The maoist challenge:

India's Future Response & Envisaged Role of the Armed Forces

The causes of its origin:

The economic policies which India pursued led to economic growth but overlooked the distributive justice.

The resultant glaring and unsustainable interregional, intra-regional, inter-personal inequalities provided the breeding ground for growth of left wing extremists ideologies

Present situation:

Initially confined to 9 states but now it has spread to 20 states, covering almost 175 districts. There are around 38 extremist groups which are waging war against the state and posing serious threat to internal security.

India's future response :

> Defense

- > Development
- > Dialogue



Can the deployment of army be justified?

Present conditions which justifies the deployment of army:

- No more confined to one state , it has spread across 20 states
- Logistic support from across international borders
- > Modus-operandi of Maoists
- Motives of Maoist leaders comes under suspicion

Coordination between army and intelligence agencies:

The success of counter-naxal operation depends on access to timely and adequate intelligence input

Better access to intelligence can be ensured by:

- Coordination between different intelligence agencies
- Need for central agency like NATGRID for intelligence collection and dissemination

Modus –operandi of special task forces:

- Need to acquire jungle-warfare tactics
- Complete logistic support
- > Knowledge about geographical terrain
- > Network of local informers
- > Winning confidence of local populace
- Knowledge about local cultural norms, traditions and language if possible

Words of caution:

- Conduct operations in such a manner that civilian causalities are minimal
- Zero tolerance for human rights excesses
- Discretionary power to be exercised in accordance with the rule of law

Role of welfare state:

> Area-specific approach of development

- Investment in health and education
- > Proper implementation of welfare programmes
- Recruiting grass-root public functionaries from local populace
- >Implementation of FRA 2006
- >Implementation of PESA 1996

Contd...

- >Agro-based industries
- Access to institutional sources of credit
- Curbing illegal mining , black listing companies indulging in such acts
- Mechanism of sharing profit with local inhabitants in mining sector as envisaged in Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) bill 2013

Resultant effect:

- Social justice which would bridge inter-regional, intra-regional, interpersonal disparities
- Social ,economic ,emotional integration of deprived sections with the main stream society
- Scourge of naxalism can be curbed

