

Date _____

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

INTRODUCTION

Hybrid warfare, as explained in global security review, combines conventional and unconventional techniques of war to destabilize the society or influence its decision making power. It includes the military operations, propaganda, economic pressure, and spreading of terrorism within the state.

Pakistan, nowadays, has been facing hybrid warfare in different forms. Spreading terrorism, galling economy, destabilizing political affairs, facing propaganda are major issues faced by Pakistan nowadays. TTP and other parties/similar parties have

Pabo

imposed pressure on military and civil government of either fulfilling their demands or providing them the part of state (Balochistan and KP) to rule. On the other hand falling economy is a bigger pressure on state. It goes to take loan from IMF on their conditions which are enough to take freedom of decision making state. India's propaganda is adding value to problems of Pakistan as its destroying impression in West. Its also putting pressure on Pakistan to handle security matter soon. Consequently, Pakistan has now been trapped in hybrid warfare ~~which~~ is whose objects are destabilizing the peace and security of the state.

TYPES of HYBRID WARFARE FACED BY PAKISTAN

↳ Degrading Economy

Pakistani economy has been reached to its lowest since last few decades as per SBP data. Pakistan was near to default, and IMF loan worked as a last moment breath. However, loan was initiated based on some conditions. This has happened in past as well. IMF always put conditions and we are bound to follow. As per BBC report IMF loan during 2019 was conditioned to ~~put~~ reveal CPEC documents which was highly discouraged by China. Due to economic needs Pakistan did that. It was a security threat for CPEC and so Pakistan. Moreover, a report on Pakistan

defence site revealed that army has cancelled ~~at~~ / suspends all military exercises this year as they run out of fuel. It's giving fuel to security threat as it's highly important to keep the troops ready for any incoming, and unknown threat.

Degrading economy has also led to high inflation of 28.3%, as reported by SBP, which increases the chances of civil war as masses are unhappy with new government. This multiplies with the threat and ~~the~~ destabilizing the stable state.

2. Propagating Terrorism

As per a report by The News, in 2023 May, TDP claimed to have reached 76 attacks across the country. It is highest in last 8 years. The IS-k attack on 31 July 2023, on rally of

Jamiat-e-Ulma occurred. More than 54 people killed and 130 were injured among which some are in critical condition. It's a way of creating fear and anger among people. It generates anger against govt of the country which ultimately increase distance between masses and govt. Moreover it has potential to give rise to civil war which is enough for destabilizing the state.

3- Spreading disintegration

India has always been involved in propaganda against Pakistan. However, the current conditions of country in terms of terrorism, economic instability, and political chaos has given fuel to it. The purpose is to isolate Pakistan, and so that no one

could help us if India imposes any military operation for their political or other purposes. EU Disinfo Lab report^{turn} revealed that a large network of India was involved in propaganda against Pak. Indian media outlet, fake websites, NGOs were involved in propaganda to promote India and to degrade Pakistan. Besides that the twitter trend report / ~~an~~ analysis reveals that during TLP's protest in 2021, more than 61% of hash-tags originated from Indian fake accounts. Tags were "# EvilWantsPakistan". Approx. 84000 tweets, retweets, and replies were given using this hashtag. Last but not least, India's propaganda against Pakistan got terrorist funding - thrown us in FATF grey list from which we succeeded to come out

WAY FORWARD

1- Saving ^{the} Economy from falling

It is highly important and almost necessary for state rulers to pierce economy over their personal interest at this stage. Stable government along with business friendly policies, rule of law, accountability and with ~~no~~ corruption status can achieve such goals

2. Countering Terrorism

Military should focus on security affairs more actively. Recent attacks have shown the gaps in military strategy. Taking help from friendly countries including China, Russia might help.

3- ~~Dealing~~ ^{Indian} dealing with propaganda

Although Pakistan is not in position nowadays to take richer steps like India that involve high level lobbying groups but it can at least control its internal affairs like law and order situation to portray positive picture to the world. It would us from isolation or sanctions. Ultimately it reduces the security challenges.

CONCLUSION

Nowadays, Pakistan is highly trapped in hybrid warfare. Its confronting economic instability that forces to accept conditions of IMF, and these conditions take out the decision making power from state.

Pakistan is also facing terrorism and propaganda. India is spreading disinformation against Pakistan. Although the situation is alarming but its never too late. Establishment, government, along with judiciary can work together and make plans for resolving the current and incoming threats. Security is highly dependent on economy so it needs to be first top in the list. With proper policies Pakistan can not only fight with ongoing woes but also ~~rise in~~ the emerge as better state.