging from its inception in Naxalbari of West Bengal to Bihar, Jharkhand, M.P. Chattisgarh, A.P and Telangana, the Abujmahar forest area of Chhattisgarh is the hub of Naxals, the main cause for the rise of Naxalism is atrocious and unjust civil administration prevailed with feudal tendencies and deprivation of basic and developmental services culminating to the frustration and oppression prompting them to take up arms against the unjust machinery. Regarding the state in J&K it is anti India propagated religious fundamentalistic driven secessionarism which shatters the state and further accentuated by sponsoring of terrorism by Pakistan majorly by infiltration. Finally the overview concluded that the root causes of violence that threatens the integrity of India are seems to be divisive therefore regional specific multipronged strategies is required driven by sharing the fruits of development amongst the down trodden and needy people who are fundamental base for any form of extremism/sessionarism and act as bulwarks against rising tide of violence by delinking with the same along with it honest and efficient civil administration, political representation of vital stake holders and synergistic security system which all creates the conducive atmosphere for inclusive and sustainable development which is the strategic remedy to stop and dismantle the root causes of violence.

Keywords: India, NSCN (IM), AFSPA

Introduction

India has been considered as a sub continental nation owing to its distinction, uniqueness and diversity in geography, customs, traditions and society and a place of convergence of varied cultures at one place materializing a composite culture. The key for the development of the composite culture lies in the well balanced, tolerant and development within the ethical limits which respects and complements each other leading to a harmonious and

sustainable society. Democratic and civil institutions whose main purpose is to deliver the basic services starting from road connectivity, primary health centers, sanitation facilities, education, electricity, safe drinking water and sustained livelihood opportunities which all enhances the living standards of the people and particularly ensures that the down trodden shall be uplifted, what can be called as connecting the disconnected people to the national building process has been subjected to frequent distortions and derailing due

to the incompetent, inefficient, undemocratic and corrupt politicians and administrators leading to the suppression and alienation of the masses in general and downtrodden in particular in divergent ways. Therefore in order to protect and ensures one's socio economic development, culture and even other equivalent issues different armed and separatists movements and institutions rose in rebellion and in the name of fighting for their sovereignty, independence and autonomy Inevitably contributing and spreading the tentacles of violence and posing serious threats to the internal security of the nation and in turn the very integrity of the nation.

The Present outlook discusses broadly three major threats to the internal security of the nation which falls under three major heads 1. Armed Insurgency in North East. 2. Left wing extremism in certain states 3. Religious and Fundamentalistic driven separatism coupled with terrorism (majorly by infiltration) in Jammu and Kashmir. Though there are some other local disturbances but these are detrimental on the part of internal security and integrity of the nation.

1. Armed insurgencies in North East: North eastern India embodies seven sisters- 1.Assam 2.Arunachal Pradesh 3. Meghalaya 4.Manipur 5. Nagaland 6.Mizoram 7. Tripura. Culturally they were pluralistic and endemic which adds to the beauty of Indian cultural diversity. Geographically this region has been topographed by rugged mountains, deep valleys, and dense forests. It connects with the rest of the India by narrow siligiri corridor often called as chicken's neck a narrow stretch of land in west Bengal. Owing to its complex physiogeographical conditions development of transport and communication systems has been halted which disconnects the north eastern people coupled with their backwardness in socio-economic spheres and lack of modernization of their cultures resulting to devoid of national emotions and unifying zeal with Indian union all these compounding to the suppression and alienation of the people, mutual rivalries and enmity between and amongst different tribal groups further ultra complicates the situation reflecting a sense of flux culminating to the origin of different armed insurgent groups whose number reaches three digits poses very serious threat to the internal security. These armed insurgent groups with separatist zeal fight for a wide array of demands viz... sovereignty, independence, autonomy and checking the immigration from neighboring countries. The paper discusses major insurgent groups which were the platforms for varied minor and sub groups.

NSCN: Nationalist Socialist Council of Nagaland was formed in 1980 in response and opposing to shillong accord took place between NNC (Naga National Council) and central government of India, Their objective is to establish 'Nagalim', A large swath of territory of naga inhabitants carving out of the states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland and North western Myanmar, Fighting for the sovereignty of the same so as

to protect and safeguard the Nagas and it's culture from other tribals and ethnic encroachments and even based on differences with central government of India. NSCN institutionally considered as mother of all insurgencies and NSCN further splits into NSCN (IM) and NSCN (K). Recent historical peace accord between NSCN (IM) and Central government of India is a positive development in reducing the tensions in the region but the rival faction NSCN (K) continues to be a disturbing force and a matter of concern to the security of the region. In 2014 General elections voters in Nagaland turn out at 87% which reflects the point that people of Nagaland growing confidence on the Indian democracy and a huge set back to the insurgent groups because without popular support no insurgent group shall sustain.

ULFA: United Liberation Front of Asom was founded in 1979 and their objective is to free Assam from immigrants of Bangladesh and fighting for it's sovereignty by the armed struggle, but this has been weakened by operation al clear of Bhutan and equivalent operations in Bangladesh, arrest of it's top leaders and descending trend of public support. Recent hand over of Anup chetia a top leader of ULFA by Bangladesh to India considered as a huge set back to the ULFA.

Manipur armed insurgents

In Manipur it has been said that there are more than 30 armed insurgents operating, in which major ones were UNLF, PLA and PREPAK. fighting for Meitei ethnic groups. Manipur has been dominated by Major Hindu Meitei ethnic group in habituating the valleys and several other tribes such as Nagas and Kukis. When Nagas demanded for Nagalim which has spillover into Manipur and in order to prevent their encroachments meiteis rose against them and similar territorial conflicts exists between kukis and nagas, Kukis and Meiteis and Meiteis and Muslims all these culminating to rose of several armed insurgent groups leading to the spread of unrest in Manipur other armed groups were kuki national army, kuki national front and a variety of Islamic rebel groups. AFSPA has been on board to prevent the exigencies of armed groups though Persons like Irom sharmila has been on very long hunger strike to repel the same the central government was reluctant to revoke provided that disturbances still Prevails in the region.

Other armed insurgents

There were different armed insurgents fighting for their priorities which were heterogeneous in nature viz... NDFB- National Democratic front of bodoland, NLFT and ATTF operates in Tripura apart from the insurgents responsible for internal crisis conflicts between tribals further deepens the tentacles of violence for instance conflicts between mizos and chakmas and mizos and reangs all these depicts the sorry state of the north eastern states. Majorly the insurgents groups rise fund by

extortion what they call it as protection money in all this disintegrating scenario the people were the ultimate victims and sufferers in order to protect them from encroachment of other tribals/armed groups they pay protection money to their concerned tribal armed insurgents at this juncture they fall prey to the military and paramilitary forces as they were booked for cooperating with insurgents in either case the people were the most alienated ones which sustains the threat to the internal security because the armed groups sustain and flourishes themselves based on the fundamental base of the people's support.

AFSPA: Armed forces (special powers) Act, 1958 has been in force in seven north eastern states to curb the disturbances; recently the state of Tripura has revoked the same on the grounds of normalcy.

2. Left wing extremism: Otherwise called naxalism began in Naxalbari village of northern west Bengal in 1969 by armed poor peasants with slogan land to the tiller against the feudal establishments and it's prevailing principle over civilian establishments leading to the suppression and deprivation of the poor peasants and masses. Later this movement has spread to other states- Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odissa, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The unjust state which deprives the socio economic rights of the masses and poor employment avenues frustrates the youth and prompts them to took up arms against the state that have been failed to uplift the down trodden and redressal of their reasonable grievances. So long the unjust state promotes the vested interests at the coast of general interests the left wing extremism shall prevails with local base of the people. Abujmarh area of Chhattisgarh has been considered as hub of naxalism due to it's rugged terrain and deep and dense forests above all local tribes as ground recruiting hub for naxals.

3. Secessionarism in Jammu and Kashmir: Unlike other threats to the internal security of India sessionarism in J&K is very serious one because it is propelled by anti Indian sentiments driven by religious and fundamentalistic principles aiming to separate Kashmir from the Indian union by several separatist outfits, some strives for independent Kashmir and others for accession to Pakistan whom can be considered as ultra fundamentalists. and Hurriyat Conference of syed adil shah geelani is an important separatist outfit. Mooted by 1987 rigging of general elections sessionarism in Kashmir has been exaggerated in 1990's considering rigging as restricting the democratic causes of Kashmiris the separatist outfits rose in rebellion against the government of India and further accentuated by sponsoring of fundamentalism by Pakistan, infiltration of terrorists who in the name of jihadists spreading the tentacles of violence deep into the Kashmir, pipelining funds and ammunition to fundamentalists and establishment of sanctuaries and safe heavens in Pakistan, Presence of AFSPA since from

1990's(kashmiris had several apprehensions about it) all these were consolidated by the socio economic alienation of the masses and exclusion from main stream indianization ultimately sustains the threat of **secessionarism** and justifies it's cause in a prudent manner.

Conclusion

Just like India rich in cultural diversity it's threats are also diversified therefore regional specific multipronged strategies driven by the socio economic development of the people in general and downtrodden in particular which connects them to the national building process by quantitative and qualitative upliftment of their lives so as to delink from the varied insurgents and separatist outfits this has to be facilitated by the political representation of the people, synergistic development of security establishments, honest and committed action of civil and political servants in a harmonious manner in the form of ensuring the basic infrastructure facilities which enhances the living standards of the masses leading to their holistic development which themselves did not allow any intruder either internally and externally because the people put faith on the capacity of the state which is the best possible strategic remedy in curbing different threats in a proactive and prudent manner.

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