

ROLE OF FUNDING TO ACCOMPLISH TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

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ABSTRACT

Terrorism is a complex phenomenon to study. It is violence against human rights and threat to world peace and security. The terrorist organizations and their associate groups deploy various tactics to meet their financial need through legitimate as well as illegitimate sources. This research paper talks about Economics of Terrorism by discussing how the terrorist organizations, small cells or lone actors are raising money for their terrorist operations.

KEYWORDS: Terrorism, Terrorism Financing, Raising of Funds.

INTRODUCTION

In the words of former U.S. President Bush “Money is the lifeblood of terrorist operations. Today, we are asking the world to stop payment.” This statement is fair enough to understand the significance of money for executing terrorist operations. In this research paper, the researcher tries to trace and identify the sources and various tactics use by terrorist organizations to raise finance. Furthermore, it is necessary to understand how funds have been used by them to produce arms and ammunitions for violence and terrorist attacks. The world has faced many deadliest terrorist attacks in history. Thus, the researcher tries to examine states efforts to keep check on terrorism funding.[1]

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According to the Report of Financial Action Task Force on Emerging Terrorist Financial Risks of October 2015, terrorist organizations vary in size, structure, operational reach, motivations, recruitment and capabilities. Different terrorist organizations need financial means to carry out terrorist acts and to aid in terrorist activities that terrorist organizations, groups, individual terrorists and supporters engage in. Terrorist organizations varies in fundraising and expenditure priorities.

The Report has recognized the use of funds by terrorist organizations into the following broad categories:

Operations: Terrorist organizations demand funds to carry out specific terrorist attacks and undertake pre-operational inspection. It includes travel expenses to and from the target location, the use of vehicles and other machinery and purchase of a range of arms, ammunitions, weapons etc. Funds are being used for basic living expenses such as accommodation, food and basic medical treatment of terrorists. Terrorist organizations also need funds for personnel such as couriers to send messages or to transport cash within the country.[2]

Propaganda & Recruitment:

Terrorist organizations require funding for recruitment of members and raise funds, which can be expensive as this recruitment process involves use of different means. More complex terrorist organizations are investing funds in sophisticated propaganda operations that include publishing magazines and newspapers and purchasing internet domain names and administer websites while many terrorist organizations have exploited social media to solicit funds from supporters.¹⁰ Some terrorist groups have even acquired television and radio outlets to promote their messages and worldview.

Training:

All terrorist organizations acquire funds to enable training of operatives and supporters in several areas including weapons training, bomb-making. In this context, terrorist groups often acquire land for use as a training camp, buildings as a haven for both trainers and trainee and to provide training facilities.

Salaries and Member Compensation:

Many terrorist groups raise funds for the salaries of their leadership and members, as well as for the families of jailed or deceased members. Providing financial security and incentives to group members can bind them to be committed to the organization's goals and ideology. Terrorist groups may also provide long-term financial support to the families of deceased operatives.

Social Services: Many terrorist groups use their financial resources to establish or subsidize social institutions that provide health, social, and educational services. Terrorists do this to cripple the

credibility of the legitimate governments by providing services and to build support within local population and aid recruitment efforts.[3]

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that states are making efforts to combat terrorism activities and to counter terrorism financing. Merely recognizing various techniques and methods to raise funds for terrorist organization is not enough but more stringent actions have to be taken against the terrorist organizations and their associate groups for combating terrorism and countering fundraising. Strict law enforcement and better governance is required so that culprits should be sent behind the bar without deliberate delay as terrorism threat is violence against individual rights and state security.

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