GROOMING AROUND ONLINE RADICALIZATION : AN INTERNET MEDIATED PATHWAY

Namrata Chhillar

LLB Student, University of Delhi, New Delhi

ABSTRACT

Over the past decade, India has been subjected to extremist attacks in various forms. In spite of its focus on Islamic extremism, India has to change its current policies and adopt a more comprehensive approach to the problem. A look at the counter-radicalization and deradicalization efforts that have been done by the states and the government of India is the focus of this article. An overview of counter-terrorism policy in countries such as Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, and Malaysia is also included in this section Following a review of these policies and actions, recommendations for improving India's counterterrorism efforts will be offered.

Keywords- India, counter- radicalization strategy, deradicalization strategy, anti-radicalization strategy, radicalization, Islamic extremism, counter- terrorism.

DEFINITIONS

There is a persistent controversy that surrounds the definition of the phrase "radicalization". Radicalization derives from the adjective 'radical'. The term 'radical 'has gone through the same alterations in connotation like 'terrorism 'through several decades. 'Radicalism 'is a relative idea in society and has an impact on defining the terms - radicalization, deradicalization and counter-radicalization (Schmid, 2013). (Schmid, 2013). Given the controversial nature of the term "radicalization" in itself, every nation prescribes its own counter-radicalization or deradicalization techniques based on its perception of the issue.

Radicalization is a process; it occurs in steps. Hence attempts are made at every level to dissuade or counter this process. Counter-radicalization is commonly defined as steps and procedures done to stop or control radicalization processes. Anti- radicalisation refers to any efforts done to stop or prevent radicalization from occurring in the first place (Sharma, 2019). (Sharma, 2019). Deradicalization tries to bring about a psychological and ideological turnaround in a radicalised individual and reintegrate them back into society. Deradicalization is sometimes confused with disengagement, when an individual would renounce his/her involvement in terrorist operations but retain a radical mindset (Vidino, 2010). (Vidino, 2010). Anti-radicalization and deradicalization measures are shown in the table on the following page, along with the stages they target in the radicalization process. [1]

---

[1] Thwarting Radicalization in India: Lacunae In Policy Initiatives, available at: https://www.longdom.org/open-access/thwarting- radicalization-in-India-lacunae-in-policy-initiatives- 2375-4435-1000166.pdf. (last visited on January 10, 2022).

62

With regards to India, the nation has encountered many various sorts of extremisms as well as terrorist assaults. Thus, India subscribers to a more holistic meaning which is in accordance with the conventional international approach. The Indian Supreme Court recognises the definition provided by Alex P. Schmid, "an individual or collective (group) process whereby, usually in a situation of political polarisation, normal practises of dialogue, compromise and tolerance between political actors and groups with diverging interests are abandoned by one or both sides in a conflict dyad in favour of a growing commitment to engage in confrontational tactics of conflict-waging. These can include either

(i) the use of (non-violent) pressure and coercion,

(ii) acts of violent extremism in the form of terrorism and war crimes committed by groups other than ISIS or other terrorist organisations. It is accompanied by an ideological shift away from mainstream or status quo-oriented positions by rebel factions toward more radical or extremist positions, which involve a dichotomous world view and the acceptance of an alternative focal point of political mobilisation outside the dominant political order, as the existing system is no longer recognised as appropriate or legitimate.." (Schmid, 2013).

Types of programs required	Types of behaviors targeted	Main aim of the program	Main objectives of the program	Condition under which program is implemented
Deradicalization	Insurgency Terrorism	Rehabilitation	Cessation of violence reintegration	Post-detention Post-surrender Post-conviction
Counter radicalization	Transition to terrorism Violent terrorism	Mitigation	Disengagement Reintegration Rehabilitation	Pre-conviction Pre-detention Active radicalization
Anti-radicalization	Vulnerability to risk from radicalization to violent extremism	Prevention	Detection Deterrence	Pre- radicalization Early radicalization

Source: (GS & Kaushik, 2018)

INDIA'S COUNTER-RADICALIZATION STRATEGIES

An Assessment of Legal Mechanisms and Provisions

Ministry of Home Affairs Counter Terrorism and Counter Radicalization (CTCR) divisions are the government's most important wing for dealing with "radicalization," "counter radicalization," "terrorism," and "counter-terrorism," respectively. It is the CTCR's job to interpret two important Indian laws and put them into action. National Investigation Act (NIA) of 2008 and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act of 1967 are the two legal frameworks that govern this.

To "constitute an investigation agency at national level to investigate and prosecute offences affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India, the security of State, friendly relations with foreign States and offences under Acts enacted to implement international treaties," agreements or resolutions," the National Investigation Agency (NIA) was established in the aftermath of the 2008 terrorist attacks in Mumbai (2019). Terrorist-related actions can be dealt with by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) without the authorization of individual states. A new 2019 amendment allows the agency to look into crimes such as I counterfeit currency or bank notes, (ii) the manufacture or sale of prohibited weapons, (iii) cyber terrorism, (iv) human trafficking, and (v) offences under the Explosive Substance Act of 1908 (2019), in addition to arrests made under the UAPA or other criminal acts.

In order to "provide for the more efficient prevention of certain unlawful acts of persons and associations associated with terrorist activities," the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) was introduced in 1967. (THE UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION) ACT, 1967).

A 2019 modification has expanded the scope of the law to include the conduct of individuals who have been designated by the government and its authorities as terrorists, rather than just those who have been linked to terrorist organisations (2019). According to the National Crime Records Bureau, the number of people accused under the Act has significantly increased in recent years. There have also been numerous reports exposing the appalling exploitation of this rule, and it must therefore be examined in relation to any deradicalization efforts adopted by India.[2]

One of these other acts was the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Preventation (Prevention) Law (enacted in 1985) and the Prevention of Terrorism Act (enacted in 2002). Due to widespread alleged abuse, these laws were recently repealed. Only 8000 of the over 67,000

---

[2] INDIA'S COUNTER-RADICALIZATION STRATEGIES , available at: https://jgu.s3.ap-south-1.amazonaws.com/JSIA/POLICY+BRIEF+-+CSS+-+India%27s+need+for+a+counter-radicalization+strategy.pdf (last visited on January 10, 2022).

people detained under the TADA were brought to trial, and of those, only 725 were found guilty, according to reports (Bidwai, 2008). The TADA was used against around 5,000 Gujaratis in 1990 despite the fact that the state had experienced much fewer terrorist attacks than Kashmir or Punjab (GEHLOT, 1994). In some cases, it has been reported that the act has been used to target certain religious organisations. On the other hand, similar charges were levied against people under the guise of terror under the Prevention of Terrorism Act of 2002. Over 940 arrests were made in the first eight months of the act's implementation, with "particular discrimination" at Muslims. (Gagn, n.d.)

The current Act appears to be following in the footsteps of previous legislation. The UAPA's use has steadily increased since 2014, according to a new study. The annual report of the National Crime Records Bureau shows that the number of arrests made under the Act has increased exponentially. 107 cases have been reported in Uttar Pradesh since 2014, an increase of 30%. Cases in Jharkhand rose from 44 in 2014 to 137 in 2018; the number of cases in Assam rose from 148 to 308 in 2018; while the number of cases in Kashmir rose from 45 to 245 in 2018. The government is now reviewing a number of situations in which detainees were unlawfully detained. Nearly 14 years after his arrest, Mohammed Aamir Khan, who had been detained under the UAPA, was found not guilty by reason of insanity and testified about the torture he had endured at the hands of the police (Mander, 2016). For claimed ties to the Indian Naxalite Movement, Arun Ferreira was also imprisoned under the UAPA in 2007 and released in 2012. (Maitra, 2012).

Additionally, even though this law has been used to make numerous arrests under the guise of countering radicalization, no compensation has been provided to people who were found not guilty after being wrongfully detained. In the case of "terrorism," these factors could actually lead to a rise in radicalization. Over 93% of UAPA cases were still ongoing in 2018, and only 27% of those cases resulted in convictions, according to the NCRB study, indicating that anti-terror proceedings that result in convictions are rare ("National Crime Records Bureau", n.d.). Those accused of violating the UAPA, on the other hand, continue to be held in jail and subjected to "harsh" treatment.[3]

INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS

Additional to the creation of NIA, the government also established the Sachar Committee. Initiated in March 2005, the group had seven members, including Rajinder Sachar, a former Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court. It was the committee's primary goal to investigate and make recommendations for improving the social, economic, and educational conditions of Muslims in India. If the proposals are followed through on, it might be an important tactic in combating Muslim radicalization.

---

[3] ibid

The Committee was particularly concerned about the treatment of Indian Muslims as a minority group. The actions of politicians and the media reflected this mentality, which exaggerated the part played by Muslims in violent events like riots and underplayed the role played by other groups or organisations (2006). Concerns were also voiced about the police's use of force while dealing with Muslims. Muslims living in border areas were considered as "foreigners" and subjected to police and government harassment. The Muslim community's sense of uneasiness was exacerbated by the absence of Muslims in the police forces of the majority of Indian states.

On November 30, 2006, the Committee's report was presented to Parliament, and the government implemented some of the Committee's recommendations the following month. According to Sachar Committee Recommendations (Status up to 30.11.2018), the government accepted 72, rejected three, and deferred one of the 76 recommendations. There were 43 decisions made by the government in the areas of education and skill development; access to credit; affirmative action; waqf properties (donated for religious or charitable purposes) development; the Communal Violence (Prevention) Bill; and sensitising government employees, among other issues.[4]

Progress on the suggestions made in a report submitted to the Parliament has been negligible since then. There has been a huge backlash

1 According to Section 69A of the IT Act, Central Government can order the blocking of particular websites and computer resources (in the sake of national defence, sovereignty, and integrity) and this attitude is echoed by Muslim communities as well. At issue was a claim that UPA officials were engaging in appeasement politics and failing to implement their own policies. A reexamination of the assertions and figures in the Sachar report is also necessary in light of concerns that the document contains errors.

CYBER AND TECHNOLOGY

India has the second-highest rate of online penetration in the world, with 415 million internet users, two-thirds of whom are aged 16 to 29. (Mandhavi, 2019). Radical ideas are more appealing to young people because of this well-known fact (UNDP, 2016). The Indian government is doing its best to quell the rise of extreme views in the cyberspace. The Indian Penal Code illustrates the present method to combating the dissemination of such offensive viewpoints (IPC). When words are spoken or written that promote discord, animosity, hatred or ill-will or offend or insult people because of their race, caste, religion, or culture are in violation of Sections 124A through 505, the law takes a strong stance against them. Sections 153A through 153B are the most stringent. All of the foregoing is classified as a crime under the IPC's aforementioned sections. Anyone who intentionally and maliciously aims to infuriate, alarm, or offend the government or another group is subject to jail or a fine.

---

[4] Ibid

There was also passage of the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Public Access of Information) Rules (the "Blocking Rules"). So, the central government could effectively prohibit websites it thought were disseminating propaganda or were otherwise in violation of the law. There were fears that this effort to criminalise hate speech and extremist propaganda violated free speech and expression. However, the government's crackdowns on social media have strayed into the realm of social media companies' terms and conditions. This method also has the unintended consequence of encouraging terrorist organisations to switch platforms. This may be observed in the recent shift from Twitter and Facebook to Telegram. A less well-known group will likely become the next target of Telegram's anti-extremism campaign as it continues. (Greer, 2020)

Operation Chukravyuh was purportedly begun by the Intelligence Bureau (IB) in late 2014 to fight the threat of online radicalization. On Twitter, IB officials disguised as Islamic State recruiters and tried to interact with Indian adolescents who were interested in joining the terrorist organisation. The results produced by the initiative are unknown. A substantial number of qualified Arabic translator vacancies persist in the IB's ranks, though. The scope of these activities has been constrained by a lack of facilities and resources. (Routray, 2019)[5]

DEALING WITH RETURNEES

Even though a small number of countries have taken an active role in the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, India's involvement has been paltry. Reports place the number between 100 to 200, which is not a large one but has the potential to have significant ramifications (Routray, 2019). A large number of those who have been inspired by the group's ideology are now looking for a way back home. Some have been disillusioned with ISIS's ideology, while others have had to deal with the consequences of the group's demise on their own. Despite this, the administration has taken a strict stance against the repatriated citizens. These people's decision to return has been rationalised on the grounds that "there is little sign of remorse or repentance" (Routray, 2019). Since 2015, ISIS has been declared a terrorist organisation, and anyone linked to it is subject to prosecution. As a result, upon their return to India, the majority of those fleeing persecution were detained and sentenced to lengthy prison terms.

Kannur district of Kerala resident Shajahan Vallukandy, who referred to the Islamic State as a "role model" and attempted many times to enter into ISIS territory from Turkey, was deported in 2017 and detained upon his return to India. He has since been imprisoned and is currently awaiting trial (Shekhar, 2017). As soon as they arrived back in Kerala, KC Mithilaj, Abdul Razzak, and AV Rashid were detained and imprisoned ("Kerala ISIS links: Police arrests two persons, including recruiter, from Kannur", 2018). All but a few of these returnees have been arrested by the NIA and charged with being members of terrorist groups or returning to

---

[5] ICyber and Technology-RADICALIZATION , available at: https://www.csis.org/npfp/evolving-tech-evolving-terror (last visited on January 10, 2022).

propagate jihad. Areeb Majeed, an Indian national who was promised a lighter treatment by the government of India, was instead charged under Section 125 of the Indian Penal Code upon his return to Thane (India, 2017). Taking a tough stance toward radicalised individuals or those who have returned from exile is not always sufficient to serve as a deterrent. In such a scenario, the Maharashtra and Kerala Anti-Terrorism Squad's tactics could be advantageous.[6]

INDIA'S CURRENT DERADICALIZATION AND ANTI-RADICALIZATION PROGRAMS

Programs coordinated by the Central Government

There are several places in India where anti-radicalization efforts have been left to the security forces, such as the Seema Shastra Bal (SSB) along the Nepal-India and Bhutan-India border areas. The SSB is primarily entrusted with border region surveillance and anti-Naxal operations in Bihar, both of which fall under its purview. Additionally, the programmes they have implemented have shown to be incredibly beneficial in ensuring the provision of vocational training, skill development, career counselling, and other efforts of this nature for communities located along the border ("ACTIVITIES UNDER CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMME. - SSB Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. Of India", n.d.). These programmes were started to win the "hearts and minds" of Indians on the periphery, and operations have accelerated due to an upsurge in violence in those regions. In some places, the SSB's work is hindered by a lack of money. Even the SSB's own employees and troops were affected by financial constraints, according to recent reports ("SSB stops allowances to troops for 2 months due to paucity of funds", 2020).

Additionally, the Border Area Development Program, which is in charge of overseeing the SSB's operations, has jurisdiction over the region. As a result of inadequate finance or poor management, BADP projects have also suffered ("MPs complain of corruption in border area development schemes", 2014). Since the Bodoland conflict, Assam's regional development and deradicalization efforts have been handled by local NGOs for the past decade. NGOs like the Action North-east Trust and others have spearheaded much of the post-conflict community development efforts. According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, the SSB's strategy has been replicated in the states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha , Bihar , West Bengal , Maharashtra , and Uttar Pradesh (n.d.). As of 2017, the Civic Action Program receives an annual budget of roughly 20 million rupees (Left Wing Extremism Division | Ministry of Home Affairs | GoI, n.d.) However, there has been no investigation into the regularity and efficiency of the programmes.

The military, paramilitary groups, and police have mostly handled counter-radicalization efforts in these areas, with little to no government or non-governmental deradicalization initiatives being deployed. Administration officials have adopted a media strategy to combat Maoists who

---

[6] INDIA'S CURRENT DERADICALIZATION AND ANTI-RADICALIZATION PROGRAMS
, available at: https://www.orfonline.org/research/an-examination-of-indias-policy-response-to-foreign-fighters/ (last visited on January 10, 2022).

"have been misleading and enticing the innocent tribal/local populace in Left Wing Extremism impacted areas," according to the government. n.d., "Left Wing Extremism Division | Ministry of Home Affairs | Government of India" The security forces' deradicalization operations include things like Tribal Youth Exchanges and the distribution of leaflets to tribal groups. However, a more rigorous effort to combatting radicalization in sensitive locations is still required. To aid in the process of reintegration and deradicalization, these places require community-based social initiatives.[7]

State-wise successes

Since foreign terrorist groups have attempted to conduct attacks in the country, the Union Home Ministry invited three countries to develop a comprehensive counter-terrorism policy. It is worth noting that this issue has only been addressed by two states: Maharashtra and Kerala. Many success stories can be attributed to the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), an agency that has taken a softer approach to deradicalization. Deradicalization programmes for people and communities have been implemented by the organisation. ATS was able to reintegrate more than 100 men and six women who had been inspired by extremist ideology, according to a 2019 report ("Patience and dialogue can counter radicalization", 2018). It had also shut down more than 500 websites that were used to spread propaganda. In 2018, the Maharashtra ATS set up institutes that trained 239 men ("Once Under ISIS Influence, How Some Men In Maharashtra Made A Beginning", 2019). As part of the programme, the "candidate," his family members, psychologists or clergy, and police all play a role. The ATS employs "friend officers" to provide assistance and keep tabs on "candidates" for reintegration into society over the course of a few years. Deradicalization programmes may include Muslim clerics, depending on the conditions under which the individual has been radicalised (Rajput & SHAIKH, 2019).

The Maharashtra Police ATS has also begun a "I am anti-terrorist campaign" aimed at college students, in which approximately 25,000 students enrolled. In addition, Maharashtra's government recently proposed a number of changes that are already being implemented. These are I National Cadet Corps/ Bharat Scouts and Guides to be made compulsory in all minority schools, (ii) Urdu to be taught in 300 Marathi schools, (iii) Develop 5 minority areas as "Urban Smart Clusters" in Mumbai, (iv) Values of democracy and demerits of dictatorship to be taught in Urdu schools, (v) an independent media outlet to propagate mainstream values (Vyas, 2016). Anti-radicalization activities directed at the community rather than the individual may have greater effectiveness if the implementation of these initiatives is studied.

Deradicalization efforts are being implemented in Kerala as well. Over 3,000 people have been deradicalized in 21 government centres, according to senior police officers (Siyech, 2019).

---

[7] Programs coordinated by the Central Government , available at:
https://www.orfonline.org/research/deradicalisation-as-counterterrorism-strategy-the-experience-of-indian-states// (last visited on January 10, 2022).

The goal of these initiatives has been to incorporate religious elements into the deradicalization process. In light of the recent spike in terror-related arrests in Kerala, it is clear that the Islamic State has a stronghold in the country, rendering it vulnerable to lone wolf attacks inspired by the group. Anti-Terrorism Squads have also been established in Kerala, which will focus on combing the internet for suspicious behaviour, tracing the transfer of chemical and electrical components, and increasing coastal surveillance (Anand, 2019). The ATS would assist prevent radicalization-related occurrences and operate independently of the NIA.

The three states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh are now employing similar techniques. Despite the relative effectiveness of these internal initiatives, they need to be scaled up from a state-based to a national strategy.[8]

INTERNATIONAL APPROACHES TOWARDS DERADICALIZATION

Saudi Arabia

Two approaches have been implemented in the wake of the 9/11 and 2003 terrorist attacks: one is a "Security Strategy" implemented by all Saudi security forces, and the other is an "Advocacy and Advisory Strategy," which is applied through counselling programmes and dialogue, as well as a variety of advocacy and educational campaigns (Cigar, 2019). In 2004, Saudi Arabia launched a "soft approach" to deradicalizing its population. According to official statistics, roughly 3000 Saudi Jihadis are now fighting alongside ISIS (Al-Osaimi, 2016). This "soft power" strategy makes use of Islamic clerics to assist in counselling and religious instruction programmes. "The Rehabilitation and Building Program" (al-Khatti, 2019) is one of the most effective programmes carried out by the Mohammed bin Nayef Center for Counseling and Advice, which actively employs professionals in social, medical, psychological, and religious fields.

Online terrorism is being combated by a non-governmental organisation called Sakinah Campaign (Boucek, 2008). It is the goal of this project to gather, classify, and analyse extremist content available online, as well as to dissuade the process of online radicalization. The Islamic Affairs Ministry lends its support to this effort. The Sakinah Campaign, like other counter-radicalization programmes in the Kingdom, uses Islamic experts to engage with individuals seeking religious knowledge online in an effort to deter them from becoming extremists. One of the outcomes of this effort is the construction of an extensive library that includes books and magazines in addition to a number of video and audio recordings. Public access to only a portion of the database is provided. There were several documents that were collected because of the insights they provided on how people in the movement thought. (Boucek, 2008)[9]

---

[8]State-wise successes, available at: https://www.orfonline.org/research/deradicalisation-as-counterterrorism-strategy-the-experience-of-indian-states/(last visited on January 10, 2022).
[9] Saudi Arabia APPROACHES TOWARDS DERADICALIZATION , available at: https://www.mei.edu/publications/deradicalization-programs-saudi-arabia-case-study(last visited on January 10, 2022).

Indonesia

As a predominantly Muslim nation, Indonesia experiences home grown terrorist attacks. In the wake of the 2002 Bali bombings, the Megawati administration enacted a number of anti-terrorism measures. When confronting this issue, the country opted for an aggressive strategy that included the employment of police, military and intelligence personnel. A successful integration of intelligence with paramilitary forces has thus far not been observed.

National Intelligence Agency, Special Detachment 88 (Densus 88), and the Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Terrorism are some of the most notable anti-terrorism agencies in Indonesia, as well as the Indonesian National Police (POLRI). Due to the shortage of intelligence sources, a second wing under POLRI, known as Densus 88, was created to supplement POLRI. Densus 88 was tasked with drafting policies and educating government employees. To coordinate activities among numerous government organisations and departments, the anti-terrorist agency' military wing, known as the BNPT, is in charge (Muhammad, n.d.). Additionally, the Indonesian government's increased militarization of its counter-terrorism efforts has sparked human rights complaints against it.

Counter-terrorism efforts have been softening in Indonesia during the last few years. According to Indra Putri (2013), the BNPT is actively involving religious groups, such as the Muhammadiyah and the Nahdhatul Ulama (NU), so that they can promote a proper Islamic message to the general public. In the digital realm, similar efforts are being done as well.[10]

Malaysia

Due to its role as a stopover for Islamic radicals, Malaysia has had its share of attacks. This country has taken an active role in establishing anti-terrorism measures in conjunction with the international community. There has been progress in the country's efforts to counter terrorism in the cyberspace sphere. Online radicalisation is being countered by the Southeast Asia Regional Centre on Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT), which has set up alternative narratives. Malaysia's Royal Malaysian Police's Counter-Messaging Centre (CMC) and the Digital Strategic Communications Division (DSCD) are working together to monitor online radicalization efforts. The Malaysia Permanent Mission to the United Nations (2018: "Malaysia Permanent Mission to the United Nations" This policy directive was issued by the Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), the country's central bank, which is responsible for enforcing the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism Policy for Digital Currencies (Sector 6). BNM announced a new programme dubbed the MyFINet, which is tasked with making and sharing financial intelligence data with law enforcement and other government organisations in order

---

[10] Indonesia APPROACHES TOWARDS DERADICALIZATION , available at:
https://ctc.usma.edu/indonesias-approach-to-jihadist-deradicalization/(last visited on January 10, 2022).

to successfully detect terrorist financing and other such monetary crimes.("Malaysia - United States Department of State", n.d.).[11]

RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSALS

1. Deradicalization, counter-radicalization, and anti-radicalization language need to be clarified at all levels of law enforcement. Section 1 includes a comparison table to show the differences. Therefore, the current strategies implemented by the Kerala and Maharashtra models fall under anti-radicalization, but not deradicalization or counter-radicalization.

2. As previously said, further research on the processes of radicalization, deradicalization, counterterrorism, and antiterrorism is necessary, particularly in the context of India's many regions. If India's many types of extremism are thoroughly studied, it will be possible to come up with more effective suggestions and recommendations for policymaking. Additional research is needed into the causes of radicalization among Muslim populations in the country... It is because of this lack of study that present policies are deficient in some areas.

3. The government's national plan calls for the implementation of deradicalization programmes based on case-by-case examination. Once study is completed into the varied stages and types of radicalization, differing strategies must be taken. In this sense there must be a clear separation between techniques of anti-radicalization, counter-radicalization and deradicalization.

- Religious extremism also poses a big concern. As a result, it is imperative that de-radicalization efforts be focused on ideology-based approaches. I identification of states with higher intensity of religious radicalization, Psychologists, counsellors, and religious leaders are all part of the new counselling and rehabilitation facilities being built.

- Deradicalization programmes should also look into the possibilities of incorporating those who have been reintegrated back into society after being deradicalized into their efforts.

4. Many anti-radicalization and deradicalization programmes are currently being run by paramilitary forces, as has been noted above. Due to a shortage of resources, these security forces have had to drastically reduce the regularity and coordination of their activities in high-risk locations in recent years. As a result, the SSB and other paramilitary groups operating in high-risk areas need adequate funding and resources.

5. As a result, the Muslim community's mobility and educational prospects have been negatively hampered. This has resulted in a rise in communal radicalisation. In a community-sensitive

---

[11] Malaysia APPROACHES TOWARDS DERADICALIZATION , available at: https://www.mei.edu/publications/deradicalization-programs-sosma-pota-and-poca-detainees-malaysia(last visited on January 10, 2022)

situation, the lack of Muslim representation in the nation's police forces produces a sense of heightened insecurity.

- The induction process for new police officers should include religious concerns training as a requirement. This would help the new police recruits become more aware of the Muslim community's religious beliefs.
- Other government agencies, such as the Barelvis and the Deobandi, can also be involved in a discussion with Islamic institutions such as the Barelvis in order to better understand the needs and ideologies of the Muslim community.

6. Keeping a database of extremist information along the lines of the Sakinah campaign (Saudi Arabia) is necessary to better understand their propaganda and ideology in order to facilitate disengagement or create counter-radicalization and/or counter-propaganda strategies and when necessary. PIRUS-style databases can help us better understand radicalization in India and develop strategies for countering such extremists. This could aid in the development of policies that are tailored to the needs of each state. In a culture where false perceptions are being utilised to polarise communities in order to consolidate votes, this technique would promote transparency. De-radicalization and counter-radicalization efforts would benefit from this as well.

- Terror financing in India needs to be examined in light of the BNM and the MyFINet programme that was launched under it, and new institutions or bolstering of existing ones are needed to combat such crimes. It is imperative that India's financial intelligence and counter-terrorism agencies work together to form an autonomous agency.

7. Coercion, legislation, and tools that alter people's perceptions are all necessary in the fight against hate speech and extremism on the internet. More control of hate speech activities and propaganda websites, as well as an alternate dispute resolution process for these types of disputes, are required. While doing so, keep in mind that only redress and action should be pursued, not speech prohibition and overcriminalization.

- Strategic messaging campaigns on social media networks are needed to offset the pervasive haphazard approach now being used by online groups that allows them to avoid regulation on the cyber front. It is imperative that a counter-messaging campaign be addressed at all elements of the Indian population, including both government and religious organisations. With this technique, the goal is to disprove radicalised influencers' statements through the use of established institutions.

- Additionally, there is a need to put up online venues that focus on religious questions and issues. In order to reduce the risk of radicalization, these groups should partner with religious clerics and institutions to provide accurate information about religious ideology.

8. Finally, legislative frameworks dealing with incidents of radicalization should be more clear in their reach. Deradicalization, counter-radicalization, and anti-radicalization are all in need of specific legal definitions. In order to avoid additional radicalization or increased feelings of unfairness, this would necessitate the implementation of sanctions or measures of a similar scale to that of the radicalization, which has been found to be at the heart of most extremist emotions.

- People wrongly incarcerated under the UAPA, TADA, or POTA require the establishment of fast-track courts. There should be a focus on the proper return of those unfairly imprisoned.

- Legislation should be passed to register and monitor religious schools. To prevent them from gaining too much power in a particular neighbourhood or town, religious clerics who work in these institutions can be given professions that can be moved about. In addition, the government should give appropriate funding for these institutions and institutions.

REFERENCE LIST

1. Schmid, A., 2013. Radicalisation, De-Radicalisation, Counter-Radicalisation : A Conceptual Discussion and Literature Review. Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism Studies.
2. Sharma, Anurag. "Counter-Terrorism Framework of The United Nations And India's Approach Of De- Radicalisation[1]". Vi, 2019, https://www.vifindia.org/article/2019/september/26/counter-terrorism-framework-of-the-united-nations- and-India-s-approach-of-de-radicalisation.
3. Vidino, L., N.D. [Online] Usip.Org. Available At: <https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/resources/sr2 62%20%20countering_radicalization_in_america.pdf.
4. Bajpai, Gs, And A Kaushik. "Thwarting Radicalization in India: Lacunae In Policy Initiatives". Longdom.Org, 2018, https://www.longdom.org/open-access/thwarting- radicalization-in-India-lacunae-in-policy-initiatives- 2375-4435-1000166.pdf.
5. "National Investigation Agency Act". Ministry Of Home Affairs, 2019, https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/thenational investigationagencyact2008_03032020.pdf.
6. "National Investigation Agency Act Amendment". Ministry Of Home Affairs, 1941, https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/ctcr_nation alinvestigationagency_06092019.pdf.
7. "The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967". Ministry Of Home Affairs, 1967, https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/a1967- 37_0.pdf.
8. "The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Amendment". Ministry Of Home Affairs, 2019, https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/ctcr_unlaw fulactivities_06092019.pdf.
9. "Analysis of use of UAPA From NCRB Data - Centre for Law & Policy Research". Centre for Law & Policy Research, 2020, https://clpr.org.in/blog/use-of- the-uapa-from-the-national-crime-reports-bureau/.
10. Bidwai, Praful. "Fighting Terrorism After Jaipur". Transnational Institute, 2008, https://www.tni.org/my/node/13316.
11. Gehlot, N., 1994. India And Human Rights: Emerging Realities, 55(4).

12. Gagn, Chris. "Pota: Lessons Learned From India's Anti-Terror Act". Bc.Edu, www.bc.edu/content/dam/files/schools/law/law reviews/journals/bctwj/25_1/09_fms.htm.

13. "Incidence (I), Victims(V) & Rate (R) of Cognizable Crimes(Sll) Under Different Crime Heads During 2014". National Crime Reports Bureau, 2014, https://ncrb.gov.in/sites/default/files/crime_in_india_t able_additional_table_chapter_reports/table%201.13_ 2014.pdf.

14. NCRB. 2018. Table 1a.5 Sll crimes (crime head-wise & states/ut-wise) - 2018. [online] available at: <https://ncrb.gov.in/sites/default/files/crime_in_india _table_additional_table_chapter_reports/table%201a. 5_0.pdf>.

15. Mander, Harsh. "Framed as A Terrorist: Mohammad Aamir Khan's 14 Years Behind The Bars". Hindustan Times, 2016, https://www.hindustantimes.com/analysis/framed-as- a-terrorist-mohammad-aamir-khan-s-14-years-behind- the-bars/story tjnysshmj0ycj8yxf15lrn.html.

16. Maitra, P., 2012. After Four Years, 'Naxalite' Arun Ferreira Walks Free. [Online] Hindustan Times. Available At: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india/after-four- years-naxalite-arun-ferreira-walks-free/story- 4revgk69kxanbkvirrmxfi.html>.

17. "National Crime Records Bureau". https://ncrb.gov.in/en.

18. "Social, Economic and Educational Status Of The Muslim Community Of India A Report". Ministry of Minority Affairs, 2006, http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in/sites/default/files/s achar_comm.pdf.

19. "Implementation of Sachar Committee Recommendations (Status Up To 30.11.2018)". People's Archive of Rural India, 2018, https://ruralindiaonline.org library/resource/implementation-of-sachar-committee-recommendations-status- up-to-30112018/.

20. Mandavia, Megha. "India Has Second Highest Number of Internet Users After China: Report". The Economic Times, 2019, https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/internet/in dia-has-second-highest-number-of-internet-users- after-China-report/articleshow/71311705.cms.