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Manjari Bhatt
Research Scholar, D.S.B
Campus Kumaun University,
Nainital, Uttarakhand, India

Two dimensions of human security in the context of India: The status and challenges of personal and community security

Manjari Bhatt

Abstract

Human security is an important issue before the world in the 21st century, which is broader than the traditional idea of the security concept, at its core is the protection of the individual, under which the protection of the basic needs of the people and their reduction, which is a necessary for whole development of individual as well as country. In this research paper, two out of the seven dimensions of human security in India, the status and challenges of personal and community security have been outlined. The main goal of this research paper is to show that India, which is the largest democratic country in the world and one of the fastest growing economies of the world, whose personal and community security situation is not good, Which is not appropriate for the image of the country in the world.

Keywords: Human security, personal security, community security, national crime report, united nation development program

Introduction

Conceptual parts of human security: After the end of the Cold War, understanding of international security broadened, significantly including new issues and objectives of security beyond the state. The most important of these new issues is the emergence of the concept of human security. It aims to place individuals and humanity more broadly at the center of security debates, Under the concept of human security, it is being suggested that enhancing personal security is fundamental to preserving and enhancing the wider international security environment ^[1].

It is important to know that since when did the concept of human security have come into the world politics. The credit for coining the concept of human security goes to the Pakistani economist Mehboob-ul-Haq. The concept of human security is first mentioned in the 1994 United Nations Development Program report. In order to consider the basic concept of human security, it is necessary to pay attention to its four essential features which are as follows:

1. Human security is a universal concern. It is relevant for people of all places whether from rich country or poor country, there are many types of common dangers which are common to all people like unemployment, drugs, crime, pollution, and human rights violence.
2. Components of human security are interdependent. If the safety of people anywhere in the world is in danger, then all the nations get involved in it. Famine, disease, pollution, drug trafficking, terrorism, ethnic disputes are no longer isolated incidents confined only within national boundaries.
3. It is easier to ensure human security through early prevention than later intervention. It can be understood from these examples, the direct and indirect cost of the treatment of AIDS is very high, if people are made aware about its spread and its occurrence, then it can be prevented from happening to the people. Second the recent example Covid 19 due to which millions of people have lost their lives due to lack of treatment. If all people follow the appropriate behaviour (wearing of masks, social distancing, washing hands) then it can be prevented from spreading and it is less costly than the cost of treatment.

Corresponding Author:
Manjari Bhatt
Research Scholar, D.S.B
Campus Kumaun University,
Nainital, Uttarakhand, India

4. Human security is a person-centred concept that is concerned with how people are living or breathing in society, how they are free to choose what they want, how much access they have to markets and social opportunities, and whether are they living in peace or in conflict? ^[2].

The united nations Human Development Report (1994) defines human security as-chronic threats such as hunger, disease and repression as well as protection from sudden and hurtful disruption in the patterns of daily life - whether in homes, in jobs or in the community.

It is also important to know that in this report the concept of human security has been specified in seven dimensions, which are as follows-

1. **Economic security:** Consisting, for example of freedom from poverty.
2. **Food security:** Access to basic sustenance.
3. **Health security:** Access to health care and protection from disease.
4. **Environmental security:** Protection against pollution and depletion.
5. **Personal security:** including safety from war, torture and sexual and other forms of assault such as domestic violence.
6. **Community security:** Referring to the integrity and survival of transnational cultures and minorities.
7. **Political security:** The protection of civil and political rights ^[3].

The Commission on Human Security was established in January 2001 and its first report 'Human Security Now' was published in 2003. Human security is defined in this report as 'human security: to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfilment. Human security means protecting fundamental freedoms—freedoms that are the essence of life. It means protecting people from critical (severe) and pervasive (widespread) threats and situations. It means using processes that build on people's

strengths and aspirations. It means creating political, social, environmental, economic, military and cultural systems that together give people the building blocks of survival, livelihood and dignity ^[4].

After understanding the concept of human security, it is necessary to explain the main problem of this paper. In this paper, two dimensions of human security in India, personal security and community security, have been discussed in detail and the challenges before them have been outlined.

Status of personal security and challenges before it within the human security paradigm in India: The purpose of personal security is to protect people from physical violence, so whether it is a rich nation or a poor nation, sudden and unpredictable violence threatens human life everywhere. In the 1994 report of UNDP, different types of these threats have been mentioned such as-

1. Threats from the state (physical torture, arbitrary arrest or detention)

2. Threats from other states (war)
3. Threats from other groups of people (ethnic tension)
4. Threats from individuals or gangs against other individual or gangs (crime, Street violence)
5. Threats directed against women (rape, domestic violence)
6. Threats directed children based on their vulnerability dependence (child abuse)
7. Threats to self (suicide, drug use) ^[5].

Now let us look at the situation of these threats of personal security one by one in the context of India. Arbitrary arrest and abuse of detention power are among the threats posed by the state in India. Due to which people have to face many physical tortures like kicks, rams, slaps, and there is no record of these tortures.

The National campaign against torturer's 'India annual report on torture- 2020' states that despite the lockdown facing due to Covid there has been no decreases in police custody deaths in India. According to this report 111 deaths have been registered in police custody in 2020 ^[6].

The National Crime Records Bureau (NC RB) Annual Crime in India Between 2002 - 2020 states that 1,888 custodial deaths have occurred in the last 20 years across India and 833 cases have been registered against police personnel and 358 persons charged Sheeted. While as per the report only 26 policemen have been convicted ^[7].

Talking about other threats to personal security, violence against women is a major issue which include rape, suicide, domestic violence. Women are the most neglected part in any society. She is considered second class in every work of life. In comparison to the birth of a girl and boy, the boy is given importance, men are given priority in food while women have to eat last. In the field of education also priority is given to men while marriageable education is given to women. Preference is given to men in jobs whereas women are put first in getting fired from jobs. Due to being neglected women have to face physical violence in the society.

Talking about violence against women in the context of India, according to the National Commission for Women, the highest number of 2,300 domestic violence complaints were filed between January and May in 2021 for any year after 2000. Most of the complaints have been received from UP while the highest complaint rate has been recorded in Delhi. According to national family health survey - 5 data, 70% of women in major states face physical violence but they do not inform anyone about it. Even among those who plead for help, only a few reach the relevant authority ^[8].

The National Family Health Survey (2019-2021) states that 32% of married women are suffering from spousal physical, sexual and emotional violence and 27% are suffering from at least one of these forms of violence. According to the survey, the percentage of married women aged 18-49 who have ever experienced physical, sexual and emotional violence has been topped by Karnataka, Bihar, Telangana, while the lowest are Lakshadweep, Goa, Himachal Pradesh. The figure below shows the three high rank and three low rank states of marital violence.

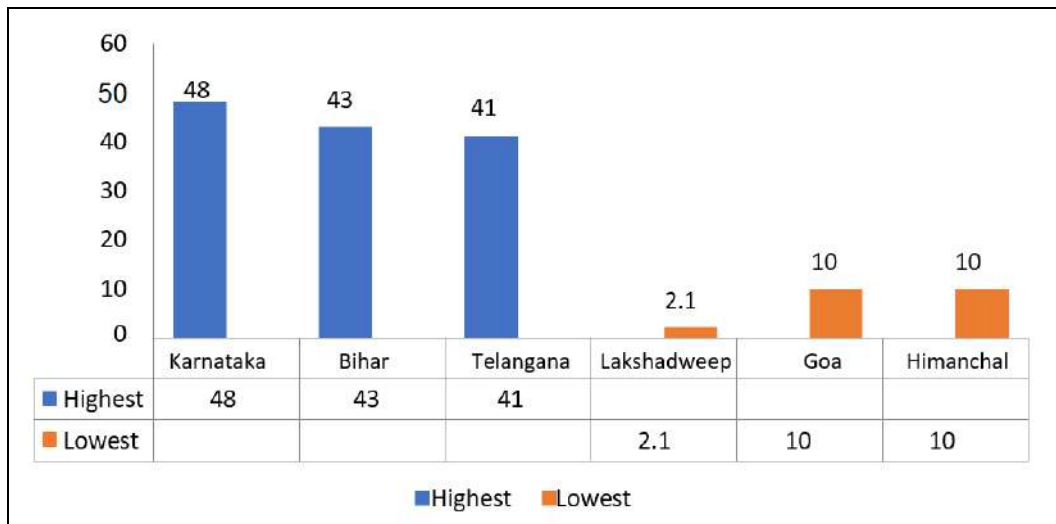


Fig 1: Shows the three high rank and three low rank states of marital violence

According to the NCRB, there has been some decrease in the statistics of rape crime against women in the country in the last three years. Apart from this, another crime against women in India is dowry, due to which married women have to endure many types of torture and even lose their lives. According to NCRB's 'Crime in India' 2021 report, 19 women have been murdered every day for dowry in year 2020. According to the NCRB report, the statistics of rape cases and dowry deaths in India are shown in the following table-

Table 1: The statistics of rape cases and dowry deaths in India

Year	Rape cases	Dowry deaths
2018	33,356	7,167
2019	32,033	7,141
2020	28,046	6,966

Children are the most vulnerable part of any society, Interpol International Child Sexual Exploitation data published in 2021 is a matter of concern, according to Interpol data 24 lakh online child abuse cases were reported in India during 2017- 2020 in which 80% girls are below 14 years old. Human trafficking is also a major threat to personal security, under which people are illegally trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation, forced labour and selling organs. According to NCRB, human trafficking cases in India in the last three years are as follows: 2278 in 2018, 2208 in 2019, 1714 in 2020. Maharashtra and Telangana have the highest number of human trafficking cases as per the 2020 data. The above threats are the main challenges to personal security in India without which human security cannot be achieved.

Status of community security challenges before it within the human security paradigm in India: Under human security, community security is defined as the protection of the traditions, cultures, values of communities and protection from violence against ethnic minority and indigenous groups. Along with this, protection from oppressive traditional practices, traditions of harsh treatment of women or discrimination against ethnic, indigenous group has also been included in community security. The 1994 United Nations Development Report specifically looked at ethnic minority and indigenous groups. Seeing the

importance of their protection, the United Nations declared 1993 the Year of the Indigenous People to highlight the continuing insecurity of 300 million indigenous people in 70 countries [10].

If we talk about India, caste violence, ethnic minority violence, religion-based violence can be seen mainly as threats to community security in India.

According to Hidden apartheid caste discrimination against India's untouchables report "Discriminatory and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment of over 165 million people in India has been justified on the basis of caste. Caste is descent-based and hereditary in nature. It is a characteristic determined by one's birth into a particular caste, irrespective of the faith practiced by the individual. Caste denotes a traditional system of rigid social stratification into ranked groups defined by descent and occupation. Caste divisions in India dominate in housing, marriage, employment, and general social interaction-divisions that are reinforced through the practice and threat of social ostracism, economic boycotts, and physical violence [11].

We are at the peak of modernity but even today there is discrimination on social basis in the society. Even today the low caste people are being victimized by the high caste atrocities. Socially lower caste cannot match with upper caste, even in this age of advanced technology they are facing physical violence.

If we see the report of the crime India 2020 of the national crime records bureau, then according to this, crime against schedule caste or dalits is increasing continuously in India in the last three years, Which is as follows, in 2018 there were 42,793 criminal cases against schedule caste, while it increased to 45,961 in 2019 and 50,291 criminal cases can be seen in 2020 across India. According to the data of 2020, among the states, Madhya Pradesh and the Union Territories of Delhi can see the highest number of crime cases against schedule caste which are 6899 and 69 cases respectively [12]. During COVID-19, although there was a lockdown in the whole country but there was no lockdown for the incidents of violence against dalits. In the document "No lockdown on caste atrocities- stories of caste crime during COVID-19 pandemic" 60 such stories have been highlighted which have happened against dalits during COVID-19, some of them are as follows- young dalit voice silenced for water- all he demanded was that dalits get drinking water and

protection from floods, but the village Brahmins tortured him all night and dumped his naked body in the village bus stand. Stripped for touching a motorcycle - upper caste men stripped and beat a young dalit in full public view for allegedly touching their motorcycle^[13].

An important issue under community security in India is violence on religious grounds. Religious violence refers to the use of violence by one religious group against another religious group. Most of the serious Cases of religious violence and riots have come to the fore in the country after independence. Communal riots are a great threat to the public, wealth and peace of any society. Despite India being secular country incidents of communal riots keep happening here every day. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report Crime in India 2020, which works under the Ministry of Home Affairs, the cases of religious riots have doubled in 2020 compared to 2019, according to the report, the cases of communal riots in year 2018 and 2019 were respectively 512 and 438 have been recorded. Whereas these cases have increased to 857 in 2020. Political parties keep provoking communal feelings for the fulfillment of their selfish interests, as a result of which the peace and harmony of the society turns into violence and riots.

Indian revolutionary freedom fighter Bhagat Singh was of the view that like colonialism, communalism is also a great enemy, so religion should always stay away from politics because it prevents people from working for the common interest.

So the main challenges before personal and community security in India are illiteracy, unemployment, lack of awareness, backwardness, gender discrimination, caste discrimination, religious intolerance, adopting violent tactics for political selfishness, police custodial brutality and etc.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it can be said that the situation of personal and community security under human security in India is not very good, solution of the above mentioned situation and challenges is necessary for achieving the objectives of human security. Police custodial death is a serious problem under personal security, the police should follow the rules of arrest and detention and the suspect should be told about his rights, along with this, the family or relatives of the suspect person should be informed about such It is necessary to be made aware of the information of the arrest, in addition, strict action should be taken against the cruelty done by the police so that in future they cannot misuse their power. Violence against women and children is also a matter of concern, Any type of crime against women can be stopped only when they are empowered socially, legally, politically and economically, Nelson Mandela said that 'freedom cannot be achieved unless the women have been emancipated from all forms of oppression'. If children are taught gender equality in schools, it will contribute to the social empowerment of women because they are the future of the country. Fast track courts should be constituted for providing speedy and strict punishment for physical crimes against women and the laws which have been made for women should be implemented at the ground level. To empower women politically, there is a need for reservation of seats for them in Parliament and Vidhan Sabha. If seen, the root cause behind crimes against women is that they are illiterate and financial dependency, so governments should

work to encourage girls for education and to become financially independent so that they are equal to men in the society. Laws made for child abuse and child labour should also be strictly followed and online pornographic content should be banned. To prevent violence under collective security, backward communities should be empowered educationally, politically and economically. This will make them equal to other communities and the violence against them will also end in the society. There is a need to take strict legal action against politicians and others who instigate communal violence. Ultimately, the purpose of this research paper is to outline the state of personal and community security in India.

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