

Name Sana Qayyum.

Batch

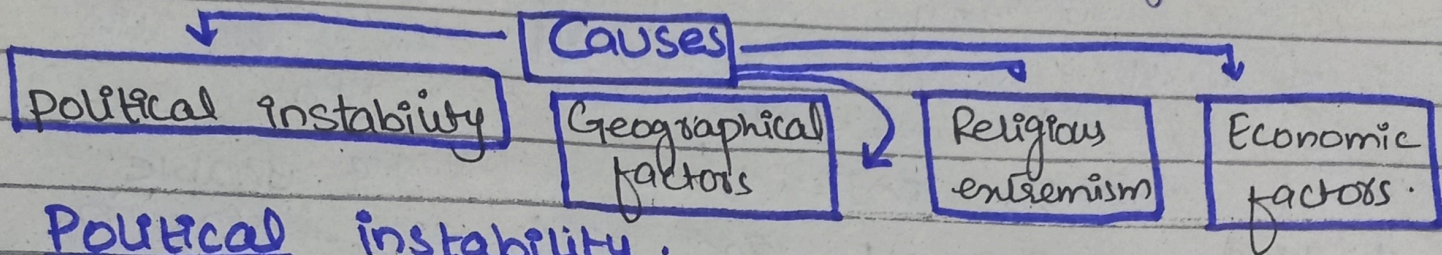
LMSID

Q: The ascending potency of hybrid warfare foisted on the state of Pakistan is adding to the security woes of the country. Elaborate with examples.

INTRODUCTION: Hybrid warfare refers to the use of a mixture of conventional and unconventional military tactics and techniques in order to achieve targets. This type of warfare has become increasingly prevalent in recent years and had been utilized by numerous actors including state or non state actors. The country has faced a range of unconventional challenges including terrorism, sectarian violence and insurgency which have significantly impacted its stability and security. For instance, the assault on the Chinese consulate in Karachi in November 2018, Ali Raza Abidi's murder in December, armed resistance to the construction of the CPEC in some areas of Balochistan and the terrorist attack on the FC training facility in Wabai in Jan 2019 are all characterized as manifestations of hybrid warfare inside the nation.

CAUSES OF HYBRID WARFARE IN PAKISTAN

The causes of hybrid warfare in Pakistan are complex and multifaceted, and can be traced back to a number of different factors. Some are as follows.



Political instability:

Political instability in Pakistan has contributed to the rise of hybrid warfare in the country. The country has a long history of political instability, which has created conditions that are conducive to the development of insurgency and other forms of hybrid warfare.

Geographical factors:

Pakistan's location in a volatile region with hostile neighbouring countries, has made it susceptible to hybrid warfare. The conflict in Afghanistan, and India's role in the region, has also contributed to the rise of hybrid warfare in Pakistan.

Religious Extremism:

Religious extremism has been

a significant factor in the rise of hybrid warfare in Pakistan. The country has a history of religious extremism, with various militant groups using religion as a means of achieving their objectives.

Economic factors:

Poverty, Unemployment and economic inequality have contributed to the rise of hybrid warfare in Pakistan. In many cases, individuals who are unable to find employment and who are living in poverty are more likely to join militant groups, which can lead to the development of hybrid warfare.

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SECURITY SITUATION IN PAKISTAN:

Major Contributor to the Security Situation in Pakistan is the rise of extremist and militant groups: such as Taliban and Al-Qaeda which have been able to gain a foothold in the country due to the lack of effective governance and the presence of ungoverned spaces. These groups have carried out a series of devastating attacks resulting in loss of life and property and causing a widespread instability and insecurity. For instance the conflict in the North-West region of

Pakistan dates back to the 1980s, when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. The US and its allies provided support to the Afghan resistance fighters, many of whom were trained in Pakistan. After the withdrawal of Soviet, these fighters turned their intentions towards Pakistan, and caused insurgency in the North-West Region.

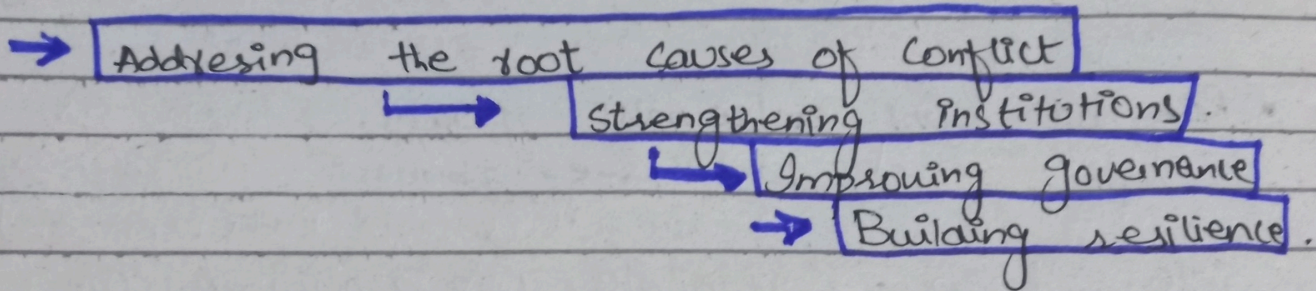
- Rise of Sunni extremist groups, such as Taliban and Lashkar-e-Tehrik which has targeted Shia communities in Pakistan and have been responsible for a number of high-profile terrorist attacks. These groups are often seen as being supported by external actors, such as Saudi Arabia which has a long-standing interest in promoting Sunni Islam.

- Iran has also been accused of supporting Shia militant in Pakistan, which has further fueled sectarian tensions and contributed to hybrid warfare in the country.

- In 2019, The EU Dis Info Lab published a report, according to investigative study titled "The Indian Chronicles" India used 750+ websites located in 119 different nations to delegitimize and isolate Pakistan internationally. The network was found to have links to the Russian government and was reportedly influencing public opinion.

On a number of sensitive issues, including the Indian elections, the situation in Kashmir and tensions between India and Pakistan

STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME ITS IMPLICATIONS



1- Addressing the root causes of conflict.

The root causes of the conflict and security issues in Pakistan, such as poverty, inequality and political marginalization need to be addressed to ensure long term stability and security.

Strengthening institutions: The institutions in Pakistan, such as the government, military, and police, need to be strengthened to effectively respond to the challenges posed by hybrid warfare. This could involve reforms to improve transparency, accountability, and efficiency, as well as increased investment in capacity-building training programs.

Improving Governance: Effective governance is critical to addressing the root causes of conflict and ensuring stability and security. This could involve reforms to improve the delivery of public services, reduce corruption, and promote transparency and accountability.

Building Resilience:

Building resilience to hybrid warfare requires investing in human, capital, and infrastructure development of infrastructure and economic systems. This can help reduce the risk of conflict and improve the capacity of communities to cope with shocks and stressors.

CONCLUSION.

Pakistan has been facing various forms of hybrid warfare for decades, from internal conflict to cross border region aggression from neighbouring countries. The implications of hybrid warfare in Pakistan are significant and both for the country itself and for the region as a whole. To effectively counter hybrid warfare in Pakistan a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach is needed, including military operations, information operations, and development projects aimed at improving the lives of local population.