



## TERRORISM HAS BECOME EXTENSIVE IN INDIA

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### Abstract

Terrorism is, in the broadest sense, the use of intentionally indiscriminate violence as a means to create terror, or fear, to achieve a political, religious or ideological aim. The impact of terrorism in maintaining law and order, in assuring peace and tranquillity to law-abiding citizenry and in harnessing growth and development, both at the national and international level, is quite grave, gloomy and alarming. In this context the paper first of all gives workable definition of terrorism, international law against terrorism to minimize the impact of terrorism, the scale and magnitude of global terrorism and India's hard wrestling with the terrorism

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### Introduction

Terrorism is, in the broadest sense, the use of intentionally indiscriminate violence as a means to create terror, or fear, to achieve a political, religious or ideological aim (Fortna, 2015). A mini definition of terrorism as provided by the United Nations runs thus:

*“Any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in the hostilities in a situation of an armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by its nature and context is to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international organization to do or abstain from doing any act”*

But this mini-definition serves only the purpose of convention. It fails to create an international crime of terrorism. The resolution done by the United Nations Security Council following the 11 September 2001 Al-Qaida attacks on the US World Trade Center does not define terrorism; it just refers to 'terrorist acts'. Only universal treaties have been the means by which international law contributes to the struggle against terrorism. But the impact of terrorism in maintaining law and order, in assuring peace and tranquillity to law-abiding citizenry and in harnessing growth and development, both at the national and international level, is quite grave, gloomy and alarming. Global terrorism has, in fact, become an unprecedented challenge to the human civilization itself (Jana and Karmakar, 2019). The incidence of terrorist attacks and the number of deaths and injuries related to terrorism rose significantly in the 2nd half of the 20th Century.

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The literature on terrorism has focused mainly on two areas: the micro foundations of terrorism — understanding why organizations employ terrorist tactics — and the macroeconomic causes and consequences of these tactics. The latest wave of research highlights the relationship between terrorism, globalization and democratization.

A large number of papers address the topic of how terrorism affects international trade. Some researchers find a huge impact of domestic terrorism on economic activity. For example, continued terror decreases annual consumption per capita. It has been estimated that output per capita would also have been about 10% higher than it is today if Israel was out from the quagmire of terror. In the above background the paper first of all gives workable definition of terrorism, international law against terrorism order to minimize the impact of terrorism, the scale and magnitude of global terrorism and India's hard wrestling with the devil like terrorism

## **GLOBAL TERRORISM**

Terror produces fear. While the number of annual casualties from terrorism might be much smaller than the number of deaths from diseases such as cancer or from road accidents, the suddenness and ferocity of terrorist attacks scars people significantly (Statista, 2018). According to Gallup's survey in 2017 (Gallup 2017) of adults in the United States, 42 percent of the participants stated that they were very worried, 30 per cent worried about the possibility of future terrorist attacks while only 28% percent said that they were not at all worried. The number of worried people is much larger than others as revealed from these statistics.

OECD countries have witnessed a rise in terrorism, accounting for one per cent of global deaths from terrorism in 2016. In 2010 OECD countries accounted for just 0.1 per cent of deaths. The first six months of 2017 have recorded 82 deaths from terrorism, lower than the 265 deaths in 2016. The global economic impact of terrorism reached US \$89.6 billion in 2015, decreasing by 15 per cent from its 2014 level.

## **GLOBAL TERRORISM AND ITS IMPACT**

The 9/11 attack is a glaring example to the fact that a small terrorist groups were able to wield violence on a significant scale and pursued targets without discriminating between combatants and non-combatants. These small terrorist groups caused over \$100 billion in damage to physical infrastructure; it led to hundreds and thousands of people in many dozens of countries losing their job as the world headed into a sharpened recession post-Sept 11<sup>th</sup>. Only The 9/11 attacks resulted in losses from deaths, injuries and property destruction amounting to US\$65 billion in 2016 constant dollars. Election results have been affected by terrorism (in the USA, Spain and Australia); three major wars have been started in response to terrorist attacks (Afghanistan in 2001, Iraq in 2003 and Lebanon in 2006: businesses have responded to changing threats; and popular culture has reflected the fight against terrorism. Tight and rigorous security checks on respective places are a consequence of the 9/11 attacks. The rise of CCTV coverage in major cities is also, in part, a consequence of the visibility and tactics of terrorist.

Terrorism remains unevenly spread throughout the world. Central America and the Caribbean continue to be the least affected region. There were only 12 deaths recorded in 2016, which accounts for less than 0.4 per cent of all terrorism deaths. Meanwhile, 94 per cent of all terrorist deaths are located in the Middle-East and North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Since 1970 there have been nearly 10,000 deaths from terrorism in OECD countries, excluding Turkey and Israel. The year 2016 was the deadliest for terrorism for OECD member countries since 1988

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## INDIA'S HARD WRESTLING

Generally, terrorism has come to mean the clandestine but systematic use of violence and intimidation, intended to install fears in others, in the pursuit of political and religious aims. Understood in this sense, terrorism has a long history in India. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, some historians claim, sprang revolutionary terrorism in Bengal and elsewhere.

In the recent past, terrorism has become extensive in India. Daily news is at the forefront in terrorist incidents. In India, global and national terrorist groups operate destroying national properties, killing innocent and non-combating civilians in thousands, arresting developmental activities in the affected areas to a large extent. Internal security, as a result, is threatened by the acts of religious and communal chauvinists, Jehadi terrorists and Naxalism has already engulfed India's neighbouring country Nepal. In India, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Orissa, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal are badly affected by Naxal violence. The Naxalites are now more organized than it was 50 years ago.

India is now known for terrorism perpetrated both from the outside, most commonly by Islamic groups as well as from within. The Naxalites / Maoists activities constitute the gravest internal security threat the country has ever face. are the most notorious of very many groups associated by government with terrorism. There are thirty-nine 'Terrorist, Insurgent and Extremist Groups' in the north-eastern regions comprising, of eight states, one of the deadliest of these groups being the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB)], thirty-six in Assam including The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), thirty-two in Jammu and Kashmir [ including J & K Liberation Front (JKLF) built on Kashmiri sub-nationalism , Students Islamic Federation or Jamaat-e-Islam, Hijbul Mujahideen, Lashkar-e-Taiba or Army of the Pure ,(mainly operating in Pakistan and responsible for 30 deaths arising from 20 attacks in 2016) ,Jaish-e-Muhammad( Army of Mahammed), Harakat -ul-Mujahadeen( the Islamic Freedom Fighters) ] and thirty in Tripura, with smaller numbers in several other states, as well as six 'Left-Wing Extremist' groups, and nine other 'Extremist' Organizations, including the Students Islamic Movement in India (*Jeffrey & Harris 2014*).

Pakistan is found to be actively involved in terrorism against India wherein an example of Pakistan's ISI involvement in the terrorism in Mumbai, Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of India is not a forged one. Though Pakistani government consistently denies such involvement, such complicity is well established and reported. The Annual Report (2002-03) of Union Home Ministry stated that approximately 60 to 70 per cent of terrorists operating in J&K are from outside. The number of foreign militants killed during 1990-2003 has been over 2900. The Home Ministry draft of the White Paper on Pakistan-sponsored terrorism in India in 1998 stated that Pakistan- sponsored terrorism in India has claimed the lives of 29,151 civilians and 5,101 security personnel, caused 4,730 explosions and rendered 2,78,601 persons homeless. The report also pointed out that Pakistan was "making efforts to revive terrorism in Punjab in a big way. Pakistan is very often considered to be a primary "platform for terror" and "epicentre for terrorism" and neutralizing this platform is among the primary challenges of the global war against terrorism.

The same Home Ministry report (2002-03) speaks that the transfer of funds has been massive and mainly through hawala transactions to avoid any detection. "Pakistan continues to fund terrorist organizations operating in J&K through various channels including the hawala (non-banking route). Several cases have been detected.

India's Home Ministry report (2017-18) forcefully alleges that the State (J&K) militancy in J&K, has resulted in the deaths of 13,976 Civilians and 5123 Security Force (SF) personnel have lost their lives between 1990 and 2017 (as on 31.12.2017). The year 2017 witnessed an increase in incidents of terrorist violence and casualties of civilians as compared to the last year. Apart from the above incidence of cross-border terrorism, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) of Sri Lanka is found to be involved and operative in terrorism in India.

These are one of the few instances of cross-border terrorism. And India, inside and outside, has remained one of the most important theatres of terrorism, insurgency and other militant activities (*Harshe, 2003*). To combat terrorism, India's early policies were modest in nature. Only special and general laws on anti-terrorism are operative. Experts opine that India lacks a coherent strategic response to terrorism: there is no doctrine. Now this modest nature is somewhat replaced by offensive defence doctrine.

However, one has to remember the major terrorist activities which shocked the country are:

- 13 December, 2001 Attack on the Indian Parliament in New Delhi
- 13 March, 2003- Bomb goes off in a train in Mulund
- 29 October, 2005- Delhi Bombings
- 5 July, 2005- Ram Janmabhoomi Attack in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh
- 11 July, 2006 Mumbai Train Bombings, a series of seven bomb blasts that took place over a period of 11 minutes on Suburban Railway in Mumbai
- 26—29 November 2008 Terrorist Attacks on Mumbai: An audacious attack by 10 Islamic militants on Mumbai left 166 people dead and another 300 hurt and jeopardized the India—Pakistan re-approachable state. Prime Minister Singh declared as demonstrating “sophistication and military precision,” raising the prospect that “official agencies” of the Pakistani government had been involved in the planning. A previously unknown group calling itself the Deccan Mujaheddin claimed responsibility, but the possibility remained that it was merely a front name of another organization. The attack resulted in the immediate resignation of Home Affairs Minister Shivaji PATIL, the tightening of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, and the creation of a National Investigation Agency to pursue terrorists (*Lansford, 2015*).
- 13 July, 2011 Mumbai was hit by 3 bombs in a coordinated attack. The blasts killed 26 and injured 130.
- 14 September, 2014 : Another 3 bombs were exploded in Mumbai, killing 20 and injuring 100.
- 2 January, 2016 Pathankot Attack in Pathankot Air Base Station
- 29 November, 2016 Nagrota Attack, Jammu & Kashmir
- 24 April, 2017 Sukma Attack, Sukma District, Chhattisgarh
- 7 March 2017 Bhopal-Ujjain Passenger Train Bombing
- 11 July 2017 Amarnath Yatra Attack. J&K
- 13 March 2017 Sukma Attack

- 14 February, 2019 Pulwama attack, Awantipora, J&K. This left 46 people dead and another 250-300 hurt. Jaish-I-Muhammad, took the responsibility of the attack. Indian Air force replied on Pakistani militants by air strikes.

These are but very few cases of terror attacks in India. This list of attacks is long and list of causalities, longer.

## CONCLUSION

Terrorism is a collective problem and all democratic and peace-loving countries must unite to condemn and combat it with necessary laws and their enforcements properly. So true is the case of internal terrorism affecting India. Peace loving people of India and beyond must unite and make an oath that the act of vicious circle of terrorism must be banished and broken anyhow, otherwise the devils acting as terrorist murderers will grab nations after nations and jeopardize and paralyze their national securities.

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