

INTERNAL SECURITY - INDIA

While the military, para-military forces are deployed on the borders defending the country from external aggressions, the police and central police forces (CPOs) are deployed to protect the country from internal security threats. Over a period of time, the threat from internal enemies has seemingly increased. Although, our military strength is at par with the external enemy, our police forces are way behind in terms of the ratio of the population to the cops. They lack good equipment, training, and effective weapons etc..

What do we Indians need to do at this crucial stage to save our country from such subversive forces? First and foremost step should be to know and to be aware of the problem, possible threats, and shortcomings in the system and then to find solutions.

Problem:

Naxalism & Extremism - The Naxalite movement which started in 60s in Naxalbari village in North Bengal has spread to 170 districts in 15 states. The Naxalites or left wing extremists run parallel governments in more than 55 districts. Similarly, few extremist groups are working in the North East and the problem of the valley is very well known to all of us.

Threat: The way Naxalism and terrorism is spreading its wings in the remote areas, it will soon engulf the major towns and cities and the whole security system will collapse. All of us, citizens of India will wait and watch one another while the country becomes vulnerable to external threats

Shortcomings: Handling of this national threat is left to the local law and order maintenance agencies whereas these groups are getting stronger centrally. The plans made by the government to fight this menace are adequate, provided they are executed on the ground within a fixed time frame. The extremists are succeeding in places where people are relatively poor and the Government is doing nothing to give them a secure future. The plans for the upliftment of the poor have more or less gone under the carpet.

Solution: Firstly, this Naxalism & extremism has to be identified as National problem by the Government, which has recently been done. It has to be handled centrally rather than by each state on its own. Look at the actual grievances of the poor and resolve them and convert the offenders into good citizens. Release additional resources for police forces and give them the latest equipments. The Army should be asked to train these forces and the NCC should be involved in remote areas to generate

awareness for the masses. Development activities in these areas should be handed over to NGOs and a mass movement should be initiated. Local population should to be mobilised and local senas to be made to support the police and the Govt..The naxalites / extremists should be brought to the discussion table and a solution to their problems should be found

Each progressive citizen needs to be self motivated and concerned about these activities and should contribute some time towards these problems by talking to more and more people. The five million employees in the security industry can certainly be used as a big force to fight this menace.

Lets wake up and treat this as a wake up call.

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