

# TERRORISM IN THE MODERN WORLD: HOW TO COMBAT IT

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## ABSTRACT

*This paper focus on reasons for growth of Terrorist activities in the world, India's position on Terrorism, why have we failed to check Terrorism? and combating Terrorism. In trying to understand international terrorism, let us first define the word "Terrorism". Terrorism is a deliberate and systematic murder, maiming and menacing of the innocent to instil fear for political ends. This is not a sporadic Phenomenon born of social misery and frustration but is rooted in the political ambition and design of expansionist states and the groups that serve them. Without the support of such states, international terrorism would be impossible. Terrorism is a part of the broader trend towards war by proxy. Though terrorism as such is not new in history, today's terrorism radically differs from earlier forms in its frequency and the extent of violence. It now attacks the territory and nationals of nearly all the democracies.*

**KEYWORDS:** World, India, weapons, Combat, Politics.

## REASONS FOR INCREASING TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN THE WORLD

In the second half of century, more especially in 1960's and 1970's a boost to international terrorism was given by the fast development of modern means of communication and travel. The industrial civilization offered more and more valuable targets airplanes, power-plants, vital industrial installations, crowds of important people. The problems of recruitment, motivation, organization and finance were serious but these problems are no longer serious because it is now a weapon of international politics.

Several countries are training & financing gangs for harming their enemy countries, so it is difficult to fight this menace. The constant updating of technology has made terrorism a frightful governmental oppression of Minorities.

The real oppression of minority groups poses great dangers. Terrorism is justified by the several minority groups as they can never win a conventional war against powerful majority groups. Who oppress the minority groups and are not willing to concede national independence to them. At one time the American terrorists always took away the weapons of policemen killed. Later they found that the number and make of the weapon became a good evidential link to connect the terrorist to a specific murder. Indiscriminate terror as in the Punjab is often advocated to instill fear in the public so that they do

not help the police when the terrorists are carrying out their operations.

The smuggling of fire arms, the illegal transfer of money, the forging of passports, communications by secret codes all these have become well developed techniques. Several governments one of these being USA has used terror as an instrument of their foreign policy for several decades at least.

## AVAILABILITY OF WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES

Today the greed of arms merchants in the world has changed the situation. Any terrorist group can get sophisticated weapons such as AK Rifles, Revolvers, Pistols, Rocket Launchers, Rockets, Magazines, Ammunition, Grenades, Detonators and explosives provides it has got the money to pay for these. Time bombs have been frequently used in luggage, cars, scooters etc.

The roots of terrorism have been deeply embarked throughout the world by various outfits with their ruthless methods. The whole world particularly, USA, UK, Germany, France, Italy, Japan, Spain, Middle East and India have been affected. Some terrorist groups in the world are Islamic state, All Quadea, Taliban, Bokoharam, Alnusra front, Hezbollah, Hamas, Kurdistan workers party, Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, Tehre Ke Thaliban. Terrorist attacks in the world are given below:

- a) First terrorist attack in the world April 18, 1983, U.S. Embassy bombing in Beirut, Lebanon by the Islamic

Jihad organization, 63 persons dead 120 persons injured.

- b) 11<sup>th</sup> September 2001 attack on the US world trade centre by the Afghan based terrorist outfit AllQuadea, headed by Osamabinladen, the master mind behind the attack. The lives of many innocent People were lost in this dreadful act.
- c) 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015 the world was rocked with the news of multiple terrorist attacks in Paris, France. The attack consisted of mass shooting suicide bombings and hostage taking at several locations in the city. At least 129 people lost their lives.
- d) 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015 Spanish Embassy attack in Kabul. Taliban militants denoted a car bomb and stormed a guesthouse, near the Spanish embassy 6 persons dead several persons Injured.
- e) 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015 in the TellTamer bombing three truck bombs by ISIS killed up to 60 people and injured more than 80 in the town of Tell Tamer.

### INDIA’S POSITION ON TERRORISM

In India, terrorism has been on the rise for the last few decades. Indian has suffered in the past terrorism in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of India. Countless innocent lives have been lost to the terrorist’s bombs and guns. India has consistently been highlighting the need for a unified international response to transnational and trans border terrorism which is today effecting a host of countries and challenging established societies and governments. The links between terrorists groups operating in India and other countries are quite clear today and the role that Pakistan has played in allowing this scourge to spread has also been amply documented. Terrorist attacks in India are given below :

- a) First Terrorist attack in India 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1984 Menam bakkam bomb blast in Tamilnadu 30 persons died and 25 persons are injured.
- b) 12 march 1993 Mumbai serial bomb blasts
- c) 14 February 1998 Coimbatore bomb blasts.
- d) 1 October 2001 Jammu and Kashmir legislative Assembly attack.
- e) 13 December 2001 attacked the parliament of India resulting In a 45 minute gun battle in which 9 policemen and staff of parliament was killed. All the five terrorists were also killed by the security forces and were identified as Pakistani nationals. The attack took place around 11.40 am, minutes after both Houses

of parliament had adjourned for the day. Security personnel sealed the entire premises which saved many lives.

- f) 24<sup>th</sup> September 2002 attack on Akshardam Temple in Ahmedabad.
- g) 29<sup>th</sup> Octobers 2005 Delhi serial Bomb blasts.
- h) 11<sup>th</sup> July 2006 Bombay Train blast
- i) 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008 night the world will never forget Terrorists took tourists hostage at the Taj and oberai trident Hotels and went on a rampage hundreds lost their lives, including several International tourists.
- j) 13<sup>th</sup> February 2010, a bomb ripped through German Bakery in Pune killing seventeen people including four foreign nationals. Most of these foreing tourists stayed in the nearby Osho Ashram and often frequented the Bakery.
- k) 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 Gurdaspur attack in Dina Nagar in Gurudaspur district in Punjab.

Institute for Economics and peace released Global Terrorism Index Report on 15 November 2015. According to this report 124 countries faced the terrorist attacks in the world. India got 6<sup>th</sup> rank in top ten countries. Table given below:

Top 10 Countries	
Rank	Country
1.	Iraq
2.	Afghanisthan
3.	Nigeria
4.	Pakistan
5.	Syria
6.	India
7.	Yeman
8.	Somalia
9.	Libya
10.	Thailand

Source: Global Terrorism Index report 2015, p 90.

### WHY HAVE WE FAILED TO CHECK TERRORISM?

- a) There is a widespread corruption in all fields of administration and at all levels from the ministers down to peons.
- b) Even when the Government of India became serious in dealing with terrorism it failed because the civilian bureaucracy and police meant to crush it, has become useless instruments for this job. If investigation, arrests and prosecutions are all to be

guided by an assessment of vote banks for the ruling party the very basis of combating terrorism is destroyed.

- c) There is a serious weakening of the Law and Order machinery, Several State Police Commissions and the National Police Commissions of 1978-81 have commented on these false statistics that it should not be necessary to waste valuable space in disproving the apparently false nature of crime statistics except for the fact that non- registration and non-investigation of crime is the single most important cause of drift to lawlessness, for example Delhi, U.P. etc.
- d) There is a close link between the criminals and politicians. This has led to clear manifestation of lawlessness in India, namely, a sharp rise in political murders. Bombs and bullets have been used in many peaceful protests for example the Bangla Bandh on April 13, 1981, in Calcutta led to the loss of 22 lives and damage to 142 buses and trams.
- e) Terrorism as an instrument of politics cannot be eliminated merely by expressing a sense of shock when someone big is killed. Proper investigation, careful prosecution and non-interference with punishment inflicted by Courts are the only methods of dealing with the problem.
- f) Every group - political, linguistic, religious, caste-based, class-based etc. has private armies, which are trained, financed and equipped with weapons - legal or illegal - to achieve the objective of the group.
- g) A few of the apparent signs of lawlessness increase in murder cases mass massacres in various parts of India, gangwars, the boldness with which gangleaders, behave, phenomenal increase in political murders, increase in private armies shows that how much is the perception of the common man.
- h) Though employment opportunities and other factors are mainly responsible for the continuous shift of population from rural areas to cities, yet the increase in insecurity in rural areas as compared to cities is also one of the causes.
- i) The Police Force is unable and inefficient to maintain law and order.

### TERRORISM AND MEDIA

Today's terrorists, in fact, frighten millions. But they could not achieve this result without the press.

Unreported, terrorist acts would be like the proverbial tree falling in the silent forest. Even if passed by word of mouth, news about terrorist outrages would hardly command the attention of government leaders, the public at-large, and indeed, as often happens, the centre of the international stage. Television is reluctant to confront the unintended consequences of the temptation it offers. But sooner or later, it will have to confront the questions as to how to draw a line between responsible coverage and exploitation by terrorists, and whether a hostage incident should be allowed round-the-clock live coverage, complete with ego-satisfying telephone interviews with the terrorists. A terrorist is a criminal who seeks publicity. This sets him far apart from what British officials in Northern Ireland have taken to calling the Ordinary Decent Criminal, who understandably shuns the limelight. Publicity is their life blood. If the media were not there to report terrorist acts and to explain their political and social significance, terrorism as such would stop to exist. Each act would then be seen merely as an isolated criminal event. The most important contribution that the media could make to defeat terrorism would be changing such attitudes. Other aspects of media coverage would then change automatically.

### COMBATING TERRORISM

**Preparation:** Preparation requires that governments formulate policies for fighting terrorism. They must clearly delegate the responsibility and authority needed. In confronting a terrorist crisis, a government necessarily has to balance opposing objectives. If it, wants to be in control, it should make no concessions, end the situation swiftly, save hostages, apprehend the terrorists, minimise political damage, and avoid appearing callous or inhumane. Since these objectives cannot be fully reconciled with one another, the government must establish unmistakable priorities. Equally, we must develop guidelines on the use of force and on the release of information to the news media in order to avoid indecision or ambivalence in the face of armed threats. Plans must be worked out in advance to meet the maximum range of foreseeable contingencies. And exercises are needed to test the training, the planning, and the policies. Rule of law and respect for democratic values and processes must be the basis of all preparation.

**Prevention:** Prevention of terrorism begins with establishing a political climate in which it will be difficult for the terrorists to develop an infrastructure for refuge and support But prevention also means gathering all important intelligence. Adequate intelligence can be gathered in a

democratic society by legitimate means without infringing on people's freedom. Information should be sought aggressively and then shared between domestic and international agencies. Our statutes should not prevent the mutual exchange of intelligence and information with other nations.

**Operation:** Operation is the third element to counter terrorism. Once terrorists strike, the attitude the government adopts is decisive. Officials must be calm, in control and be prepared to provide full support to the police, the military, and the security agencies. Above all, government officials must prevent the terrorists from achieving their objectives. For, once the terrorist has launched his attack there are three ways in which he can win: i.If he gains his demands, he has won a victory over the government and over society. ii. If he commits an atrocity and gets away with it, he has promoted fear and demoralised his opponent. iii. If he provokes the government to over react, he might induce resentment in the general public and promote further terrorism. The authorities must, therefore, deny the terrorist his demands, limit the number of his potential victims, and maintain the framework of law.

**Adjudication:** Adjudication comes in when a terrorist or his, supporters are apprehended. Justice requires that any terrorist who is caught, be brought to trial. For example, people everywhere have been impressed with the meticulous investigation undertaken by the Italian authorities into the assassination attempt on the Pope. Nothing is more frustrating and damaging than to apprehend a terrorist, only to find him able to defeat the criminal justice process because the law enforcement authorities failed to gather the necessary evidence.

**Education:** Education is the last critical task of the government. The public must be educated about the real nature of terrorism. During a terrorist incident, the authorities must accurately present facts to the public. They must make it clear that terrorism is not idealism but pure crime.

In the Conclusion International terrorism recognizes no national borders. Its practitioners receive arms, money, training, haven, and political support from groups and governments. The victims of modern day terrorism are also not limited to the nationality that May be party to the conflict and almost inevitably are citizens of different nations. Consequently, modern day terrorism has

to be fought internationally. Hence, the need for an agenda for international action. The following must be considered in order to win over terrorism in the modern world: a)Political pressure should be applied. This could range from international condemnation to breaking off diplomatic relations. b)Maintain economic pressure or sanctions. c)Finally, initiating military action. Force should not be ruled out. This option is to be used finally when all other means fail.

Hence, terrorism is a phenomenon which tries to evoke one feeling fear. It is understandable that the one virtue most necessary to defeat terrorism is, therefore, the antithesis of fear courage.

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