

Terror scenario in the country

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The terrorism has emerged as the gravest problem faced by India today. The spurt in jihadi terrorism since last three-four years has threatened the very survival of India as a nation state. We have been facing the menace of militancy and terrorism since last more than 40 years. But since this problem of militancy was earlier confined only to some border states like Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab and the North-Eastern states, most people in the rest of India generally remained unaware of its disastrous consequences. Today the menace of terrorism has escalated to all parts of India. As a result of the unprecedented rise in the jihadi terror and Maoist violence since 2004, thousands of innocent people have been killed and many more thousands have been injured. What are the factors responsible for this sudden spurt in terrorist violence and who should be held responsible for this deterioration in the security situation in the country?

Soft on Terror policy and Peace Dialogue with Pakistan

It is the soft on terror policy of the present government at the Centre and the government's peace initiative with Pakistan that has led to the spurt in jihadi terror and Maoist violence in India since last four or five years. The first major decision of the UPA government after coming to power in 2004 was the abolition of Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA). When the jihadi terror was becoming deadlier and Maoist movement was making steady inroads into all remote and tribal areas in the country, what was the need and logic behind abolishing a tough anti-terror law like the POTA? Government's justification for abolition of POTA was that its stringent provisions could be misused by the police. It is an illogical excuse as any punitive law can be misused by the law-enforcing agencies. It is the duty of the government to ensure that such laws are not misused. As part of the soft on terror policy, the UPA government treated the Maoist movement as a socio-economic problem and wanted to resolve the issue through peace talks. The government's sympathetic attitude to the Maoist movement had sabotaged a major anti-Maoist operation in Andhra Pradesh in February, 2005. About 30 top Maoist leaders, including State Secretary Ramakrishna and also some representatives from Chattigarh and Bihar, who were holding a secret meeting deep inside the Nallamala jungles in Prakasm district in Andhra Pradesh were encircled by the special anti-naxalite squad of Andhra Pradesh on February 3, 2005. However the said operation had to be called off at the last moment because of a directive from the Centre seeking the suspension of the operation in order to create a cordial atmosphere for peace talks. Thus a golden opportunity to break the backbone of the Maoist movement in Andhra Pradesh was lost. The peace talks with the Maoists were short-lived as it soon collapsed reportedly because of the unreasonable demands raised by the Maoists. The suspension of all offensive operations against the Maoists to facilitate the success of the peace talks was used by the Maoists to regroup and revitalize their cadres and the movement soon emerged as a much more vibrant and potent force spreading its lethal tentacles to many more regions in the country.

The Centre's peace initiative with the United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), the most dreaded terror outfit of Assam, was also a colossal failure. The irony of the

situation is that two of the members accepted by the Centre as mediators for holding talks with the ULFA leaders, namely Lachit Bordolai and Hiranya Saikia, themselves were later arrested by the Assam police in 2008 for their involvement in terrorist activities. Since the ULFA leaders had refused to give up their main demand for a sovereign Republic of Assam, the talks were bound to be a failure and there was no meaning in initiating the peace talks with the ULFA. Still, the Government of India went ahead with the peace talks from October 2005 allowing the ULFA cadres to regroup and strengthen themselves by freely and openly conducting activities like recruitment of new cadres and procurement of arms. The peace talks broke down in 2006 after three rounds of talks. The revitalized ULFA continued with its reign of terror with greater vigour and ferocity for some more time. But presently the ULFA is in shatters. Most of ULFA's senior leaders were arrested and jailed during the last two years and the outfit was faced with the possibility of total demolition. Then the UPA government appointed P.C.Haldar, a former chief of Intelligence Bureau, as a special interlocutor to conduct peace talks with ULFA leaders to find an amicable settlement of the demands raised by them. As part of a peace deal with ULFA leaders, most of the arrested senior leaders have already been released. Instead of going for the kill and decimating the ULFA once for all, as did the Sri Lankan forces act against the LTTE, the government has now given an opportunity to the outfit to revive itself. As recently as in December, 2010, ULFA's supremo Paresh Baruah had said that there was no question of ULFA withdrawing its demand for a sovereign Assam. This raises the question as to which is more antinational? The ULFA or the UPA government?

The composite peace dialogue between India and Pakistan which started in 2004 under the indirect pressure from the US was mainly responsible for the spread and intensity of the jihadi terror in India. As part of the composite peace dialogue, the government started a series of confidence building measures with Pakistan beginning with the opening up of borders and removing all travel restrictions to Pakistan. More cross-border bus services were introduced and train services between the two countries were also resumed. Two cross-border trade links were also established with POK, which was actually a long-standing demand of the separatists in the Kashmir valley. The Centre initiated all these steps in the name of promoting people to people contacts and cementing our friendly ties with Pakistan. India is now engaged in talks with Pakistan on easing visa restrictions and some progress in this regard has already been made. This was disclosed by Union Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee while speaking at a function marking the 10th anniversary of the South Asia Free Media Association in New Delhi on 28 December, 2010. With the relaxation of all travel restrictions, the separatists in the Kashmir valley can now make frequent trips to Pakistan to meet their mentors and other jihadi friends for discussion and review of their future strategy in Kashmir. Some of the separatist leaders from Kashmir during their visits had even participated in anti-India rallies organized by Hisbul Mujahideen in Pakistan. It has also become easy now for the SIMI and other newly recruited jihadi voluntaries to go across the border and get trained in Pakistani terror camps. Various jihadi terrorist groups in Pakistan took full advantage of this lowering of guard by the Indian authorities to send their operatives to India and establish closer liaison with the home-grown terror outfits like the SIMI and Indian Mujahideen and select terror targets in India for their future terror attacks. The Pak-ISI

was thus able to convert the SIMI and the newly created Indian Mujahideen into dreaded terror outfits. The Indian Mujahideen later started conducting regular terror attacks, mainly in the form of serial bomb blasts, in different parts of the country with the support and guidance of Pakistani terrorist groups like Leshkar-e-Toiba. Thus we can see how the government's soft on terror policy had gone horribly wrong and resulted in promoting Maoist movement, ULFA and jihadi terror in the country.

Why the peace dialogue

Pakistan has not dismantled its terror infrastructure in its territory directed against India. According to the defence minister, there are about forty terrorist training camps still operating with full impunity in Pakistan. Both Afghanistan and Indian authorities have confirmed the involvement of Pakistan's ISI in the July-7, 2008 car-bomb attack on the Indian embassy in Kabul. Leaders of all major Kashmiri terrorist groups like Laskar-e-toiba, Jaish-e- Mohammad and Hisbul Mujahideen are still allowed to operate from Pakistan. All the five hijackers who hijacked an Indian airlines flight to Kandhahar in December, 1999 are given safe asylum in Pakistan. All the main accused in the 1993 serial bomb blasts and July 2006 serial train blasts in Mumbai are evading arrest by taking shelter in Pakistan. Dawood Ibrahim and his henchmen who are wanted in India in connection with various crimes and terror acts in India including the 1993 serial bomb blasts in Mumbai are given safe asylum in Pakistan. India is flooded with fake Indian currency notes printed in government presses in Pakistan as part of the Pak-ISI's long-cherished strategy of destabilizing Indian economy. Pakistan had always acted against India's interests in every international forum. It had also opposed India's bid for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. Under the said circumstances, what prompted the Indian authorities to enter into a composite peace dialogue with Pakistan? Why are we not calling off the peace talks with Pakistan even after the Mumbai terror strikes?

American Pressure

We are not calling off the peace talks because of the disapproval from the US. Under the UPA regime, India has become a puppet of the US and there is tremendous pressure on India from the US to go soft on Pakistan. After every major terror attack in India, a plethora of senior leaders and officials from the US and other western countries air-dash to India to express their sympathy and solidarity with India. But these leaders do not allow us to take any retaliatory action against Pakistan and instead insist on India to continue with the peace talks to strengthen the democratic forces in Pakistan. They warn India against any military adventurism to check such terror attacks emanating from Pakistan as it will amount to playing straight into the hands of the terrorists who want a confrontation between the two countries. The pseudo-secular lobby in India and the English press also preach the same thing and want the Indian government to show restraint. They impress upon the Indian authorities that Pakistan is also a co-victim of terror and both India and Pakistan should fight the terror together. This is utter nonsense. India knew very well that Pakistan's state agencies are fully involved in all the terror attacks emanating from Pakistani territory against India. Still we preferred to go along with the US line. There were more than 30 major terror attacks in India during the last four years, but we did nothing to punish the main perpetrators of these attacks. The real fact is that the US is a partner in terror with Pakistan. All the terror attacks that were

carried out in India by the LeT with the assistance of the ISI, had the approval of the US. The US is also as much interested in ruining our economy as Pakistan. The US had specific information about the impending Mumbai attacks as admitted by David Headley. But it did not pass on the information to India. Meanwhile the Pakistani authorities continue to deny any role by any of its state agencies in the terror attacks in India and ask India to settle the Kashmir issue for a permanent solution to terror attacks in India. In short, our imperialist friends and the pseudo-secular lobby in India desire that we should further strengthen our bonds with Pakistan and submit ourselves passively to get continued battering by the jihadi terrorists based in Pakistan.

Conspiracy Behind the Peace Talks

There are strong grounds to believe that the US is trying to force a settlement on the Kashmir dispute on India on Pakistan's terms. In 2006, Pakistan President Musharraf had proposed a four-point formula to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to settle the row over Kashmir. His peace formula involved withdrawal of all Indian troops from Jammu & Kashmir, grant of self-rule and autonomy to the people of Kashmir, cross-border travel without Passport and visa and joint supervision of undivided Kashmir by both India and Pakistan. If this proposal was accepted, we would have lost Kashmir for ever. And still Prime Minister Manmohan Singh welcomed the said proposal and secret negotiations have been going on since then between the two countries over the Musharraf formula. If Pakistani leaders are to be believed, a secret understanding had almost reached between the two countries over the Kashmir dispute, although no agreement was signed. It is becoming increasingly clear that there is a conspiracy behind the ongoing peace dialogue with Pakistan to force a farce Kashmir settlement on India which will allow Pakistan to annex Kashmir through the backdoor.

The civil society movement

The action group movement led by NGO and human rights activists in the country is increasingly referred to as the civil society movement. The civil society organizations (CSOs) are promoted, funded and controlled by certain western intelligence and Christian funding agencies and foundations to protect the interests of the US and its allies and the church all over the world. Civil society organizations are now active in almost all countries in the world, including Russia and China. Their assignments however may differ from one country to another depending upon the strategic interests of the western lobby in a particular country and the nature and political affiliation of the ruling regime in that country. For instance, in authoritarian regimes like China, Cuba and Venezuela, the civil society activities are aimed at bringing about a regime change and installation of a pro-Western democratic government. In India, where there is a friendly regime now, they support the UPA government. But India is never perceived as a friendly country. Their objective in India is focused on promoting Christianity and working for the gradual break up of India into ten or fifteen smaller countries to suit the long-term interests of the US. It is precisely because of this objective, the civil society groups in India support and promote all anti-national movements like the Maoist movement, Islamic militancy, separatist movement in Kashmir and all secessionist movements in the country. This can easily be verified from the articles written and comments and statements made by the civil society and human rights leaders on such movements. The civil society group

leaders believe that the Maoist movement is a socio-economic problem and it should be resolved through talks and not by force. In fact the civil society leaders are so closely linked with Maoist / naxalite leaders and we can consider them as the overground face of the underground naxal cadres. It was because of their support that the Maoist movement could grow so fast in the rural and tribal regions in the country. According to some NGO leaders, it is the discrimination and injustice done to the Muslim community that has led to Islamic militancy in India. The NGO activists view the separatist movements in the North-Eastern region and Kashmir as a reflection of the suppressed aspirations and legitimate grievances of the people and want the government to respect the sentiments of the people in the region and seek a solution to the problem through a peaceful dialogue. The NGO and human rights activists have also been opposing all stringent anti-terror laws in the country on the ground of its possible misuse by the police. Their opposition to all anti-terror laws is actually prompted by their sympathy for various militant movements in the country. The anti-development lobby which tries to stop all developmental projects in the country raising issues like displacement of people, environmental pollution, etc. is also fully controlled by the civil society activists.

Terror scenario in the Country

With the militant Maoist movement making steady headway into more and more remote and tribal areas in the country and the Pakistan-sponsored jihadi terrorists letting loose a reign of terror in most parts of the country, the security situation in the country presently remains extremely alarming. But, Pakistan or Maoism or jihadi terror is not India's main enemy. The NGO-human rights axis that has now come to be known as civil society movement, which supports and promotes all anti-national movements in the country is the greatest threat to the unity and integrity of the country. In the name of empowering the rural poor, these activists are injecting the poison of militancy and anti-establishment sentiments among the people in the remote areas of the country, shaping them up as Maoists. These traitor activists, who act a fifth column in India, need to be destroyed if India is to be saved.

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