



People's NAP



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Preface

The People's NAP is an attempt by PILDAT to delineate the 20-point National Action Plan into an easy and understandable manner for the citizens.

The paper highlights the role of each stakeholder, including Governments, Parliament and Provincial Assemblies, for the purpose of facilitating greater appreciation and ownership among citizens on implementation of the National Action Plan. Our objective is that through greater understanding and ownership, citizens will demand a more systematic understanding of the implementation status of NAP at the Federal and the Provincial levels.

We hope the readers find this endeavour useful.

Lahore
July 2017

Overview

The 20-point National Action Plan was devised following the attack on the Army Public School in Peshawar on December 16, 2014. It came with a realisation that vacillation on the issue of combating terrorism and extremism can no longer be afforded and a concerted response is required by the state to get rid of this menace. Moreover, the 20-points of NAP also characterise the multifaceted approach that was to be taken in order to effectively combat terrorism and extremism in Pakistan.

The NAP was formally adopted by an All Parties Conference chaired by the Prime Minister of Pakistan on January 2, 2015 and it serves as the landmark consensus blue print for combatting terrorism and violent extremism in Pakistan. The 20-point NAP has been described, both by the civil and military leadership, as the most important road map for the struggle against terrorism in the country. The NAP is also significant because it has the rare consensus of otherwise bitterly opposed political forces besides the civil-military agreement. Both Civil and Military leaderships have repeatedly expressed their strong commitment to implement the plan in letter and spirit.

The People's NAP explains in detail each of the 20 points of the National Action Plan. Each point also highlights the particular role and responsibility of each stakeholder, including Governments, Parliament and Provincial Assemblies, Citizens & CSOs for the purpose of facilitating greater appreciation and ownership of implementation of NAP among citizens.

NAP Point No. 1: Implementation of death sentences of those convicted of terrorism

Executions in Pakistan had been halted since 2008, with the exception of a few. By the time the Government lifted the moratorium on the death penalty for cases related to terrorism on December 17, 2014, around 8000 convicts were on death row according to unconfirmed news reports.¹

The reported rationale behind lifting the moratorium on death penalty in December 2014 by the Government was that death penalty provides an effective way to deal with the scourge of militancy.

Judiciary: The role of the judiciary is to convict terrorists and hand down death sentences to those involved in hard-core terrorism in line with the dictates of law and the principles of justice.

Military Courts: Military Courts were given the power to try civilians involved in acts of terrorism initially through the 21st Constitutional Amendment and Army (Amendment) Act 2015 for two years and then further extended for another two years through the 23rd Constitutional Amendment and Army (Amendment) Act 2017 till December 2018, they too have to hand down death sentences in line with the dictates of law and the principles of justice.

Federal and Provincial Governments: The role of the Federal and Provincial Governments is to effectively carry out the executions while prioritizing the executions of terrorists and preventing their delay due to a backlog of executions that may have arisen as a result of lifting the moratorium on death penalty.

The Government must also periodically release information on the executions done and the nature of offences of the persons executed as well as the number of persons on death row. This would lend the process transparency and credibility that NAP requires in order to gather widespread support for it.

Civil Society: The civil society has a twofold responsibility in this regard. First, is to act as a watchdog ensuring against the abuse of the implementation of the death penalty. The second responsibility of the civil society is to educate the public of the special circumstances under which the moratorium on death penalty has been lifted and why

that is necessary to win the fight against terrorism.

NAP Point No. 2: Special courts under the supervision of Army. The duration of these courts would be two years

There were wide ranging deficiencies in the mainstream criminal justice system of Pakistan that impeded their ability to effectively try cases of suspected terrorists. Serious life threats towards judges, witnesses, police and the prosecution from terrorist outfits provided terrorists with de facto impunity. Hence, it was felt necessary to institute Military Courts for the speedy trial of hard-core terrorist suspects.

Military: The Military has a number of roles in this regard. First is selecting cases that need to be referred to Military Courts. This is done by the Judge and Advocate branch of the military. Second is evidence collection and prosecution. Third is providing defence attorney to the accused and the fourth one is hearing of the case by a Military Court and passing a verdict.

The vital responsibility of Military Courts is to ensure the swift and speedy handling of cases while keeping in line with the dictates of law and principles of justice. However, review of decisions of Military Courts pending before the High Courts and the Supreme Court has called to question their efficiency in speedily dealing with cases.

Federal and Provincial Governments: The role of the Governments is mainly in the area of referring cases to Military Courts. For example, in the case of the Punjab Government, a committee of the Home Department initially recommends cases to Military Courts, with recommendations then passing through the provincial apex committee to the Interior Ministry. The Interior Ministry, after vetting the recommendations then forwards them to the Judge and Advocate Branch of the Military.

Parliament: The role of the Parliament involves effective oversight of the working of Military Courts through its various standing committees in the Senate and National Assembly, particularly the Parliamentary Committee on Law and Justice.

1. '8261 prisoners: Hanging in the balance,' The Express Tribune, published on December 18, 2014 can be accessed at: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/808727/6261-prisoners-hanging-in-the-balance/>

NAP Point No. 3: Militant outfits and armed gangs will not be allowed to operate in the country

The problem of armed groups openly carrying out acts of violence against the public as well as the State needed a concerted response from the State. These militant outfits had compromised the safety and security of the people.

Parliament and Provincial Assemblies: The Parliament and Provincial Assemblies have the responsibility of providing the legal framework for improving capacity of agencies involved in maintaining law and order.

They also have the role of monitoring progress through their various standing committees.

Federal and Provincial Governments: The Federal and Provincial Governments have multiple responsibilities in this regard. First, is effective implementation of laws dealing with improving policing, surveillance, and de-weaponization.

Second is taking action against militant outfits operating in the country and here both police and paramilitary forces need to synchronize their work for optimal results.

Third is intelligence sharing, and in this regard National Counter Terrorism Authority has the main role of coordinating between different intelligence agencies.

Fourth is overseeing effective implementation by law enforcement agencies and the responsibility for this lies with the Counter Terrorism Committee created by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on December 27, 2014² alongside 14 other committees.

Military: The role of the Military is to carry out kinetic operations in areas where it is deployed as well as support the civil administration in apprehending terrorists whenever it seeks its help.

Citizens: Effective results can only be achieved on this point if the State and the citizenry work together. The citizenry can play its role here by being vigilant of its surroundings and reporting to the police any suspicious activity.

NAP Point No. 4: NACTA, the anti-terrorism institution, will be strengthened

The National Counter Terrorism Authority was formed as a central body that would coordinate between different intelligence agencies at the Federal level and law enforcement agencies at the provincial level. The need was felt because of a lack of harmony in all of these different agencies, with the result being that on occasion proper action was not taken due to incomplete information with relevant authorities.

However, initially set up through an ordinance in 2009, NACTA was a dormant organisation with much political vacillation over its fate. Hence, it was decided that the organisation would be strengthened and re-activated so that it can properly carry out the function it was originally designed for.

NACTA is also charged with oversight of the implementation of National Action Plan; however, ever since the establishment of the Implementation and Review Committee under the leadership of Advisor to Prime Minister on National Security, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Nasser Khan Janjua in August 2016, there is an overlap in responsibilities as the Committee was also charged with the role of oversight of NAP. NACTA also has the responsibility of carrying out research relevant to terrorism and extremism and circulating it among relevant stakeholders.

NAP Point No. 5: Strict action against the literature, newspapers, and magazines promoting hatred, extremism, sectarianism, and intolerance

Narratives promoting the retrograde worldview of religious extremism, hatred towards religious communities, and sectarianism had endangered the very fabric of Pakistani society. Instead of harmony between different communities, these narratives were engendering societal cleavages and were instigating violence towards different groups. Hence, action was required to curb the dissemination of such narratives through newspapers, magazines, and other media.

Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments: Monitoring the literature for hate speech or extremist ideas.

2. '15 committees tasked with execution of action plan' published in Dawn can be accessed at: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1153581>

Committee on Hate Speech: The Committee on Hate Speech under Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar has the role of making recommendations on the ways hate speech can be countered.³

Parliament and Provincial Assemblies: The role of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies is improving laws that define hate speech especially for literature and newspapers.

Citizens: Citizens can play their part in this by publicly condemning such narratives as well as reporting the dissemination of such narratives in any form.

NAP Point No. 6: Choking financing for terrorist and terrorist organizations

Crucial to ensuring that terrorists and their organizations are not able to sustain their fight against the State and the citizenry was to clamp down on their source of financing. This involved both reigning on transnational sources of funding as well as terrorist financiers within the country.

In addition, a major thing that exacerbates the issue of terrorist financing is the presence of the informal economy as it allows the easy utilisation of illegal funding.

Banks: The role of private banks is reporting Suspicious Transactions by generating Suspicious Transaction Reports and sending them to the Finance Monitoring Unit of the State Bank of Pakistan.

State Bank of Pakistan: The role of the Finance Monitoring Unit of the State Bank of Pakistan is to analyze Suspicious Transaction Reports and decide whether to send them to the Federal Investigative Agency for investigation.

Federal Investigation Agency: The Federal Investigative Agency carries out investigations on the basis of Suspicious Transaction Reports forwarded to it by the Finance Monitoring Unit of the State Bank of Pakistan. Thereafter, Suspicious Transaction Reports are converted into cases.

Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments: The Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments also have the role of apprehending suspects involved in terrorist financing, mostly through the informal economy.

Judiciary: The role of the judiciary is to try cases of terrorist financing in speedy and effective manner.

Parliament: There are numerous lacunae present in Anti-Money Laundering Act, a Federal law, that needs the Parliament's attention. For instance, banks remain the primary reporting agency of STRs and private complaints cannot be entertained under it. Moreover, the informal economy, where most of the terrorist financing takes place, needs adequate laws for its regulation. The main responsibility of the Legislature is therefore filling these legal lacunae.

Citizens: Citizens can play their role by using formal banking channels for their business and personal needs. Moreover, terrorist outfits often rely on money collected under the garb of charity to fund their operations. In this case, citizens have to remain vigilant about charity drives and only donate to those who they can verify are not backed by any terrorist organization.

NAP Point No. 7: Ensuring against re-emergence of proscribed organizations

The issue of proscribed organizations carrying out the same activities, with largely the same members but under a different name was a serious cause of concern. In the absence of an effective mechanism to curb their activities, proscription had become reduced to an emasculated tool.

Federal Ministry of Interior: The proscription of organizations is done by the Ministry of Interior under the Anti Terrorism Act 1997.

Law Enforcement Agencies: Law Enforcement Agencies, including civilian and military intelligence agencies, monitor the activities of suspected organizations and send their report to the Ministry of Interior.

Committee on Proscribed Organizations: The Committee on Proscribed Organizations, under the leadership of Minister for Interior is specifically charged with the role of stopping re-emergence of proscribed organizations.⁴

Citizens: Citizens can play their part by reporting any organisation to the authorities that has as its member a person who is or was a part of a proscribed organisation.

3. '15 committees tasked with execution of action plan' published in Dawn can be accessed at: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1153581>

4. '15 committees tasked with execution of action plan' published in Dawn can be accessed at: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1153581>

NAP Point No. 8: Establishing and deploying a dedicated counter terrorism force

It was felt that the traditional police force was not fully equipped to apprehend terrorist suspects on actionable intelligence due to a variety of reasons. Chief among them were the risk of intelligence being leaked by the police and delayed action giving terrorists enough time to escape. Moreover, dealing with terrorists required a force specially trained for the purpose. Hence, it was envisaged under NAP that a counter terrorism force would be setup that would obviate the rigmarole of the traditional police work and would work closely with the provincial Counter Terrorism Departments to act quickly and effectively against suspected terrorist.

Counter Terrorism Force: The Counter Terrorism Force of the four provincial Counter Terrorism Departments has the responsibility of carrying out raids, apprehending suspects, and carrying out surveillance of important locations.

Committee on Counter Terrorism: The Committee on Counter Terrorism under Interior Minister was tasked with deploying a dedicated Counter Terrorism Force by May 31, 2015. It has fulfilled that role as a separate Counter Terrorism Force has been deployed in each province.

NAP Point No. 9: Taking effective action against religious persecution

Pakistan is perceived as a difficult place to live for religious minorities. Even though the State does not differentiate constitutionally and legally among citizens based on faith, instances of societal intolerance towards religious minorities coupled with terrorist activities targeting citizens of different faiths manifested itself in various forms ranging from quotidian acts of abuse to grotesque acts of violence against them by terrorist outfits. Hence, a need was felt to effectively act against religious persecution in all its form.

Federal and Provincial Education Ministries: The role of the Federal Education and Professional Training in terms of coordination, and of Provincial Educational Ministries in required reforms in a nationwide uniform curriculum are critical to impart education that inculcates pluralism and tolerance for religious minorities.

Police: The role of police is to ensure the safety of all religious minorities living in the area and take effective action against those groups or individuals who attempt to persecute them.

Committee on Religious Persecution: The Committee of the Federal Government on Religious Persecution, headed by Interior Minister has the oversight role in putting an end to religious persecution throughout the country.

Religious Leaders: Religious leaders can play their part by highlighting tolerance and acceptance in their speeches.

Civil Society: The Civil Society has the responsibility to both advocate for the betterment of disadvantaged religious groups as well as educate people of the rights of religious minorities.

Citizens: The success of this NAP Point hinges on ownership of it by the citizenry. While acts of terrorism against religious minorities need to be dealt with by the State, but these acts rely on the intolerance within society as fuel. Hence, combating the mind-set of intolerance is the first step towards eliminating religious persecution, with citizens rejecting ideas that spread intolerance.

NAP Point No. 10: Registration and regulation of religious seminaries

Religious seminaries are perceived as a breeding ground for terrorists in two ways. First, was the link between certain religious seminaries and terrorist outfits, with the latter using religious seminaries for the purpose of recruiting potential terrorists. Making matters worse was the lack of information on these religious seminaries, and hence the need was felt to first identify all religious seminaries that operated in the country.

Second, there were religious seminaries that did not have adequate oversight by State sanctioned educational boards to look over their curriculum and educational activities. This resulted in them imparting a myopic world view in their students that made them susceptible to be influenced by the propaganda of terrorist organizations.

Moreover, audit and maintenance of accounts was something religious seminaries were nonchalant about, and this allowed those religious seminaries that were

funded by terrorist groups to operate without any trouble. Hence, their regulation was necessitated in order to eliminate terrorism.

Provincial Governments: Provincial Governments have the responsibility of registration of Madrassas under the Societies Registration Act 1860.

Education Ministries: The Provincial Education Ministries, alongside coordination from the Federal Ministry of Education and Professional Training, have the responsibility of development of curricula, something that is urgently required in the cases of Madrassas.

Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments: The Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments have the role of collecting information about Madrassas, including their location, number of students, and any links with proscribed organizations. The Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments also have the responsibility of carrying out raids on those Madrassas that have links with proscribed organizations as well as arresting any members involved in terrorist activities.

Provincial Assemblies: There are numerous lacunae in the Societies Registration Act 1860. For instance in the case of Punjab, lack of punitive arrangement for societies that do not register or hold regular audit of their accounts in the Act needs to be fixed by Punjab Assembly.

Citizens: Citizens can play their part by keeping an eye on religious seminaries in their localities, particularly by engaging with their graduates to find out if they do not hold beliefs that are sympathetic to terrorists and in the case they do then reporting the religious seminary to the authorities.

NAP Point No. 11: Ban on glorification of terrorist and terrorist organizations through print and electronic media

The acts of violence by terrorist outfits were a means to draw attention to their ideological world view. Their main objective was to glorify themselves through any means, including print and electronic media, while also shoring up support or sympathy from different sections of the population. Hence, it was realised that in the absence of constricting the means of propaganda dissemination of terrorists, any action against them would only produce partial results.

Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA): The Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority is the primary body charged with monitoring the media and ensuring that terrorist glorification does not take place there.

Judiciary: The judiciary is an important stakeholder in this respect as decisions of the PEMRA can be appealed against it. Hence, the judiciary has the responsibility of ensuring that terrorist glorification is not allowed any space in the media.

Citizens: Citizens can play their part by reporting any glorification of terrorism and extremism. They can also educate themselves on the misappropriations of religious scripture that terrorists often rely on to justify their acts so that they are at the forefront of the counter narrative against terrorist outfits.

NAP Point No. 12: Administrative and development reforms in FATA with immediate focus on repatriation of IDPs

The historic neglect of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) by the State made the area impoverished to the extent that terrorists were able to take over it, and form their base of operations there. Moreover, abject poverty coupled with sub par literacy made the impressionable youth of FATA into easy prey for terrorists looking to induct them into their ranks. Hence, it was envisaged under NAP Point No. 12 that reforms in FATA both at the administrative level and development level were necessary to not let the region become the main hub of terrorists again.

In addition, Operation Zarb-e-Azb had left a big number of Internally Displaced Persons from FATA in different parts of Pakistan, for whom arrangements had to be made to return to their homes once the military had finished its Operation and the area was deemed safe.

Federal Cabinet: The Federal Cabinet has to implement the recommendations of the FATA Reforms Committee in order for work on FATA reforms to be initiated.

Military: The Military's role is to assist the civil administration in the repatriation of Internally Displaced Persons and implementation of FATA reforms.

NAP Point No. 13: Communication network of terrorists will be dismantled completely

Terrorists used various means of communication to coordinate their operations often between their base of operations in FATA and their sleeper cells throughout Pakistan. Illegal SIMs were one of the main tools of communication as acquiring them was relatively easy. Moreover, individuals associated with terrorist outfits were able to maintain a channel of communication between themselves and terrorist outfits and this enabled terrorist outfits to perpetrate terrorism.

Pakistan Telecommunication Authority: The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority has the role of regulating telecommunication systems in Pakistan. In this regard, between 2014 and 2016 the biometric verification SIMs throughout Pakistan is an important milestone achieved.

Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments: Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments have the responsibility of eliminating the physical infrastructure of terrorist cells throughout the country, thereby breaking their means of communication.

Military: The main responsibility of the Military was to eliminate the terrorist infrastructure in Federally Administered Tribal Areas, particularly the North Waziristan region as this was among other things the central node through which terrorist coordination and communication took place.

NAP Point No. 14: Measures against abuse of social media for terrorism

With the popularisation of the social media as an effective means of communicating with the public at large, terrorist groups also started using it to spread their extremist ideas. However, due to it being a relatively new medium, laws and institutional mechanisms to regulate the social media were relatively underdeveloped. Hence, it was decided to introduce effective measures to curb the propaganda dissemination of terrorist groups.

Pakistan Telecommunication Authority: The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority is the main body regulating the use of social media initiating proceedings against its abuse for terrorism.

Federal Investigative Agency: The Federal Investigative Agency (FIA) has the responsibility of investigating the abuse of social media under the Pakistan Electronic Crimes Act 2016.

Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments: Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments have asked for jurisdiction under the Pakistan Electronic Crimes Act, 2016 so that investigation and initiation of proceedings on the abuse of social media can be carried out in provinces. This jurisdiction, at the moment, is not given to Provincial CTDs.

Citizens: Citizens can play a major role in the successful process of this NAP Point. As the social media is a vast network, effectively policing it against terrorist propaganda is difficult for authorities. Hence, citizens can act as the perfect facilitators of the state by reporting any such activity to the relevant authorities.

NAP Point No. 15: Zero-tolerance for militancy in Punjab

There was a widespread impression that action against certain terrorist groups in Punjab, especially its Southern regions, was not being taken with the same force as it should have been. It is in this context that NAP Point No. 15 envisages complete elimination of terrorist groups in the province. These include both religiously motivated and temporally motivated militant groups.

Counter Terrorism Department Punjab: The Counter Terrorism Department Punjab is the main body with the role of intelligence gathering in the province as well as apprehending suspects involved in militancy in Punjab.

Punjab Rangers: Ever since the deployment of Rangers in Punjab on February 19, 2017, Punjab Rangers have the role of assisting the provincial government in cracking down on suspected terrorists.

Punjab Assembly: The role of the Punjab Assembly, particularly through its Standing Committee on Home Affairs, is to provide effective oversight on the implementation of this NAP point. Moreover, the Punjab Assembly needs to hold regular briefings by concerned Ministers on the status of implementation of this NAP point.

NAP Point No. 16: Ongoing operation in Karachi will be taken to its logical end

The law and order situation in Karachi had regressed to a point where the safety and security of its inhabitants was in constant danger. The city struggled to even carry out its daily activities as armed groups and mafias used coercion and intimidation to get their way. In order to rescue the city from this state of affairs, a Rangers-led Karachi Operation was launched in September 2013. However, it was realised that without carrying out the Operation wholly in which all of these mafias and armed groups are eliminated, any progress achieved on it would be gradually undone and the groups would re-emerge.

Sindh Rangers: The main responsibility of Karachi operation has been in the hands of Sindh Rangers, who have apprehended militant groups operating in the city.

Provincial Assembly of Sindh: The role of Sindh Assembly is to oversee the developments of the Karachi Operation.

Federal Ministry of Interior: Sindh Rangers come under the control of Interior Ministry, and their deployment has been done by it for the Karachi Operation.

Citizens: Often mafias and armed groups in addition to using force, also make use of support from within communities to spread their influence and maintain power. They use ethnic or religious symbols to signify parochial cleavages and turn communities against each other. The people on their part can resist such ideas by realising that the use of such symbols is nothing more than mere instruments for these mafias in maintaining their power.

NAP Point No. 17: Balochistan Government to be fully empowered for political reconciliation with complete ownership by all stakeholders

The insurgency in Balochistan, which had both indigenous and foreign factors responsible for it, had put at risk the integrity of Pakistan. While kinetic action was necessary to neutralise separatist militant groups operating in the province, however, any long term solution had to keep in mind the need for local inclusion in the decision making process. It was in this context that this NAP Point called for an inclusionary approach to fixing the troubles of Balochistan.

Federal Government: The Federal Government is required to empower the Provincial Government of Balochistan to pursue political reconciliation.

Balochistan Government: The role of the Balochistan government is to bring together all stakeholders in Balochistan and gather their support to charter an inclusionary path for its future.

Law Enforcement Agencies: The responsibility of action against separatist elements in Balochistan lies with civil and military Law Enforcement Agencies.

Provincial Assembly of Balochistan: The Provincial Assembly of Balochistan as a whole and through its Committees, must demand periodic status of implementation on this point. The Assembly must also oversee the strides made against insurgency in Balochistan.

Citizens: On the part of citizens, it needs to be realized that while legitimate political demands of the various segments of the Balochistan people need to be accepted, however, the insurgent groups in the province use them merely as fuel to further their own agenda. Hence, the citizens should contest the narrative of separatist groups in Balochistan, while continuously engaging with the government on formal channels for winning rights for Balochistan considered to be legitimate.

NAP Point No. 18: Dealing firmly with sectarian terrorists

Sectarian terrorists exacerbated sectarian tensions and also endangered the lives of Pakistani citizens with their acts of terrorism. Hence, these terrorist organisations had to be dealt with in the most stringent and effective manner so as to restrict any space for them to give rise to sectarian tensions.

Police: The role of the local police is apprehending suspects involved in sectarianism.

Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments: The responsibility of Provincial Counter Terrorism Departments is to apprehend suspected sectarian terrorists.

Religious Leaders: Religious leaders can promote sectarian harmony by focusing on the commonalities between various sects and condemning sectarian violence.

Civil Society: Civil society can promote sectarian harmony through educating the public about tolerance and respect for each other's beliefs.

Citizens: Citizens should realise that sectarian organisations spew virulence that can be effectively countered by a tolerant and inclusionary attitude.

NAP Point No. 19: Formulation of a comprehensive policy to deal with the issue of Afghan refugees, beginning with registration of all refugees

While lawful Afghan refugees have positively contributed to the growth of Pakistan, there was the issue of terrorists hiding among Afghan refugees. Moreover, unchecked movement of people between Pakistan and Afghanistan enabled cross-border terrorist organisations based in Afghanistan to freely operate in Pakistan. Hence, there was a need to develop a policy on the national level to deal with the issue of Afghan refugees, and a part and parcel of that was the registration of refugees in order for the Government to have the required information on refugees to both take action and form an effective policy.

Federal Ministry of Interior: The Federal Ministry of Interior is responsible for setting the policy on the issue of Afghan refugees including their registration and the road map of repatriating unregistered refugees.

Provincial Governments: The Provincial Governments have the responsibility of biometrically verifying Afghan refugees and registering them as well as identifying areas of concentration of Afghan refugees.

NAP Point No. 20: Revamping of the Criminal Justice System

While Military Courts for trying civilian suspects involved in terrorism was envisaged under NAP, it came with the a realisation that it is at most a stop gap arrangement, which would have to be followed with reform in the criminal justice system of Pakistan for the counter terrorism efforts to be truly successful. These reforms involved adequate witness protection, effective prosecution, speedy trial of cases, and adequate security to judges.

Federal Government: The role of the Federal Government is to improve those aspects of the criminal justice system that come under its jurisdiction. This includes improvement of the Federal Investigation Agency and the National Accountability Bureau. An additional role of the Federal Government is to help the Provincial Governments in improving the aspects of criminal justice system that come under their jurisdiction.

Parliament: The role of the Parliament is multi-faceted. One is carrying oversight through its standing committees in the National Assembly and Senate, particularly the Standing Committee on Law and Justice for the progress on criminal justice reform. Second is amending Federal Laws that deal with the criminal justice system, particularly the Criminal Procedure Code and the Pakistan Penal Code, in order to improve upon them.

Provincial Governments: The role of the Provincial Governments is to formulate proposals for those aspects of the criminal justice system that relate to the provinces for example prosecution and investigation.

Provincial Assemblies: The role of the Provincial Assemblies is to refine laws relating to the criminal justice system that come under their jurisdiction.

Judiciary: The judiciary's role in criminal justice reform is reforming the judicial system for swift dispensation of justice.

Conclusion

The National Action Plan characterises the multi-faceted approach that needs to be taken in order to completely eradicate terrorism and extremism from Pakistan.

This elaboration of the National Action Plan has brought to the forefront the need for all stakeholders involved to do their part in complete harmony with each other, as progress on all fronts is essential for its successful implementation. Most notably, the support of citizens is vital for creating an atmosphere conducive to the successful implementation of NAP. As long as citizens own the fight against terrorism, terrorist propaganda will not prevail.



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