

PAKISTAN AFFAIRS

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(SECURITY) TEST

a) 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.

1) Pakistan being a nation sandwiched between difficult neighbours has always been susceptible to various forms of warfare that emerged post cold war. Hybrid warfare is one such form which incorporates the proxy war elements of active engagement with conventional ~~domains~~ domains of cyber, global perception, diplomatic maneuvering, propaganda, exploitation of fault lines to name a few. It emerged in a nuclearised world to sidestep potential nuclear engagement of conventional war. It seeks to weaken a nation through various tools to incur economic, political and diplomatic damage in efforts to make it implode.

Post 9/11, Pakistan has been among the most prominent victims of such tactics, especially from its neighbour on its eastern and western flank and relatively recently; from its long time ally USA.

Proxy war:-

Pakistan is not unfamiliar to this tactic of proxy war. In 1971, a similar ~~operation~~ operation

Funded and supported by USSR and India, resulted in the separation of East Pakistan; Present day Bangladesh. Similar tactics ~~are~~ inspired from ~~the~~ NKao's doctrine, are being used to deepen the divide between ~~the~~ Pakistan's religious, ethnic and cultural fault lines. Sub nationalist movement of Sindhudesh, Pashtunistan and Balochistan are being funded by India through ~~its~~ alliance with Afghanistan as well as espionage operations. One such example of this is the confession of Kulbushan Yadav; the Indian spy who was captured in Balochistan. He confessed to have been tasked with funding and training of ~~the~~ separatist militant movements. Specifically the banned terrorist outfit BLA. Similarly, TTP who have enjoyed a safe haven in Afghanistan and support from ~~the~~ its Premier Intelligence agency as well as Indian RAW were found behind the 2014 IPS Peshawar attacks.

The attack on the Srilankan cricket team before this were traced back to RAW as well. ~~the~~ ~~the~~ This attack resulted in Pakistan's decline in hosting bilateral series.

Cyber domain:-

Pakistan has done the best it could to equip itself with Cyber capabilities however due to financial constraints it was unable to cover it self entirely. Cyber attacks have been a common occurrence in the recent years, with PIA, NBP and other financial institutions falling prey to malicious intentions. Millions of citizens had their data compromised as a result. Similarly, Ex-PM Imran Khan was found to have been spied on ~~with~~ with the help of Israeli Origin spyware Pegasus.

Global Perception and Propaganda:-

Pakistan's global perception ~~had~~ has been marred with negativity ~~post~~ post 9/11. This has been largely due to the negative propagation by its ally USA as well as its Eastern neighbour India. These malicious perceptions were propagated through social media cells as well as disinformation campaigns spearheaded by Indian Intelligence agencies through tradition media in various countries. EU disinfobots published an investigative report highlighting such campaigns running in over 170 countries spreading disinformation against Pakistan in attempts to sway public perception against Pakistan to isolate it globally.

Similarly, NGOs and different ^{non profit} outfits were funded to fan the flame ~~of~~ ~~existence~~ of divides existing in Pakistan whose funding was traced back to India, US and other NATO countries. These organisations recruited and exploited the population with genuine ~~grievances~~ grievances for their propaganda.

~~Propaganda~~

~~Propaganda~~ Diplomatic Manoeuvring:-

Pakistan has faced various challenges on this front as well especially in recent years. India and US exploited ~~the~~

~~the~~ ~~mechanism's~~ loopholes to incur

economic damage to the already struggling GDP of Pakistan. FATF was made to

set harsh conditions on Pakistan in order to be white listed after having been

successfully ~~are~~ listed by the propaganda by India and US. Pakistan despite of

having fulfilled FATF's terms, was just recently white listed due to

the ~~pressure~~ pressure from India and US.

Similarly, IMF has been used ~~to~~

recently to subject Pakistan to harsh

terms in exchange for aid. ~~Propaganda~~

