

Discuss in detail the efficacy of counter terrorism measures adopted by the government especially with reference to the National Action Plans.

Ans: The National Action Plan was a comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy adopted by the Pakistani government in response to Peshawar School massacre in 2014. While NAP has had some positive impacts, its effectiveness in addressing terrorism in Pakistan remain a subject of debate.

Positive impact of NAP:

- Increased focus on Counter-terrorism:

The NAP has brought increased attention and resources to the issue of terrorism in Pakistan. It has led a more concerted effort by the government and security forces to address the problems.

- Improved Co-ordination:

The NAP has helped to improve co-ordination between different government agencies and security forces involved in counter-terrorism effort. This has led to more effective operations and intelligence sharing.

- Crackdown on militant group:

The NAP has resulted in a crackdown on militant group operating in Pakistan. Many militant have been killed or arrested and the activities of some groups have been disrupted.

Criticisms and Challenges:

Implementation issues: The implementation of the NAP has faced challenges, including lack of resources, corruption and resistance from some within the government and security forces. These factors have hindered the effectiveness of the plan.

• Limited impact on certain groups -
The NAP has had a limited impact on some militant groups, particularly those operating along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. These groups continue to pose a significant threat to Pakistan's security.

• Human rights concerns:
The crackdown on militant groups has raised concerns about human rights abuses. There have been allegations of extrajudicial killings, tortures, and arbitrary detention.

• Lack of Political will:
Some argue that the government lacks the political will to effectively implement the NAP. They point to the ongoing influence of the militant groups on Pakistani politics as evidence of this.

Overall Assessment:
While the NAP has had some positive impacts, it has not been a complete success in addressing terrorism in Pakistan. The challenges faced in implementing the plan, the ongoing threat posed by some militant groups and

concern about human right abuses have limited its effectiveness. To the effectively address terrorism in Pakistan, the government will need to overcome these challenges and implements an a ~~compt~~ comprehensive and sustainable strategy that addresses both the security and human rights dimension of the issues.

Additional Considerations:

Regional Cooperation:

Pakistan will need to work with its neighbours particularly Afghanistan, to address the threat of terrorism. Regional co-operation is essential for countering cross-border terrorism and preventing sanctuaries for militant groups.

• Civil Society engagement:

Civil society organisation can play a vital role in addressing the root cause of extremism and promoting peace and reconciliation. The government should engage with civil society organisation to develop and implement effective counter terrorism strategy-strategies.

• Economic development:

Poverty and economic inequality are important factors in the spread of extremism. The government should focus on economic development and job creation to address these underlying issues.

Conclusion-

In conclusion, the NAP has been a significant step in Pakistan's effort to address terrorism. However, it is not a panacea, and the government will need to ~~to~~ continue to adopt and refine its counter-terrorism strategy to effectively address the challenges posed by militant groups and promote peace and security in the country.

Baira .

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