Abstract

IMPACT OF NAXALISM ON INDIA'S INTERNAL SECURITY: A CASE STUDY OF NARAYANPUR AND RAIPUR (CHATTISGARH)

Maoist "People's War" has remained an inspiration for a large number of revolutionaries throughout the world. Revolutionary groups in Vietnam, Thailand, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Peru and Nepal have all, in varying proportions, modeled their struggles on a "People's War." However, most tend to ignore the specific structural conditions and political environment, which shaped and eventually led to Mao's success in China. The propensity to apply a successful model is often far too strong to resist and generally leads to neglect of Mao's implicit and in some cases Explicit guidance to model struggles in existing social and cultural contexts. It is therefore not surprising that except for Vietnam and to a certain extent in Nepal, Maoist insurgents all over the world have been unable to achieve their political goals.

In India, Maoist insurgency is also termed Naxalism. Naxalism derives its name from Naxalbari, a small village in Siliguri district of West Bengal where in 1967 a few landless farmers supported by followers of the communist party rose against the exploitation of landlords. This small yet significant incident marked a turning point in the history of the communist movement in India. What followed was according to Kanu Sanyal, "an armed struggle –not for land but for state power." The Naxal movement since then, has ebbed and flowed but has never been comprehensively contained. In 2006, the Prime Minister of India named Naxalism as the biggest internal security threat to India. Since then despite government efforts, the Naxal movement continues to grow, and has now spread to nearly one third of the country. Naxalism initially arose from the basic factors of social inequality, economic injustice and the failure of the system to redress grievances of large sections of the society.

H1- Naxalite movement in mainland India constitutes a grave challenge to democratic governance.

H2- Failure of political mechanism and concept of social justice is root cause of Naxal as threat to internal security and Constitutional Governance.

H3- If Naxalism as biggest threat as many believes, its continuing spread will have serious negative repercussion on to the detriment of India.

After the Study of Chhattisgarh the researcher has come to the conclusion that Absence of Credible Governance, Diagnostic Failure, Failure to Undertake Land Reforms, So called "Participatory Development", Corporate Abuse & Theft of Tribal Lands, Critical Errors in Rehabilitation and Resettlement, Poverty & Underdevelopment, No Naxal Policy, Lack of Empowerment at the grass root level, Robin Hood Image for the Naxals, Compulsion, Fear & Chaotic Atmosphere of Terror, Ideology. Combined with these broad categories there are several motivational factors that assist the Maoist build-up - The Social, Political and Economic Inequalities, Emotional, Livelihood, Political, Connectivity Factors, Lack of Alternatives, Early

Life Indoctrination, Gun Culture and resultant Pseudo Empowerment as well as Ideological Factors. There are some other facts which are following:

a) Primarily this is a feature of the absence of Government – an administrative vacuum leading to presence of Naxals followed by consolidation. It is important to remember that not all tribal are Naxals nor are all Naxals tribals.

b) Naxalism posed a grave threat not only particular state even to India's internal security. The spread of Maoist's Insurgency is an indication of a sense of desperation and alienation that is sweeping over large sections of India who have been marginalized, exploited and dispossessed in their tribal homelands.

c) Failure of the administrative machinery at the grassroots level. What we need is comprehensive centre-state strategy, which should include broad based domains of national and state policies including accelerated economic development, social justice, security and media policies.

d) Employment, land reforms and development of road infrastructure in tribal areas must be given the highest priority. It should address dedicated and effective governance through good administration, prompt and fair judiciary, and law and order machinery that inspires public confidence.

e) The tribal areas have to be developed on a crash basis, given the India's tribal population accounts for as much as 40 per cent of the country's internally displaced population while 40 per cent of India's scheduled caste population owns less than an acre of land.

f) Involvement of the people in having a say on the issues of governance and development is critical. To be meaningful local democratic institutions should be strengthened to freely operate and act as the mechanism for ventilating and redressing people's grievances. This would reduce the relevance of insurgents to the people and sections of society. Panchayati Raj institutions should be strengthened and be empowered to assume this responsibility as the areas are freed from the influence of non-state actors. The haunting problems of lack of concrete steps by the central government, inadequate preparations of the state governments and insufficiency of cutting-edge intelligence, if not addressed at priority level, is likely to add to the India's woes.

Following measures need to be considered at various levels of policy formulation mechanism.

- **Evolve an integrated Politico-Military Approach:**

- **Create a sound Intelligence frame work**
- **National Counter Terrorism Centre**
- **Modernisation of Police Forces**
- **Strategy to Interdict & Eliminate the Support Structure**
- **Winning Hearts and Minds of the People (WHAM)**
- **Modernize law enforcement agencies**
- **Take steps for welfare of the tribals**
- **Let ordinary citizens have access to basic resources**

- Remove disparity
- Stop the political marginalization of weaker sections
- Take steps to prevent environmental degradation
- Pay attention to rehabilitation and resettlement
- Generate more employment and increase wages
- Dialogue
- Good governance
- Create A Ministry of Internal Security
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