



ISLAMABAD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

5th Floor, Evacuee Trust Complex Sir Aga Khan Road, F-5/1, Islamabad
Tel: (92-51) 9211346-9, Fax: 9211350
Website: www.ipripak.org, Email ipripak@ipripak.org

PRESS COVERAGE

**One Day Conference: Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan
30 January 2018**

International

Khaleej Times

National narrative on terrorism finalised

Khaleej Times, 31 Jan 2018



Police officials participating in an exercise to tackle any emergency situation in Bahawalpur on Tuesday. — Islamabad —

The National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has finalised a robust National Narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy.

NACTA Coordinator Ihsan Ghani on Tuesday said, “This narrative once approved by the government will be the cornerstone of the country’s response to non-traditional threats and to deal with extremist ideology.”

He was addressing a day-long conference on ‘Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan’ which was organised here by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI).

Ihsan Ghani said the draft was developed in consultation with academia, religious scholars and media after 18-month of strenuous efforts. He said, “The national narrative depicts consensus and resolve of our nation for its future progression and describes Pakistan’s true values.”

The narrative themes include encountering the mis-constructed religious beliefs and creating interfaith harmony and tolerance; implementation of law and establishing the writ of the state; trust development amongst state institutions; strengthening socio-cultural values and customs; working with media; reviewing economic policies and national development; reconciliation and rehabilitation of extremists. He also said that National Counter Extremism Guidelines had also been finalised and were awaiting approval of the government. The coordinator said, “The guidelines cover areas like service delivery, people’s engagement, education reforms, enabling environment, rehabilitation, reintegration and renunciation and also the promotion of culture.”

He said that the guidelines were not formed in a vacuum rather a multi-disciplinary policy-making model was followed. Both documents have been prepared along with strategies, action plan, activities, budget and operational liabilities. Discussing various initiatives, he said NACTA was working on development of terrorist profiling under a well thought-out strategy.

National



IPRI Organized One-Day Conference on ‘Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan’

January 30, 2018

ISLAMABAD, JAN 30 (APP): National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has finalised a robust National Narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy. This narrative once approved by the Government of Pakistan will be the cornerstone of the country’s response to non-traditional threats and to deal with extremist ideology.

This was shared by Mr Ihsan Ghani, National Coordinator, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), here in Islamabad on Tuesday at the One Day Conference ‘Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan’ organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute.

He discussed that the draft was developed in consultation with academia, Ulemas and media after 18-month long strenuous efforts. ‘The National Narrative depicts the consensus and resolve of our nation for its future progression and describes Pakistan’s true values,’ he said.

The National Narrative themes include encountering the mis-constructed religious beliefs and creating interfaith harmony and tolerance; implementation of law and establishing the writ of the state; trust development amongst state institutions; strengthening socio-cultural values and customs; working with media; reviewing economic policies and national development; reconciliation and rehabilitation of extremists.

Mr Ghani also shared that the National Counter Extremism Guidelines had also been finalised and were awaiting approval of the Government.

The Guidelines cover areas like service delivery, people’s engagement, education reforms, enabling environment, rehabilitation, reintegration and renunciation and also the promotion of culture. He has apprised that the Guidelines were not formed in a vacuum rather a multidisciplinary policy making model was followed. Both documents have been prepared along with strategies, action plan, activities, budget and operational liabilities.

Discussing the various initiatives, he informed that NACTA is working on the development of Terrorist Profiling under a well thought-out strategy.

‘As a part of its ongoing Tat’heer Drive, NACTA has initiated an App available on Google and Apple to enable citizens to anonymously report extremist content, hate speech, banners, activities wherever they notice them in their areas and also on the Internet.

Surfsafe Online Portal has already been inaugurated to enable citizens to report extremist online-content freely, securely and anonymously and be part of this national cause curbing terrorism and extremism sprawling through Internet’, he informed.

Discussing ‘Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviours in Pakistan: Leading Causes’, Dr Khurram Iqbal, Assistant Professor from the National Defence University, stressed that single factor theories fall short of explaining the cases of terrorism in Pakistan.

‘We need to recognise that radicalisation is caused by multiple factors like vengeance, poverty and religious fundamentalism playing varying roles at the individual, organisational and environmental levels.’ He pointed out that the Western definitions of radicalisation are narrow and do not fit Pakistan since they consciously ignore the geo-strategic aspects and overemphasize on so-called ‘Islamic Terrorism’.

The spillover effects of the war in Afghanistan gave birth to a new breed of terrorist groups in the tribal areas of Pakistan. Inspired by al-Qaeda’s ideology,

Tehrik-e- Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is at the pinnacle of this list, he explained. Dr Iqbal went on to say that the militant landscape of Pakistan cannot be pigeon-holed since it is very diverse and includes religious nationalist groups like Lashkar-e- Tayyeba, Jaish-e- Muhammad, Harkat-ul- Jihad-e- Islami and Al-Badar; as well as sectarian groups like Lashkar-e- Jhangvi, Sipah-e- Muhammad, Jundullah, Zaynaboon, and Ansar-ul- Islam; as well as ethno-nationalist groups.

He concluded that since radicalisation in Pakistan is caused by both external and internal issues, it is important to enhance focus on soft approaches; reduce collateral damage in counterterrorism operations; find a regional solution to Afghanistan; and devise a joint Sino-Pak stance on issues related to the use of proxy groups by India and extra-regional forces.

Lt Gen (R) Masood Aslam, HI, HI(M), SJ in his discussion on ‘Pakistan’s Counter Radicalisation Strategy: Lessons Learnt and Way Forward’ said that the government should not only eliminate the physical militant infrastructure, recruitment bases and recruiters who support radical elements and militant violence, it should also support more vociferously mainstreaming some of the radical elements.

He said that ‘this is no doubt risky, but a concerted and coherent policy with clearly defined lines must be put in place to mainstream the amenable as kinetic efforts alone cannot eliminate terrorism or extremism.’

APP/Zub/VNS, Islamabad

National narrative on extremism finalised

By [APP](#)

Published: January 31, 2018



ISLAMABAD: A top government agency working on countering terrorism has finalised a robust national narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy. “This narrative, once approved by the government, will be the cornerstone of the country’s response to non-traditional threats and to deal with extremist ideology,” said National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) Coordinator Ihsan Ghani on Tuesday. He expressed these view while addressing a day-long conference on ‘Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan’ which was organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI).

Ghani said a draft of the narrative had been developed in consultation with academic, Ulemas and the media after an 18-month long effort. “The national narrative depicts consensus and resolve of our nation for its future progression and describes Pakistan’s true values,” he said.

The themes include encountering the misconstrued religious beliefs and creating interfaith harmony and tolerance; implementation of the law and establishing the writ of the state; trust development amongst state institutions; strengthening socio-cultural values and customs; working with media; reviewing economic policies and national development; reconciliation and rehabilitation of extremists. He also shared that the National Counter Extremism Guidelines had also been finalised and were awaiting approval of the government.

“The guidelines cover areas such as service delivery, people’s engagement, education reforms, enabling environment, rehabilitation, reintegration and renunciation and also the promotion of culture,” Ghani said. He apprised that the guidelines were not formed in a vacuum rather a multi-disciplinary policy-making model was followed. Both documents have been prepared along with strategies, action plan, activities, budget and operational liabilities.

Discussing various initiatives, he said NACTA was working on the development of terrorist profiling under a well-thought-out strategy. As a part of its on-going Tat’heer (cleansing) drive, he said, NACTA has introduced a mobile phone application which is available on both Android and iPhones to enable citizens to anonymously report extremist content, hate speech, banners, activities wherever they notice them in their areas and also on the internet.

Ghani said that a Surf-safe Online Portal has already been inaugurated to enable citizens to report extremist online- content freely, securely and anonymously and be part of this national cause curbing terrorism and extremism sprawling through the Internet.

Discussing ‘Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviours in Pakistan: Leading Causes’, National Defence University Assistant Professor Dr Khurram Iqbal stressed that single factor theories fall short of explaining cases of terrorism in Pakistan. “We need to recognise that radicalisation is caused by multiple factors like vengeance, poverty and religious fundamentalism playing varying roles at the individual, organisational and environmental levels,” he said.

He pointed out the Western definitions of radicalisation are narrow and do not fit Pakistan since they consciously ignore geo-strategic aspects and overemphasise on so-called ‘Islamic terrorism’.

He said since radicalisation in Pakistan was caused by both external and internal issues, adding it was important to enhance focus on soft approaches; reduce collateral damage in counter-terrorism operations; find a regional solution to Afghanistan.

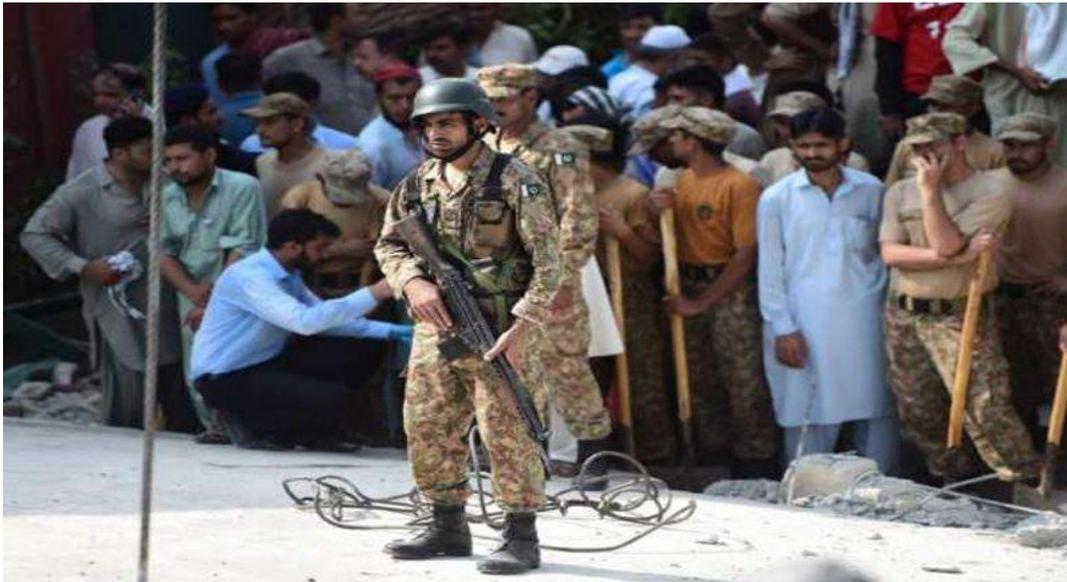
Lt Gen (retd) Masood Aslam in his discussion on ‘Pakistan’s Counter Radicalisation Strategy: Lessons Learnt and Way Forward’ asked the government to focus on education, health, rule of law, provision of speedy justice and create more job opportunities to counter radicalisation in an effective way.

Published in The Express Tribune, January 31st, 2018.

NACTA finalises draft of national narrative to counter extremism

Staff Report

JANUARY 31, 2018



ISLAMABAD: The National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has finalised a robust national narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy, said Ihsan Ghani, national coordinator NACTA, on Tuesday.

Addressing a conference on issues of radicalisation and extreme behaviour in the country organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), he said that the narrative once approved by the government of Pakistan would be the cornerstone of the country's response to non-traditional threats and to deal with extremist ideology.

Ghani elaborated that the draft was developed in consultation with academia, ulemas and the media after 18-month strenuous efforts. "The national narrative depicts the consensus and resolve of our nation for its future progression and describes Pakistan's true values," he said.

The national narrative theme include encountering the misconstrued religious beliefs and creating interfaith harmony and tolerance; implementation of law and establishing the writ of the state; trust development amongst state institutions; strengthening socio-cultural values and customs; working with media; reviewing economic policies and national development; reconciliation and rehabilitation of extremists.

Ghani also shared that the national counter extremism guidelines had also been finalised and were awaiting approval. “The guidelines cover areas like service delivery, people’s engagement, education reforms, enabling environment, rehabilitation, reintegration and renunciation and also the promotion of culture.” He said that the guidelines were not formed in a vacuum rather a multidisciplinary policymaking model was followed. “Both documents have been prepared along with strategies, action plan, activities, budget and operational liabilities.”

Discussing the various initiatives, he said that the NACTA was working on the development of terrorist profiling under a well-thought-out strategy. “As part of its ongoing Tat’heer Drive, NACTA has initiated an app available on Google and Apple to enable citizens to anonymously report extremist content, hate speech, banners, activities wherever they notice them in their areas and also on the Internet. Surfsafe Online Portal has already been inaugurated to enable citizens to report extremist content online freely, securely and anonymously and be part of this national cause curbing terrorism and extremism sprawling through Internet,” he maintained.

Dr Khurram Iqbal, a faculty member from National Defence University (NDU), said that single factor theories fall short of explaining the cases of terrorism in Pakistan. “We need to recognise that radicalisation is caused by multiple factors like vengeance, poverty and religious fundamentalism playing varying roles at the individual, organisational and environmental levels.” He pointed out that the western definitions of radicalisation were narrow and did not fit Pakistan since they consciously ignore the geo-strategic aspects and overemphasise on so-called “Islamic terrorism”.

“The spillover effects of the war in Afghanistan have given birth to a new breed of terrorist groups in the tribal areas of Pakistan. Inspired by al Qaeda’s ideology, Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is at the pinnacle of this list,” he explained.

Pakistan OBSERVER

Robust national narrative against extremism finalized, says NACTA chief



Zubair Qureshi

National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has finalised a robust national narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy. This narrative once approved by the Government of Pakistan will be the cornerstone of the country's response to non-traditional threats and to deal with extremist ideology. This was shared by Mr Ihsan Ghani, National Coordinator, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), on Tuesday at the One Day Conference 'Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan' organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute. He discussed that the draft was developed in consultation with academia, Ulemas and media after 18-month long strenuous efforts. 'The National Narrative depicts the consensus and resolve of our nation for its future progression and describes Pakistan's true values,' he said. The National Narrative themes include encountering the mis-

constructed religious beliefs and creating interfaith harmony and tolerance; implementation of law and establishing the writ of the state; trust development amongst state institutions; strengthening socio-cultural values and customs; working with media; reviewing economic policies and national development; reconciliation and rehabilitation of extremists. Ghani also shared that the National Counter Extremism Guidelines had also been finalised and were awaiting approval of the Government. The Guidelines cover areas like service delivery, people's engagement, education reforms, enabling environment, rehabilitation, reintegration and renunciation and also the promotion of culture.

Discussing 'Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviours in Pakistan: Leading Causes', Dr Khurram Iqbal, Assistant Professor from the National Defence University, stressed that single factor theories fall short of explaining the cases of terrorism in Pakistan. 'We need to recognise that radicalisation is caused by multiple factors like vengeance, poverty and religious fundamentalism playing varying roles at the individual, organisational and environmental levels.' Lt Gen (R) Masood Aslam, HI, HI(M), SJ in his discussion on 'Pakistan's Counter Radicalisation Strategy: Lessons Learnt and Way Forward' said that the government should not only eliminate the physical militant infrastructure, recruitment bases and recruiters who support radical elements and militant violence, it should also support more vociferously mainstreaming some of the radical elements. He said that 'this is no doubt risky, but a concerted and coherent policy with clearly defined lines must be put in place to mainstream the amenable as kinetic efforts alone cannot eliminate terrorism or extremism.' In the Q/A session, the panellists answered various questions and pointed out that implementation of NACTA's draft policies and guidelines hinge on an integrated implementation approach wherein all departments of provincial governments coalesce their efforts towards projects aimed at diminishing extremist tendencies.

IPRI organized One-Day Conference on ‘Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan’

DNA News | [January 30, 2018](#)



ISLAMABAD, JAN 30 (DNA) – National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has finalised a robust National Narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy. This narrative once approved by the Government of Pakistan will be the cornerstone of the country’s response to non-traditional threats and to deal with extremist ideology.

This was shared by Mr Ihsan Ghani, National Coordinator, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), here in Islamabad today at the One Day Conference ‘Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan’ organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute.

He discussed that the draft was developed in consultation with academia, Ulemas and media after 18-month long strenuous efforts. ‘The National Narrative depicts the consensus and resolve of our nation for its future progression and describes Pakistan’s true values,’ he said.

The National Narrative themes include encountering the mis-constructed religious beliefs and creating interfaith harmony and tolerance; implementation of law and establishing the writ of the state; trust development amongst state institutions; strengthening socio-cultural values and

customs; working with media; reviewing economic policies and national development; reconciliation and rehabilitation of extremists.

Mr Ghani also shared that the National Counter Extremism Guidelines had also been finalised and were awaiting approval of the Government.

The Guidelines cover areas like service delivery, people's engagement, education reforms, enabling environment, rehabilitation, reintegration and renunciation and also the promotion of culture. He has apprised that the Guidelines were not formed in a vacuum rather a multidisciplinary policy making model was followed. Both documents have been prepared along with strategies, action plan, activities, budget and operational liabilities.

Discussing the various initiatives, he informed that NACTA is working on the development of Terrorist Profiling under a well thought-out strategy.

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Surfsafe Online Portal has already been inaugurated to enable citizens to report extremist online-content freely, securely and anonymously and be part of this national cause curbing terrorism and extremism sprawling through Internet', he informed.

Discussing 'Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviours in Pakistan: Leading Causes', Dr Khurram Iqbal, Assistant Professor from the National Defence University, stressed that single factor theories fall short of explaining the cases of terrorism in Pakistan.

'We need to recognise that radicalisation is caused by multiple factors like vengeance, poverty and religious fundamentalism playing varying roles at the individual, organisational and environmental levels.' He pointed out that the Western definitions of radicalisation are narrow and do not fit Pakistan since they consciously ignore the geo-strategic aspects and overemphasize on so-called 'Islamic Terrorism'.

The spillover effects of the war in Afghanistan gave birth to a new breed of terrorist groups in the tribal areas of Pakistan. Inspired by al-Qaeda's ideology,

Tehrik-e- Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is at the pinnacle of this list, he explained. Dr Iqbal went on to say that the militant landscape of Pakistan cannot be pigeon-holed since it is very diverse and includes religious nationalist groups like Lashkar-e- Tayyeba, Jaish-e- Muhammad, Harkat-ul- Jihad-e- Islami and Al-Badar; as well as sectarian groups like Lashkar-e- Jhangvi, Sipah-e- Muhammad, Jundullah, Zaynaboon, and Ansar-ul- Islam; as well as ethno-nationalist groups.

He concluded that since radicalisation in Pakistan is caused by both external and internal issues, it is important to enhance focus on soft approaches; reduce collateral damage in counterterrorism

operations; find a regional solution to Afghanistan; and devise a joint Sino-Pak stance on issues related to the use of proxy groups by India and extra-regional forces.

Lt Gen (R) Masood Aslam, HI, HI(M), SJ in his discussion on ‘Pakistan’s Counter Radicalisation Strategy: Lessons Learnt and Way Forward’ said that the government should not only eliminate the physical militant infrastructure, recruitment bases and recruiters who support radical elements and militant violence, it should also support more vociferously mainstreaming some of the radical elements.

He said that ‘this is no doubt risky, but a concerted and coherent policy with clearly defined lines must be put in place to mainstream the amenable as kinetic efforts alone cannot eliminate terrorism or extremism.’

He agreed that there should be thorough profiling of the life trajectories and backgrounds of those involved in militancy. Discussing deradicalisation efforts in Swat, he said that Swat differs from other parts of the country, therefore, the model adopted there cannot be replicated in FATA or other parts of the country, which have different characteristics and cultural outlook.

Likewise, adopting and replicating models from other countries such as Sri Lanka, Turkey or the UK will not be fruitful, in the absence of linkages.

‘There should be a strategy of taking advantage of the repatriated individuals from the pilot programmes who can act as messengers of deradicalisation in their local communities,’ he recommended. Lt Gen Aslam stressed that politico-social initiatives will not bear any fruit if there is no political ownership and political will along with public support to move them towards implementation.

The only way forward to a deradicalised society is improving governance, providing security, job opportunities and justice to the people, he concluded.

In the Q/A session, the panellists answered various questions and pointed out that implementation of NACTA’s draft policies and guidelines hinge on an integrated implementation approach wherein all departments of provincial governments coalesce their efforts towards projects aimed at diminishing extremist tendencies. The delegates concluded that there needs to be a strong bond between the Pakistani state and its citizenry, empowerment, and the inclusion of youth and marginalised elements, reforming educational streams including both religious and contemporary education and instilling an environment of openness and coexistence. There was agreement that given serious worries about radicalism among Pakistan’s educated youth’s preferences, views, and actions, it is important to trace the effects of its various drivers. Participants from various universities discussed that it is not just lagging human development that can explain the state of radicalism among youth. The role of the state and its haphazard education policies have also created a politico-ideological environment that has impacted the outlook of the younger generation in problematic ways. There was unanimous consensus that to address the polarising potential of the education system, the state and civil society should

prioritise initiatives that allow regular interaction and dialogue among students from various education tracks; and that since after two decades of battling the menace of sectarianism and religious-based violence, Pakistan is trying to bring all provinces on board to develop a national counter-extremism narrative, it should be supported by all stakeholders.

NACTA Finalises National Narrative on Extremism, Sectarianism, Terrorism, Militancy: Ihsan Ghani

Rameen Syed 18 hours ago Tue 30th January 2018 | 04:20 PM



National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has finalised a robust National Narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy

ISLAMABAD, (UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 30th Jan, 2018):National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has finalised a robust National Narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy. Coordinator NACTA, Ihsan Ghani on Tuesday said, 'This narrative once approved by the government will be the cornerstone of the country's response to non-traditional threats and to deal with extremist ideology.' He expressed these view while addressing a day-long Conference on 'Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan' which was organized here by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI).

Ihsan Ghani said draft was developed in consultation with academia, Ulemas and media after 18-month long strenuous efforts. He said, 'The National Narrative depicts consensus and resolve of our nation for its future progression and describes Pakistan's true values.'The National Narrative

themes include encountering the mis-constructed religious beliefs and creating interfaith harmony and tolerance; implementation of law and establishing the writ of the state; trust development amongst state institutions; strengthening socio-cultural values and customs; working with media; reviewing economic policies and national development; reconciliation and rehabilitation of extremists. He also shared that National Counter Extremism Guidelines had also been finalised and were awaiting approval of the government. The Coordinator said, 'The Guidelines cover areas like service delivery, people's engagement, education reforms, enabling environment, rehabilitation, reintegration and renunciation and also the promotion of culture. ' He apprised that the Guidelines were not formed in a vacuum rather a multi-disciplinary policy making model was followed. Both documents have been prepared along with strategies, action plan, activities, budget and operational liabilities.

Discussing various initiatives, he said NACTA was working on development of Terrorist Profiling under a well thought-out strategy. As a part of its ongoing Tat'heer drive, he said, NACTA has introduced an App available on Google and Apple to enable citizens to anonymously report extremist content, hate speech, banners, activities wherever they notice them in their areas and also on the Internet. Ihsan Ghani said that Surfsafe Online Portal has already been inaugurated to enable citizens to report extremist online- content freely, securely and anonymously and be part of this national cause curbing terrorism and extremism sprawling through Internet.

Discussing 'Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviours in Pakistan: Leading Causes', Dr Khurram Iqbal, Assistant Professor from National Defence University stressed that single factor theories fall short of explaining cases of terrorism in Pakistan. 'We need to recognize that radicalisation is caused by multiple factors like vengeance, poverty and religious fundamentalism playing varying roles at the individual, organisational and environmental levels,' he said. He pointed out the Western definitions of radicalization are narrow and do not fit Pakistan since they consciously ignore geo-strategic aspects and overemphasize on so-called 'Islamic Terrorism'. He said since radicalization in Pakistan was caused by both external and internal issues, adding it was important to enhance focus on soft approaches; reduce collateral damage in counter-terrorism operations; find a regional solution to Afghanistan.

Lt Gen (R) Masood Aslam, HI, HI(M), in his discussion on 'Pakistan's Counter Radicalisation Strategy: Lessons Learnt and Way Forward' asked the government to focus on education, health, rule of laws, provision of speedy justice and create more job opportunities to counter radicalisation in effective way. Masood Aslam stressed that politico-social initiatives would not bear any fruit if there is no political ownership and political will along with public support to move them towards implementation.'The only way forward to a de-radicalised society is improving governance, providing security, job opportunities and justice to the people,' he concluded.



NACTA Finalises National Narrative on Extremism, Sectarianism, Terrorism, Militancy: Ihsan Ghani

Rehan Amjad 18 hours ago



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NHT

NATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

One-day conference on “Radicalisation & Extreme Behaviour” in Pakistan held

ISLAMABAD, January 30: National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) has finalised a robust National Narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy. This narrative once approved by the Government of Pakistan will be the cornerstone of the country's response to non-traditional threats and to deal with extremist ideology. This was shared by Mr Ihsan Ghani, National Coordinator, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), here in Islamabad on Tuesday at the One Day Conference ‘Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour in Pakistan’ organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute.

He discussed that the draft was

developed in consultation with academia, Ulemas and media after 18-month long strenuous efforts. The National Narrative depicts the consensus and resolve of our nation for its future progression and describes Pakistan's true values,’ he said. The National Narrative themes include encountering the mis-constructed religious beliefs and creating inter-faith harmony and tolerance; implementation of law and establishing the writ of the state; trust development amongst state institutions; strengthening socio-cultural values and customs; working with media; reviewing economic policies and national development; reconciliation and rehabilitation of extremists. Mr Ghani also shared that the National Counter

Extremism Guidelines had also been finalised and were awaiting approval of the Government. The Guidelines cover areas like service delivery, people's engagement, education reforms, enabling environment, rehabilitation, reintegration and renaissance and also the promotion of culture. He has apprised that the Guidelines were not formed in a vacuum rather a multidisciplinary policy making model was followed. Both documents have been prepared along with strategies, action plan, activities, budget and operational liabilities.

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Ihsan Ghani, Chairperson NACTA speaking during one day conference on “Issues of Radicalisation and Extreme Behaviour” arranged by IPRi in Islamabad on Tuesday. - DNA

National Herald Tribune, Wednesday, January 31, 2018