

INDIA AND THE HYBRID THREAT: THE CHANGING DIMENSIONS OF THE CONFLICT

Manish Raj Singh,

(Research Scholar), Department of Defence Studies, Meerut College, Meerut

ABSTRACT

The menace of warfare is the unpredictable concern which is continuously becoming the highlighted part of any discussion either it is national or international. India as a developing state is getting influenced by different threats and also there is a need to understand these threats to resolve the danger more effectively. In this article I will cover up the types of threats (economic, cyber, multinational, regular, multinational warfare) which can be the cause of future warfare and can affect India's external and internal security. This article focusses over the change in military, the military components and specific manoeuvres of technological impacts on various levels, the role of artificial intelligence as a key for a future in military. The current strategy regarding to space warfare the technologies which we are using for the (Marine, Air & Land) security and the new aspects for the space security will be discussed. The use of Atomic, Chemical and Biological Weapons which could partially affect to the world for a long duration like a Vietnam and Japan is getting affected till now. The necessity of retention programs and emergence of India with other nations is the way to spread awareness and diminish these kind of threats to maintain peace and avoid wars.

INTRODUCTION

After the World War 2 maneuver and armored conflict, the fifth generation of warfare rises up at the end of 20th and beginning of 21st century it marked new challenges of diplomacy and warzone for the states. After analyzing the geopolitical and geostrategic environments it introduced the change of art of war, due to technological upgrades missiles, rockets, artillery and developing artificial intelligence it combined the irregular and conventional warfare which is called the "Hybrid warfare".

This form of warfare brings out the massive devastation without having direct conflict between global military powers and maintained deniability of any direct involvement in a conflict. Hybrid war is considered to be the next generation of warfare that will alter the manner in which future conflicts will be

fought. The contours of hybrid war first emerged when the US and NATO-backed irregular forces, that led to creation of designer states out of erstwhile Yugoslavia. We can see several examples of this warfare with respect to the world platform US backed Syrian democratic forces and Russia-Ukraine issue is one of them.

Commenting on Hoffman's description of compound warfare, Glenn has written:

"With his mention of 'full range of methods and modes of conflict' Hoffman lends further support to the argument that the broader, more-than-military challenge posed by Hizbollah and similar threats is worthy of further intellectual pursuit. The issue is not one of whether the comprehensive approach and whole of government constructs also apply at this (tactical) level they undoubtedly do but rather whether the nature of operations at the

tactical level such as those approaches employed by Hizbollah constitute a form of warfare unique from conventional and irregular operations. It is certainly possible that while a hybrid concept may prove un-unique at the operational and strategic levels; its tactics constitute a different kind of fighting".^[1]

In India's context we can say that Pakistan and china is constantly making strategies over this borderless battlefield and India should acknowledge that the military forces will not going to help over

this strategic outcome, without using weapons and heavy man force they will try to command India's democracy thus India should think over it in different aspects.

WEB OF HYBRID WARFARE

The following figure shows up the initial causes from where the hybrid war can take place on a gargantuan platform:



Hybrid warfare contains a vast source of irregular or regular sources to deploy, destroy or dislocate any actor anywhere; the advantage of this threat is that it doesn't contain rules and a humongous man power to fight like old warfare in conventional wars, non-military targets are avoided as a matter of principle. But hybrid war has the advantage that an adversary is able to engage both military and non-military targets simultaneously.^[2]

Future warfare will be fought on ground, sea, air, space and the cyber and psychological domains the one who use the tactics more frequently will surely rule over the enemy or the one who retain the capability to control all the domains and prevent others to use them.

ECONOMIC WARFARE

The tools of economic wars are cyber, information war, manipulation of forex stock exchanges, fake currency to weaken the economy, proliferation of fake goods in international markets, economic blockade and adverse propoganda of racial bias and exploitation^[3]

Sun Tzu introduced the strategy of breaking the enemy deep down by affecting its core that is economy. China is constantly going back to it, so in India's context we can see that Chinese products are highly became a part of Indian culture not only India but south Asia's too thus, in future it will be very

easy for China to get control over the major import export scenario with India by influencing the public opinion or fighting a legal warfare. As the Geo-Economic Strategy of China have settled many example of constant development or establishment in South-East Asia since last decade.

CYBER ATTACKS

As the whole world is being a part of social media it is very easy for non-state actors to manipulate a gargantuan mass against any other state the motive of these actors is to dislocate, abolish distract the enemy in various manner as we call them upgraded guerrillas of the world. The Defence ministry of India has approved the information warfare branch in army to combat misinformation and false propaganda being spread through social media for adverse psychological impact.^[4] The space between truth and lie the world propaganda lies therefore by the means of new technologies we can see that rumours set the whole dignity stability of any state into vain in both war and peace time.

MULTINATIONAL WARFARE

Warfare conducted by forces of two or more nations, usually undertaken within the structure of a coalition or group of nations. In present scenario where India came out straight to Kashmir issue, Pakistan and china had got an overnight threat. Both the countries were trying to get their control over the Kashmir regions but now for India the combined threat is more difficult to handle. As in past five six years' china is also convincing Nepal with its policies and the Bhutan region is also a salient area for them the insurgency, terrorism will get new ways to make trouble in India.

DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

After the cold war ended the whole powerful nations, third world nations were up to establish connections which helped India in 1999 war, and these turns the world's politics into diplomacy in

future it will helps a lot to figure out the benefits without the use of arms.

COVENTIONAL AND REGULAR WARFARE

Hybrid warfare never adopted a doctrinal concept these warfare techniques bring out the energy warfare, non-military warfare, information warfare, counterinsurgency, counter-terrorism simultaneously which we can see in Russia –Ukraine issue and recently in air strikes and proxy wars between India and Pakistan.

This fifth generation warfare has already started evolution in laws somehow it has been evaluating beneficial and smooth for strong governance and bad for weak governance as well. NATO in 21st century talk about the new emerging threats and proposed salient features for collective Defence as well. This threat doesn't come from various state but somehow it encompasses a wide variety of piracy terrorism, migration, corruption, espionage caused by any state at a small level hybrid threat basically manifest at smaller softer level just like a virus in human body, as there is no particular way to deal with it but awareness, education may help in differentiating things along with it. In India having a vast variety of people, culture and having the second major population in Asia continent The threat of a large war may have been reduced but the constant threat scenario remains same in different domains since India is encircled by inimical state and non-state actors who are capable of threatening the sovereignty of this nation.

INDIAN BOUNDARIES AND THREAT PREPERATION

According to the report of Hindustan times the General Bipin Rawat said "Hybrid Operations last for a long time and the prime intent is to maintain deniability and that was what India was witnessing in Kashmir. He also said that the Pakistani military enjoyed supremacy in the country's internal affairs". This means they can use all governmental agencies

in coordination against India whenever they feel like. Therefore, this hybrid warfare is likely to endure just remaining below the conventional threshold.^[5]

The present grey-zone conflict of India-Pakistan over Kashmir issue came along with new challenges, the insurgency is also a part of terror in India, the refugees' issue which Indians are dealing since independence. Thus the military should always be ready for any phase and should involve in various awareness campaigns regarding to these kinds of threats. Basically after the increment of incognito threats there are so many changes should be a part of military exercises in all domains of warzones it will lead to following changes of war gaming:

The military components and specific manoeuvres of highly technological and hybrid warfare contains:

1. Less human power, long range ballistic missiles which insures the perfection
2. More developed artificial intelligence which make grand strategies of asymmetric warfare
3. The increasing use of irregular forces and special intelligence.
4. Pitching power against power is an obsolete concept the war will be totally rely upon how fast secretly one can win the battle of soft war
5. The forces should be more agile; the old concept of strictness will reduce to more flexible one along with more ability characters within the anticipated battle fields.
6. The social, Technical empowerment of Special Forces; they should know how to deal with not over the land but over the sea air and space areas too.

Peninsular India is also a part of threat coming from sea areas too it is necessary to build up the strategies over sea and there is a vast population is living in the coastal areas having so much issues hence Ultimately, what is significant is the preparation and response to an undefined threat.

Therefore, a part of the security establishment should be in the readiness profile at all times. A rapid response is the means of the capability to reach, the capability to operate in information, vacuum and the capability to handle various contingencies, ranging from conventional to unconventional threats.^[6] It is same as for the other domain. In military psychology we study about the motivation, emotions, morale and everything about a war soldier and it is necessary to know that every war will not be the same thus one should get prepared for any sudden unexpected overcome the fear of failure will always be there to deny their confidence and morale but the key point is to rebuilt it and work smartly instead of arrogantly. The brainwashing techniques, involving children, human suicide bombers are those who really moulded by the manipulative powers of the powerful. This make difference here between the two warfare's asymmetric and hybrid because in this kind of process of war gaming effects the mental possibilities of a person and the other one will going to feel defenceless at the same time.

Maritime preparations for hybrid warfare is basically a major need of time for peninsular India as it has 7600 km coastline the non-state actors are always more reliable over the sea routes for example we can see the 1993 serial blasts in Mumbai and the 26/11 terror attack. Had left an indelible scar on the face of the country. Both incidents had resulted out of porous gaps and isolated, unmanned landing spots along the coastline and the incognito problem of piracy in the Gulf areas failed states, communal strife and poor governance are the underrated maritime security challenges.^[7]

The Mumbai Taj hotel terror attack was a master piece of terror based on the maritime strategy, after 2008 terror attack the govt. of India took a serious step towards enhancing the Maritime Domain awareness (MDA) through coastal surveillance measures and the establishment of the national command control communications and intelligence network (NC3IN) to secure the off-shore bio diversity of the region and India. Marine police have very important function but in transformation

of the policing function is making the coastal lines more neglecting as compare to other countries the coastguard is very strong in policing functions in a big way in Us they do the port control to maritime security but still India don't have any Maritime security advisor till now.

Last year India and Singapore signed a bilateral treaty which allow the Indian navy ships logistic support including the refuelling at Singapore's Changi Naval base it make china more restless after these agreements. Extending the boundaries of India up to space, the future warfare will be space warfare which is growing across the worlds race of development of weapons and other aspects, as India is far away from space weapon race it is the fourth space power right now, the A-SAT missile launched a new security awareness across the world in India's respect.

Defence space agency (DSA) is the parent agency and the defence space research organization (DSRO) supports the DSA. This is a new enterprise. India's anti-satellite capability is baby step many other forms of warfare in space has been developed whether it is kinetic or non-kinetic The DSA is basically headed by the air-marshal and a group of people works in it, where it is the need of the hour that they should formulate the strategies, protocols and procedures they need to know the capabilities and develop the requirement details. in these space exercises scenarios are the main game what the enemy has what they don't what and when should one respond, what the enemy can have in the future and most important the consequences over both the states after the war game.

Regarding to Air warfare the Indian Air force has shown the capabilities in past century war and in today's norm too. India is currently the largest operator of MIG-21 bison where the estimated of 121 aircraft on duty. India has now the heavy lift helicopters, apache new attack helicopter and Rafael India have added (AWACS) Airborne warning and control system , airborne surveillance radars which were helpful in Balakot strike, it was used quite intensively to capture the photograph of the Pakistan's mischief ,the integrated air control

systems are very essential part of modernization of the IAF .The air battle fought in 2019 against Pakistan was controlled by Ambala thus we can see that the distance doesn't even matter

India have to have more fighter jets. In Year 2000 Miraz 2000s was its first deal which was not ok, India need to have multiple capacity aircrafts. For the air boundaries and for the security from the future threats. The three plans we can say that are the necessary plans by which one can analyse the need of the hour in context of IAF.

1. The Perspective Plan

The life span of the aircraft along with updates are the main point to think over, the continuous imports of weapon, jets are the need of time but simultaneously the disarmament is also the big issue. Every state know that war is not the topic of only weapons so the weapons should have a plan after the expiry date this kind of crowd of weapon will affect the zones of warfare heavily and the threat will be common in every area.

2. Technology Development Road Map

Every aircraft needs a tech development timeline which actually based upon the structured manner, the public sectors enterprises of India don't collaborate with the public sectors which effects the development and economy as well.

3. Production and Manufacturing Aspects

It is a mixture of the points which emerges the above points of disarmament manifestation of artillery and air missiles. The production should be the part of the nation in various wings a new state –of the art airfield system has recently studded up in Bhatinda under the Modernization of Airfield infrastructure (MAFI) project this involves modernizing 67 military Airfields, to let the IAF operate in weather and visibility conditions far more restrictive than what is possible today

In 2007 and 2008 India signed two G -TO- G deals the C-17 from Boeing C-130 for Lockheed both

of them have been inducted now. The diplomatic air exercises are necessary to join the foreign countries to establish a good industrial deal with India HAL Kanpur the huge manufacturing base which can help private sectors to modify the aircrafts in India to be the economic superpower. The aim of India should be to strong its strategic manoeuvres to build up a strong economic base with the help of the combined private sectors and the government sector too.

ATOMIC, BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL TERRORISM

The other branches of warfare can define in the form of ABC (Atomic, Biological, Chemical warfare). The gargantuan massacre was caused by USA over Japan in 1945 and that atomic radiation after that atomic blast is still effecting the future generation. Same as after the use of chemical weapons by Iraq in 1984 the Australia group was formed to help other countries to identify those exports which need to be controlled so they can prevent the genocide which occurs by the use of chemical and biological ammunitions in any warfare. It is a multilateral export control regime which was formed in 1985 and with the incorporation of India on January 19, 2018 it has now 43 members. In order to secure chemical free world India signed the treaty Chemical Weapon Convention (CWC) on January 14, 1993. As on date 193 countries are parties to the convention. These conventions spread out the awareness of not using Sulphur mustard, phosgene, and nitrogen Mustard gases in any condition and war time. The outcomes of US–Vietnam and the Iran- Iraq wars were brutal still the rising norms of vested interests and intolerance can do anything which we can't even predict in future.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Till 2025 India is lining up various treaties and deals which can help to strong the internal and external security of the nation, being a global leader in development and having 5 military powers in the world India is constantly developing new arms and ammunition and constantly improvising the previous versions of its weaponry. New policies should be

developed by the government along with the private sectors to bring new changes towards the defence sectors, current world is a part of artificial intelligence and artificial intelligence isn't the new term. US has been using artificial intelligence in Israel, Afghanistan and last year they had come out along with the big dog. In the respect of sea-security the Distress Alert transmitters [DATS] had been provided to fishermen by the Gujarat and the Tamil Nadu state but some states have not given the fishing boats till now. As well as India don't need more organization but the need of the year and the future is to maintain and reprise the current organization and have to develop new ideas to fight against the upcoming threats and to aware people by which they can identify the threat coming out from social media and internet .India should change its policies over nuclear weaponries by which they can pursue a strong and dominant reflection not just in Asia but across the world, it will going to leave a psychological impact on other countries also India should focus over the space and the intelligence sector also, they can make the strong strategic base at war and peace time.

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