

Pakistan AffairsTest - 1

Q1- 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:-

After the emergence of Pakistan in 1947, Pakistan has faced several hardships in designing its Constitution, maintaining foreign affairs with its neighbouring countries, internal and external political crisis, economical crisis and social issues. The instability and lack of resources were both internal and external. Among all these crisis security issues were on the top. Our Military faces the unjust division of assets at the time of division of India British-India. Yet, Pakistan was forced into three major wars in 1947, 1965, and 1999. Also the partition of East-Pakistan in 1971 was also warfare Pakistan dealt with. Till now Pakistan and India often got involved in many skirmishes. Pak-Afghan relations has also faced seasons of issues, Durand line issues, FPATTA and Soviet-Union war, and War of Terror for 20 years. All these traditional warfare took a major turn after the development of Nuclear weapons in 1998.

In order to aim and achieve political stability and National security all the traditional means of kinetic warfare have always been supplemented by aggressive

diplomacy, economic coercion, intelligence gathering, propaganda and proxy wars.

All these set of goals are important to attain political stability and to attain National Security. All these combination of tools is essential for a Nation's Survival.

But the tools of modern warfare are different from the past. The modernization of weapons, the advancements of technology and induction of Artificial Intelligence has played a vital role in bringing in the change in approach of modern warfare.

The tools used today are public opinions through cyber and information technology.

The geographical dimensions of the battlefield have been eliminated.

War is now waged in minds of not only the opposing commanders but also in the minds of the nation. The dictum that strategy is the dialectic of opposing will is truer now than ever before.

As a famous military sage Karl von Clausewitz, war is the extension of policy by other means.

• Hybrid Tools Of Warfare:-

It includes cyber-attacks on national databases, hostile narrative building through propaganda (to create a public global opinion which results in changes in the foreign policy), misinformation and disinformation through social media.

• Main Objectives of Hybrid warfare:-

The main objective is to hurt the adversary at the psychological and cognitive level, without necessarily causing any harm within the physical space.

Multi-Dimensional threats:-

Pakistan is confronted by a wide array of multi-dimensional threats. Hostile forces are in full play to isolate it internationally. Terms like "Irresponsible state" and "sponsor of the terrorist state" are used to create a public opinion. Unfort The strands of Hybrid threats are based on 'credible' psychological unaltered themes which are transmitted through social media propagation, print and electronic media as well.

Disinformation as a tool:-

Recently, the anti-Reko Diq campaign through protests was also the by-product of fifth generation warfare, where the Indian electronic media and digital media along with militant groups were running a campaign by tagging the developmental project with the 'title of resource exploitation', immediately after the day, the agreement between a Pakistani company and the Canadian company. It is no longer a secret after getting disclosed in a report of the EU DisinfoLab which exposed a disinformation campaign working against Pakistan, destroying its image in the international community and destabilizing it internally by the weakening of military-civilian

relationship.

- According to a report by EU DisinfoLab in year 2020, 750 Indian backed websites were spreading hatred against Pakistan for the last 15 years, which were active in more than 115 countries around the world with the prime objectives of the promotion of anti-Pakistan content.

- Faking Report:-

There are a few channels and digital newspapers like 'The Balochistan Post', operating from Germany, which are indulged in fueling and amplifying the anti-state, banned organizations' propaganda. They exaggerate facts and are successful to some extent, creating many artificial issues in the guise of relative deprivation.

Faking report of the Panjgur and Noshki attacks were one of the best example. Recently, after the attack by a female member of Majeed Brigade of a banned terrorist organization, Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), overnight, literature was produced and published in such foreign-funded newspapers and digital media cells, where glorifying the insurgents and their attacks by using hashtags like 'Shari the legend' which started trending on Twitter, which attracted thousand of tweets across the border.

- Pakistan and Balochistan fighting fifth generation warfare:-

Pakistan and Balochistan are currently fighting

The fifth generation warfare, especially in Balochistan and the rival states are trying to attract the youth. Meanwhile, when it comes to relative deprivation, it is not the only prime reason behind the ongoing insurgency in Balochistan, but to some extent. It complements the issue in the shape of recruitment of youth in militant organizations.

Recently, two alleged female suicide bombers, namely Noor Jahan, and Habiba, were arrested from two different districts of Balochistan.

- According to the spokesperson of Balochistan government, both the females were recruits of BLA and were assigned the task of aiming at a vehicle carrying Chinese citizens through another attack. Such recruitments of Baloch women are also the result of exploitation of sentiments of youth of Balochistan by the external forces via anti-state discourse, created with the help of literature, fake reporting, and digital media, which is acting as a catalyst in the deterioration of national cohesion and integration.

• Conclusions:-

All the developmental projects and government's initiatives along with the sacrifices and efforts of the armed forces for maintaining peace and harmony in Balochistan and overall country are getting overshadowed by the propaganda under the tactics of the fifth-generation warfare. An example can

be used of the recently released ~~song~~^{song} Song 'Waja' by Shehzad Roy. The song which was widely praised by all over Pakistan. Also drew some criticism from a few section of Balochistan.

In contrast a song released by BLA's media cell, on Shari Baloch (female suicide Bomber) was widely criticized and despised by all over the Pakistan. However, the Indian media, sponsored Youtube channels and fake Twitter accounts tried their best to amplify the propagandas. song.

- Simultaneously, making the views and reach look indigenous. Pakistan needs to counter such prevailing dominant discourse in the youth of ~~Balochistan~~^{Pakistan}. And it can be done through initiatives like strengthening Civil-military relations and establishing ~~Balochistan~~^{Youth}-centric think tanks and media labs to counter such black propaganda and discourse.
- Such initiatives can also contribute to adequate policy designing for the people of Balochistan ^{especially other regions of Pakistan in order to} and ^{can} generate true and positive literature for academicians and researchers, which can result in filling the research gap ~~on Balochistan~~ and discuss social, political and economical issues to strengthen National Security of Pakistan.