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Q: 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.

Hybrid warfare is a horrendous threat for security of Pakistan. Hybrid warfare is different from conventional warfare. It is a warfare which fought through propaganda, social media and digitalization. The objective of hybrid warfare is not only to defeat the enemy but to erode the morale of adversary. Similarly it diplomatically isolated the target country. Hybrid warfare is a blend of different tactics, like conventional tactics, non-conventional tactics, kinetic and subversive efforts, regular and irregular tactics and cyber tactics.

Unfortunately Pakistan become victim of hybrid warfare for many years. And it is true that Pakistan faces economic, social and political deterioration. As hybrid war eroded the morale of country and its special focus of malicious propaganda is Pakistan Army and ISI. It became true on 9 May 2023 when former PM Imran Khan was arrested and a violent mob

attacked on military buildings as well as destroy and burnt soldiers's vehicles.

So it was propaganda against Pakistan army and propagated by the people of state. In this way enemy weak its adversary.

Furthermore Pakistan is facing scourge of terrorism. After American failure in Afghanistan, Pakistan become terrorist's place, especially in KP and Balochistan. The enemy wants to destroy Pakistan morally, socially, politically and economically, by promoting terrorism in Pakistan. When there would be no less stability there would no foreign investors, result in less development and trade deficit.

Furthermore if Pakistan faces terrorism then it would effect on its diplomacy. Currently Chinese vice premier He Lifeng visited Pakistan in order to celebrate 10th anniversary of CPEC and on the same day terrorist attack in Bahjir killed 54 people. So, it was planned to disrupt the morale of country in front of vice premier of China. At the same time this terrorist attack halted CPEC would be Pakistan as challenge for CPEC.

Similarly hybrid warfare is a serious challenge for Pakistan as it isolate Pakistan diplomatically. Pakistan has hostile relations with India, strained with Afghanistan, stable with China and dubious with Iran. And Pakistan's relations with Russia remain undeveloped because of deference to US. So it means Pakistan's neighbouring countries are not friends except China. When there is no bilateral relations with neighbouring countries, it would affect trade of country as well as economy.

One another challenge of hybrid warfare is for Pakistan is ethnicity. And enemy exploited ethnicity and religious extremism, to create disruption.

Enemy use ethnicity as vulnerability of state and incited rampage in the country through ideology of separatism, i.e. Baluch separatism.

In a nutshell hybrid warfare is modern type of warfare which has devastating impacts and it weakens the targeted country completely.