

Q: Islamabad - Kabul tensions dingers on due to TTP using Afghan land as a launching pad for terrorist attacks in Pakistan. Critically evaluation the situation.

A Introduction

When the Taliban returned to power in Afghanistan three years ago, Pakistani policymakers assumed this would help to guarantee the stability of the country western border. That has long been a strategic compulsion given Pakistan's given Pakistan troubled relation with India on its eastern flank. But the assumption about securing the border with Afghanistan turned out to be a strategic miscalculation. This resurgence of terrorist attack in Pakistan has a devastating impact. The Taliban's unwillingness to take action against the TTP upended Pakistan's expectation that Kabul be responsive to Pakistan's security concerns.

B main factors in the resurgence of terrorist outfit.

The Doha agreement between US and Taliban aimed to ensure stability and peace across border. The Taliban committed to preventing any group or individual from using Afghan soil to threaten the security of United States and its allies. However besides all the assurance in agreement, Afghanistan is heaven for Al-Qaeda, TTP,

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BLA, IMU, ISKP.

According to UNSC report: Terrorist group enjoy greater freedom in Afghanistan than at anytime in recent history.

2 The Afghan Taliban have close ideological affiliation with the terrorist group and they are not willing to go against them.

B India is also using Afghanistan soil against Pakistan by establishing proxy for strategic purpose.

4 In 2014, Pakistan removed TTP through Zarb-i-Azab operation, However after the US withdrawal, they saw a ray of hope in Afghanistan.

C TTP demands from Pakistan:

TTP wants to reestablish their rule ~~in~~ in the tribal areas of Pakistan, hence they demand the withdrawal of Pakistani troops from those areas respectively. Ex-FATA. In addition to the they also desire to establish the "Emirate of Waziristan"

d Key implications of TTP resurgence on Pakistan.

ii) There was a significant surge in cross-border terrorist attacks by TTP last year and rise in casualties of law-enforcement personnel, which heightened

The security challenge for Pakistan.

As it is stated by Mateena Jodhi that "2024 was the deadliest year with the highest number of casualties in terrorist attacks in almost a decade.

(i) The TTP's activities in regions like Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, which are crucial for CPEC projects, create a security challenges. China warned Pakistan to address its security challenges or else it will be difficult to continue this project crucial for Pakistan's economic growth.

(ii) It has limited Pakistan's options for economic engagement in the region in more ways than one.

(iv) It is reported by DAWN NEWS that A total of 366 terrorist attacks took place in Pakistan in the year including 23 suicide bombings which killed 693 people and injured 1,124 others.

E Recommendation for addressing the issue:

There are number of steps which needs to taken in order to address the challenging situation between Pakistan and Afghanistan, to combat terrorism,

(1) Convince Taliban to take effective measure to identify and neutralize terrorist organization.

(2) Cooperate in completing connectivity projects such as: Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India pipeline (TAPI),

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Central Asia-South Asia power project (CASA) and UPP railway connection. They projects can address energy and transit needs of beneficiary countries.

(3) Pakistan must coordinate with China, Russia, Afghanistan under the banner of SCO to conduct counter terrorism exercises, share intelligence to eradicate terrorism.

(4) Strengthen the border security to prevent terrorist groups from crossing into Pakistan.

(5) Tackling the root causes of terrorism, such as poverty, lack of education, and political instability, is essential for long-term peace and stability.

B Conclusion :-

In conclusion, the resurgence of the TTP has led to increased terrorist attacks in Pakistan, resulting in significant casualties among security personnel and deterring foreign investment.

To address this, Pakistan should enhance border security, conduct targeted counterterrorism operations, and strengthen diplomatic efforts with Afghanistan and international partners.