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## Barriers to Eliminate Terrorism from Pakistan: A Comprehensive Approach

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### Abstract

The act of terrorism includes violent actions or threatened violence to intimidate people through fear for achieving political or ideological or religious goals. People conduct terrorism activities to reach their objectives through violence or threats which result in injuries to innocent people and communities. Research uses Interpretive Structural Modeling (ISM) to evaluate the difficulties Pakistan faces in fighting terrorism by analyzing its central social and economic and institutional and political barriers. The research develops a thorough understanding about Pakistani terrorism elimination barriers through assessments of published literature related to causes and effects of terrorism and countermeasure applications alongside an ISM modeling technique that establishes hierarchical challenge structures. Data was obtained through a questionnaire personally conducted with 23 experts. The literature review reveals three main factors affecting Pakistan's terror problems: poverty and unemployment as socioeconomic elements and political instability and governance problems and institutional issues such as corruption and transparency deficits together with international interference and foreign assistance. The review draws from Elsevier (Science Direct) database to include peer-reviewed empirical studies spanning two decades about Pakistan and similar Nordic and Arab Gulf countries. The research reveals

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**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

sophisticated relationships between terrorism and social political environments as it moves toward analyzing Pakistan's particular problems. Such a methodological framework gives essential information to policymakers who can now develop better counterterrorism solutions by addressing empty spaces in research findings. The research shows that existing barriers to eliminating terrorism create a network which includes social inequity combined with political turbulence and unfavorable economic situation as well as international involvement. The barriers and variables are social inequality, injustice in society, child labor, corruption, institutional incredibility, economic, international interference conditions, multilateral foreign aid, weaknesses of agencies, political instability, geographical location, strong terrorist networking, literacy rate, unemployed youth, law & order situation, extremist mindset. The reduction of terrorism strongly depends on establishing institutional credibility together with economic growth alongside stable geopolitical relationships. The research develops an organizational structure that provides essential data for stakeholders to develop realizable counterterrorism initiatives across Pakistan. The research reveals that Pakistan faces terrorism issues from barriers related to society, economics, politics and institutional framework and requires credible institutions with economic stability plus robust geopolitical links to eradicate the problem.

**Keywords**

Terrorism issues, Terrorism in Pakistan, ISM, MICMAC, Barriers in Eliminating Terrorism

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025****INTRODUCTION**

The stability of Pakistan together with its development and global security depend strongly on eliminating terrorism despite the formidable obstacles that need thorough analysis. Since decades of counterterrorism campaigns Pakistan has maintained an ongoing battle against terrorism which weakens its political stability and threatens national security and disturbs both socio-economic development and social structures. Terrorism sustains because multiple linked elements that include social inequality, political instability and economic conditions and international interventions contribute to its extended presence. The lack of consistent systematic identification processes to rank security obstacles prevents counterterrorism initiatives from being effective. Research implements Interpretive Structural Modelling (ISM) to understand the organizational relationships among these obstacles and create a thorough examination for creating successful counterterrorism approaches. The evaluation seeks to recognize essential obstacles and their components along with a structured analysis toward practical policy guidelines for directors. Using Interpretive Structural Modelling as the primary methodological framework the research delivers crucial knowledge that improves counterterrorism policy development. The study has used the ISM model in my research because according to me, this problem of terrorism could be better examined through ISM. To complete this research can be also use other methods such as, Total Interpretive Structural Modelling (TISM), Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP), Structural Equation Modeling (SEM), System Dynamics (SD) Model, Fuzzy Decision-Making Model and other similar models.

The research work analyzes the barriers against terrorism elimination in Pakistan through ISM methodology to detect both individual elements and hierarchies between these elements. The analysis highlights a couple of factors of terrorism and it's a long way-accomplishing effects on diverse socio-economic, political, and psychological dimensions. One of the essential concerns is the economic overspending resulting from security challenges, mismanagement, and location-associated issues in struggle zones such as FATA. Research indicates that addressing terrorism calls for each technocratic and political strategies, with a focus on environmental peacebuilding and localized policymaking. Terrorism has giant mental and neurological outcomes on both combatants and non-warring parties, with the want for tailored remedy plans. Additionally, social networks play a vital function within the psychological well-being of expatriates in terrorism-affected areas, as more potent social ties assist them deal with strain. Economic elements are strongly connected to terrorism, as inflation, poverty, GDP consistent with capita, and political instability extensively have an impact on terrorist sports. Studies show a bidirectional courting among unemployment and terrorism in Pakistan, with macroeconomic variables playing a vital function in shaping security conditions. Terrorism additionally negatively influences tourism, with long-time period effects on monetary balance. Moreover, exposure to terrorism erodes democratic values, with frequent information consumption leading to de-sensitization in the direction of terrorist acts. Men exhibit greater help for protection over democracy as compared to ladies. Terrorism has lengthy-term results on early life fitness, leading to multiplied stunning and decrease vaccination fees amongst youngsters exposed to violence. Additionally, international members of the family. This paper organizes its content into five sections: literature review followed by methodology, then modelling and analysis after which results and discussion appear before reaching conclusion and recommendations.

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025****LITERATURE REVIEW**

The analysis indicates that the absence of fitting contractors, project sites in FATA, and security issues resulting in idle cost of plant and equipment plus the separate actual project conditions and erroneous measurement as well as site inspection owing to security challenges were predominant contributors to funds overspending (Ali, 2015; Zafar et al., 2016; Calin & Horodnic, 2023). Employing scenarios is but one part of allowing for opportunities for healing through the narrative co- production of a local future. Our research deals with ways to avoid future conflict and other undesirable outcomes. Our results underscore the need to grapple with a technocratic approach or a more political one to the issue of climate change. The study contributes to the literature on environmental peace building and create a more localized and context specific epistemology. We bring different actors together, where policies are implemented from a managerial rather than participatory perspective (Denial, 2023; Muzamil et al., 2024). The consequences of this series indicate that non-combatants hurt by suicide bombings and improvised bombs exhibit varied neurological signs and injury patterns that differ in many aspects from the psychological injuries of combatants in similar circumstances, and therefore in many cases, different treatment plans are necessary (Muhammad et al., 2013; Ali, 2018; Al-Masri & Ibrahim, 2025). The research applies Johansen co-integration technique to depict extended relationships between terrorism levels and their influencing factors. The study shows the existence of a correlation variable across the long-term perspective. The short-run factors include inflation along with GDP per capita measurement and levels of poverty as well as political rights. All four variables show statistical importance for both the short and long term perspectives (Ismail & Amjad, 2014; Ali & Rehman, 2015; Ali, 2020; Audi et al., 2024; Sahrma & Das, 2024). This research makes an important academic addition through its analysis of terrorism fear as a stress factor for international student acculturation studies. The emotional state of international student's functions as a link between their terror fears and their psychological well-being and emotional support acts as a strong coping mechanism. The research includes several implications and future research recommendations together with its limitations (Bashir & Rashid, 2019; Sarwar et al., 2020). A country facing terrorist activities experiences greater positive effects from social networks on the psychological health of its expatriate community. The research investigates host country national relationships versus ties with other foreign residents while discussing their findings about psychological well-being and providing managers with strategies to enhance this aspect (Bader, & Schuster, 2015). Expatriates experience more psychological benefits from social networks when they live in countries which experience terrorism. The research description follows a separate examination of relationship closeness between host country nationals and other nationalities before introducing several manager-focused strategies for psychological well-being improvement (Bader, & Schuster, 2015; Kumar & Kumar, 2020). The social support received from network actors depends on country risk factors that influence the psychological well-being of expatriates. The research explains its discoveries while differentiating between close bonds with host country nationals and other nationalities and mentioning several managerial implications (Bader & Schuster, 2014).

This paper investigates the linkages between inflation, economic growth and terrorism. Inflation increases terrorist attacks. Entire economic expansion acts as a factor that fuels terrorism. Irrespective of whether it transforms first, inflation exerts a

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

causal influence on terrorism and then terrorism feeds back to amplify inflation. Economic growth Granger causes terrorism (Shahbaz, 2013). The occurrence of terrorism in Pakistan demonstrates a two-way relationship with joblessness within the nation. The analysis of variance decompositions establishes statistical co-integrative relationships exist between macroeconomic factors and terrorist activities that occur in Pakistan (Malik & Zaman, 2013). We conducted a study to investigate HBV infection prevalence among suspected groups in the Pakistani territory facing the war on terror. Research data shows that the study territory demonstrates a high rate of HBV infection. This prevalence would reach hazardous levels if medical facilities failed to launch HBV vaccination and awareness programs right away (Ali et al., 2012; Yan & Sriboonchitta, 2024). The academic research shows how fear of terrorism creates more severe impacts on life activities among individuals who face greater terrorism vulnerability compared to those who face lesser vulnerability. The research discusses multiple practical outcomes along with its findings (Malik et al., 2018; Luna & Luna, 2018). The results indicate that India-related economic collaboration combined with peace-making initiatives lead to increased sectarian terrorism. The KSA bilateral loans together with trade ties with Iran serve to increase sectarian terrorism in Pakistan because they energize militant (proxy) groups. Pakistan gains control of religious terrorism by participating in the Afghan Wars which promote its strategic partnership with the United States (Abbas & Syed, 2021). The occurrence of terrorist attacks in Pakistan produces elevated rates of childhood stunting among the population. The rates of low- weight children increase as the number of attacks escalates. Women who experience terrorism attacks during their final pregnancy stage tend to avoid vaccination for their child. Children who experience violent events at a young age develop health problems that persist throughout their lives (William & Adam, 2018; Grossman et al., 2019). This paper evaluates how terrorist activities affect the tourism sector within Pakistan. J. The results obtained from J. and ARDL co-integration approach establish the existence of a valid long run connection between these variables. The results show a strong negative correlation exists between these variables in both short-term and long-term periods. The coefficients for terrorism remained negative across the entire sample period according to the Rolling window analysis. The analysis demonstrates that terrorism influences tourism while no reverse effects exist between these two variables (Raza & Jawaid, 2013). Exposure to terrorism and violence undermine democratic values. Men demonstrate greater support than women do when choosing between democracy and security guarantees. People who watch the news frequently develop less sensitivity toward terrorist acts. Evidence from Pakistan, one of the most terrorism-plagued countries in the world (Rehman & Vanin, 2017). Various tests demonstrate the stability of the results when different control variables are included and when samples are divided by demographic characteristics and education levels and through endogeneity adjustments. The attacks targeted by terrorism lead to direct harm for people while simultaneously assaulting democratic institutions in the process (Ur & Vanin, 2015). An increase of 1% in terrorism level leads to CO2 emission growth exceeding 0.13% and FDI increases maximum CO2 emissions by 0.087% when FDI increases by 1%. One-way causality from terrorism and FDI inflow to CO2 emissions in the short-run. Two-way causality between terrorism/FDI inflow and CO2 emissions in the long-run (Bildirici & Gokmenoglu, 2020). The TAVE-Model establishes a complete structural framework to measure economic terrorism effects because it studies both pre-event weak points



**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

and attack progression alongside post-event externalities. Analysis of Pakistan illustrates how the model demonstrates effective capabilities in understanding and addressing the important socio-economic terrorism-related risks (Estrada et al., 2015). The document explores energy infrastructure cybersecurity threats together with cyber-terrorism risks while discussing vulnerabilities although risk management strategies exist. Security experts examine how Stuxnet attacks unfolded with additional information about economic effects and protective actions that deploy network segmentation and access control together with encryption (Venkatachary et al., 2024). The study examines urban terrorism through an analysis of historical patterns and main themes and academic literature work. The increased attention toward counterterrorism has brought awareness to urban security governance and public involvement for fighting terrorism (Mirza & Rana, 2024). A strong overview of the consequences of terrorism and the War on Terror in the Middle East. These consequences along with the US invasion of Iraq and extremist groups' emergence and humanitarian disasters during multiple countries appear in the analysis (Khan, 2024). The failure of youth employment in MENAP nations creates higher opportunities for domestic terrorist activities. Research results fail to disprove the theory that youth unemployment starts from outside influences. Free domestic press serves to increase domestic terrorist activities. The quality of democracy shows a positive relationship with transnational terrorism occurrences. The stability of political institutions shows a negative relationship with transnational terrorist activity (Bagchi & Paul, 2018). After reviewing the literature, some of the barriers identified are listed in (table 1).

**TABLE 1: BARRIERS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIAL DISTANCING AT WORKPLACE**

Code	Barriers	Description	Source
1	Social Inequality	When resources and opportunities are not shared equally among people, leading to differences in wealth, education, and quality of life.	Korpi and Palme (1998)
2	Injustice in Society	When rules and systems treat people unfairly, giving different groups unequal benefits or punishments.	Fraser (2003)
3	Child Labor	When children work in jobs that stop them from enjoying their childhood, learning properly, or staying healthy.	Basu (1997)
4	Corruption	When people in power misuse their position for personal gain, such as through bribery or favoritism.	Mauro (1995)
5	Institutional Incredibility	When public organizations are seen as untrustworthy or ineffective because they don't work well or share important information.	Bouckaert and Van de Walle (2003)
6	Economic Conditions	How well an economy is doing, including factors like job opportunities, incomes, and price levels, which affect everyday life.	Ravallion (2001)
7	International Interference	When other countries or organizations try to influence a nation's own decisions and	Carothers (2002)

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

		policies.	
8	Multilateral Foreign Aid	Help given by several international organizations, usually in the form of money or expertise, to support a country's development.	Burnside and Dollar (2000)
9	Weaknesses of Agencies	When organizations struggle to work well due to issues like too few resources, poor management, or lack of coordination.	Grindle (2004)
10	Political Instability	When a country experiences frequent changes in government, protests, or conflict, making it hard to keep order.	Alesina, Ozler, Roubini and Swagel, (1996)
11	International Funding	Money provided by outside countries or organizations to support projects or programs in a country.	Knack (2004)
12	Geographical Location	The physical spot where a country or region is located, which can affect its trade, safety, and growth opportunities.	Gallup Sachs and Mellinger (1999)
13	Strong Terrorist Networking	When terrorist groups are well connected and work together to plan and carry out attacks.	Hafez and Mullins (2015)
14	Literacy Rate	The percentage of people who can read and write, which shows how educated a population is.	Glewwe and Kremer (2006)
15	Unemployed Youth	Young people, usually aged 15 to 29, who are looking for jobs but are unable to find work.	Couch and Fairlie (2010)
16	Law & Order Situation	How safe a place is, based on how effectively the police and courts maintain order and control crime.	Beck (2009)
17	Extremist Mindset	A way of thinking that is very radical and intolerant, often leading people to support or engage in extreme actions.	Kruglansk, Gelfan, et al. (2014)

A thorough review of the literature revealed seventeen unique barriers as the outcome. The table above uses unique codes to present systematically compiled barriers which include corresponding names and detailed descriptions from their sources. It is essential to identify these barriers because they shed light on the different obstacles that appear in this context. Researchers and practitioners benefit from a systematic classification method to explore better the variables they study in addition to their effects and remedies. The comprehensive table provides systematic organization to explain barriers through their clear definitions as well as their key position within the larger research scope.

**METHODOLOGY**

The research adopts positivism as its philosophical framework while using empirical quantifiable variables alongside constructivist analytical methods for perception study in terrorism. The advanced relationships between barriers are studied through Interpretive Structural Modelling (ISM) which functions as a deductive framework to validate hypotheses. The research design uses qualitative collection methods as well as quantitative measurement approaches. A research investigation was conducted

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

among business graduates attending one of the leading business school at a large public sector university of Pakistan whose members were students living in Pakistan using both purposive sampling and convenience sampling approaches. A non-probability sampling method enables the research to acquire data from 23 participants studying the economic political social factors that influence terrorism. The research gathers data by utilizing interviewed-based questionnaires and includes both literature reviews and expert opinions from academics and policymakers and practitioners. The methodology uses the ISM technique to classify barriers before creating reachability matrices and conducting dependency analysis of different factors in this application. This method is proven successful because ISM offers an organized method to uncover and arrange intricate relationships in studying terrorism-related matters within Pakistan.

**PANEL OF EXPERTS AND DATA COLLECTION**

The study has been conducted in field setting and data are collected from a focus group of respondents (Panel of Experts). Panel of expertise consist of 23 experts. The authors have developed the criteria for enrollment of Experts on Panel. the criteria include: i) the experts must possess thoroughly knowledge of the phenomes understudy, ii) must have acumen of participating towards survey research must be university graduates have sufficient experts to understand the questioners written in English language, iv) pursuing post graduate business studies at some public sector university, and v) must be willing to participate in the survey of the study. In this way the panel consist of the authors collected the data in class setting from the post graduated class of public sectors universities. The questioners were deliver to graduates with verbal instructions and gaudiness to complete the surray. The completed surveys were then fed in excel sheet for aggregating the responses. By using the “Countif” function of MS Excel. The rule “minority gives way to majority” is applied for constructing Structural Self-Interaction Matrix/Adjacency Matrix.

**MODELLING, ANALYSIS, RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

After using the classical methodology for such studies this section explains the ISM methodology through its modeling method alongside analysis methods results and discussion parts. ISM methodology provides an organized approach to discovering variable relationships and presenting them as hierarchical arrangements. An analysis uses three distinct components to interpret dependencies including the structural self-interaction matrix (SSIM) with its reachability matrix and level partitions. Study outcomes reveal essential factors that drive and depend on the system structure to understand their effects. A comparative evaluation takes place during the discussion segment where the study results are examined against previous research works and organizational implementation potential. The method provides complete knowledge of the investigated phenomenon.

***Interpretive Structural Modelling (ISM):*** ISM methodology consists of the following steps:

- Step-1: Identification of elements/factors/challenges
- Step-2: Construction of structural Self Interaction matrix through pairwise comparison
- Step-3: Initial reachability matrix development
- Step-4: Final reachability matrix development through testing transitivity
- Step-5: Level partitioning from reachability matrix
- Step-6: Digraph construction without transitivity
- Step-7: Interpretive model development



**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

Step-1: Identification of Elements/Factors/Challenges as performed in previous section titled as Literature review.

Step-2: The data are collected from a field survey of panel of experts as referred above using a matrix type questionnaire summary of which is given as annexure. The set of instructions for completing matrix as contain in questionnaire included:

I.Contextual Relationship = leads to

II.What to enter in the white cells:

Fill V when the row leads to the column

Fill A when the column leads to the row

Fill O when there is no relationship of row and column

Fill X when the row and column have a two-way relationship

Construction of Structural Self Interaction Matrix (Table 2) through pairwise comparison: The research uses ISM methodology to identify challenges that hinder terrorism removal in Pakistan which are organized into important social and political institutional dimensions. The research investigation discovers through its evaluation the obstacles which emerge from social inequality and political instability together with economic conditions alongside international interference. The expert-based Structural Self-Interaction Matrix (SSIM) (Table 2) shows barrier interconnections in order to analyze their network structure. Both institutional credibility and economic growth and geopolitical stability prove to be the main elements that fight against terrorism. The transitive reachability matrix can be obtained by performing the pair comparison of the elements under consideration and subsequently checking transitivity. It becomes complex as the number of elements rises beyond 10 (Sushil, 2017).

**TABLE 2: STRUCTURAL SELF-INTERACTION MATRIX (SSIM)**

Code	Barriers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Social Inequality		V	V	X	O	X	A	O	O	A	O	O	O	V	A	X	V
2	Injustice in Society			X	X	A	X	O	O	A	A	O	A	O	A	V	A	V
3	Child Labor				O	A	A	O	O	A	O	O	O	O	A	O	A	O
4	Corruption					V	X	O	O	A	O	O	O	O	A	X	A	O
5	Institutional Incredibility						V	V	O	A	V	O	O	A	O	O	X	O
6	Economic Conditions							X	V	X	X	O	O	V	V	V	X	O
7	International Interference								X	X	X	X	O	V	O	O	A	O
8	Multilateral Foreign Aid									O	A	X	A	A	O	O	O	O
9	Weaknesses of Agencies										X	O	O	V	O	O	V	A
10	Political Instability											V	O	A	V	A	X	X
11	International Funding												O	V	O	O	O	O
12	Geographical Location														O	O	O	O
13	Strong Terrorist Networking															O	A	X
14	Literacy Rate																V	A
15	Unemployed Youth																	V
16	Law & Order Situation																	
17	Extremist Mindset																	

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

Step-3: Initial Reachability matrix (Table 3) development: Researchers used a structured hierarchical method which generated a reachability matrix to document both barrier dependencies and their forces for influence during analysis through the transitivity rule application while developing a total understanding of the analysis. This study delivers necessary information to both policymakers and stakeholders to help them develop effective counterterrorism strategies for Pakistan.

**TABLE 3: REACHABILITY MATRIX**

Code	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
2	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
5	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
6	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
7	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
10	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
14	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
15	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1

The structured hierarchical process to develop the reachability matrix allowed researchers to determine barrier dependencies and their impact levels by using the transitivity rule. By following this method researcher achieved better insight into how individual barriers related to one another during analysis. Policymakers and stakeholders benefit from the reachability matrix by receiving essential information for designing strong counterterrorism strategies in Pakistan. Decision-makers achieve stronger national security through systematic dependency evaluations and influence force assessments that enable them to select important barriers for targeted intervention measures. The analysis demonstrates the necessity of organized methods to combat intricate security problems while improving policy results.

Step-4: Final reachability matrix (Table 4) development through testing transitivity:

Utilizing a fully transitive binary coded matrix (table 4), the research further refines these relationships by identifying key drivers and dependent factors, offering a structured approach to counterterrorism efforts. This study contributes both theoretically and practically by providing insights and strategic recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders to formulate effective counterterrorism measures in Pakistan.

The fully transitive binary coded matrix (Table 4) accomplished transitivity testing to make the final reachability matrix that specifies crucial elements in counterterrorism strategies. The systematic framework delivers stakeholders and policy creators complete theoretical data together with practical knowledge for building effective counterterrorism actions directed at Pakistan. The transitive binary coded matrix shows how multiple elements function as a connected system while core

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

elements guide the design of strategic measures. This research uses its data-based methods to create an organized framework that explains counterterrorism patterns while creating usable suggestions to boost national security performance against terrorism.

**TABLE 4: FULLY TRANSITIVE BINARY CODED MATRIX**

Code	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Driving
1	1	1	1	1	1*	1	1*	1*	1*	1*	0	0	1*	1	1*	1	1	15
2	1*	1	1	1	1*	1	1*	1*	1*	1*	0	0	0	1*	1	0	1	13
3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
4	1	1	1*	1	1	1	1*	1*	1*	1*	0	0	1*	1*	1	1*	0	14
5	1*	1	1	1*	1	1	1	1*	1*	1	1*	0	1*	1*	1*	1	1*	16
6	1	1	1	1	1*	1	1	1	1	1	1*	0	1	1	1	1	1*	16
7	1	1*	1*	1*	1*	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1*	0	1*	0	14
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1*	0	0	0	0	4
9	1*	1	1	1	1	1	1	1*	1	1	1*	0	1	1*	1*	1	1*	16
10	1	1	1*	1*	1*	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1*	1	1*	1	1	16
11	0	0	0	0	1*	0	1	1	0	1*	1	0	1	0	0	1*	1*	8
12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
13	1*	1*	1*	1*	1	1*	1*	1	1*	1	0	0	1	1*	1*	1	1	15
14	1*	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1*	0	0	1*	1	1	1*	0	8
15	1	1*	1*	1	1*	1*	1*	0	0	1	0	0	1	1*	1	1	1*	13
16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1*	1	0	0	1	1	1*	1	1	13
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
Dependence	12	14	13	12	12	11	13	13	11	14	7	1	14	12	12	12	11	

**Step-5: Level partitioning from reachability matrix**

The assessment (Table 5) process requires multiple tests to identify and establish the different scales of these challenges. Research data indicates that institutions need to enhance their credibility to support economic growth while handling geopolitical risks for successful terrorism reduction.

In a level partitioned (table 5: Iteration 1), the variables number (3), (7), (8), and (17) have been found to have a level that will be removed from the table below, and so on until we get to the final level.

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025****TABLE 5: ITERATION 1**

Code	Reachability Set	Antecedent Set	Set Product	Level
1	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 3,14,15,16,17	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,13,14, 15,16	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16	I
2	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 1,14,15,17	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10, 12,13,14,15,16	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15	
3	2,3	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10,13,1 4,15,16	2,3	
4	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 3,14,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,13,14, 15,16	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16	
5	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 1,13,14,15,16,17	1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10,11,13, 15,16	1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10,11, 13,15,16	I
6	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 1,13,14,15,16,17	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,13,15, 16	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,13, 15,16	
7	1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11, 13,15,16	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11 ,13,14,16	1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 1,13,15,16	
8	7,8,11,13	1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,1 2,13	7,8,11,13	
9	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 1,13,14,15,16,17	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,16,17	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,16, 17	I
10	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 1,13,14,15,16,17	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,11,13, 14,15,16,17	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,11, 13,14,15,16,17	
11	5,7,8,10,11,13,14,16, 17	5,6,7,8,9,10,11	5,7,8,10,11	
12	2,8,12	12	12	
13	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 3,14,15,16,17	1,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13, 14,15,16,17	1,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,13, 14,15,16,17	I
14	1,2,3,4,10,13,14,15,1 6	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,13,14, 15,16	1,2,4,6,7,10,13,14,1 5,16	
15	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,10,13,14 ,15,16,17	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,1 5,16,17	1,2,4,5,6,10,13,14,1 5,16,17	
16	1,2,3,4,5,6,9,10,13,14 ,15,16,17	1,4,5,6,7,9,10,11,13,1 4,15,16	1,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,1 5,16	
17	9,10,13,15,17	1,2,5,6,9,10,11,13,15, 16,17	9,10,13,15,17	I

**TABLE 6: ITERATION 2**

Code	Reachability Set	Antecedent Set	Set Product	Level
1	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,14 ,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,1 5,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,1 4,15,16	2
2	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,14,15	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,12,13,1 4,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,14,1 5	2
4	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,14 ,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,1 5,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,1 4,15,16	2
5	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,11,13 ,14,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,11,13,1 5,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,11,1 3,15,16	
6	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,11,13	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,15,1	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,1	

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

	,14,15,16	6	5,16	
9	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,11,13,14,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,16	
10	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,11,13,14,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,11,13,14,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,11,13,14,15,16	2
11	5,10,11,13,16	5,6,9,10,11	5,10,11	
12	2,12	12	12	
13	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,15,16	1,4,5,6,9,10,11,13,14,15,16	1,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,15,16	
14	1,2,4,10,13,14,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,15,16	1,2,4,10,13,14,15,16	2
15	1,2,4,5,6,10,13,14,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,15,16	1,2,4,5,6,10,13,14,15,16	2
16	1,2,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,15,16	1,4,5,6,9,10,11,13,14,15,16	1,4,5,6,9,10,13,14,15,16	

In a level partitioned (Table 6: Iteration 2), the variables number (1), (2), (4), (10), (14) and (15) have been found to have a level that will be removed from the below table.

**TABLE 7: ITERATION 3**

Code	Reachability Set	Antecedent Set	Set Product	Level
5	5,6,9,11,13,16	5,6,9,11,13,16	5,6,9,11,13,16	3
6	5,6,9,11,13,16	5,6,9,13,16	5,6,9,13,16	
10	5,6,9,11,13,16	5,6,9,13,16	5,6,9,13,16	
11	5,11,13,16	5,6,9,11	5,11	
12	12	12	12	3
13	5,6,9,13,16	5,6,9,11,13,16	5,6,9,13,16	3
16	5,6,9,13,16	5,6,9,11,13,16	5,6,9,13,16	3

In a level partitioned (Table 7: Iteration 3), the variables number (5), (12), (13), and (16) have been found to have a level that will be removed from the below table.

**TABLE 8: ITERATION 4**

Code	Reachability Set	Antecedent Set	Set Product	Level
6	6,9,11	6,9	6,9	
9	6,9,11	6,9	6,9	
11	11	6,9,11	11	4

In a level partitioned (table 8: Iteration 4), the variable number (11) has been found to have a level that will be removed from the below table.

**TABLE 9: ITERATION 5**

Code	Reachability Set	Antecedent Set	Set Product	Level
6	6,9	6,9	6,9	5
9	6,9	6,9	6,9	5

In a level partitioned (table 9: Iteration 5), the variables number (6) and (9) have been found as a final level and key barrier.

Step-6: Digraph construction without transitivity

**STEP-7: INTERPRETIVE MODEL DEVELOPMENT**

Interpretive model development is a research methodology is a research methodology that involves creating a conceptual model to explain a complex phenomenon. It is a subjective, contextual, and emergent process that aims to provide a rich understanding of the research topic.





**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

**TABLE 10: SUMMARY REPRESENTATION OF INTERPRETIVE STRUCTURAL MODELING**

		Reachability Sets																	Driving Power	
Level	Cod e	3	7	8	17	1	2	4	10	14	15	5	12	13	16	11	6	9		
Antecedent Sets	I	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
		7	1*	1	1	0	1	1*	1*	1	1*	0	1*	0	1	1*	1	1	1	14
		8	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1*	0	1	0	0	4
		17	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	4
	II	1	1	1*	1*	1	1	1	1	1*	1	1*	1*	0	1*	1	0	1	1*	15
		2	1	1*	1*	1	1*	1	1	1*	1*	1	1*	0	0	0	0	1	1*	13
		4	1*	1*	1*	0	1	1	1	1*	1*	1	1	0	1*	1*	0	1	1*	14
		10	1*	1	1	1	1	1	1*	1	1	1*	1*	0	1*	1	1	1	1	16
		14	1	0	0	0	1*	1	1	1*	1	1	0	0	1*	1*	0	0	0	8
		15	1*	1*	0	1*	1	1*	1	1	1*	1	1*	0	1	1	0	1*	0	13
III	5		1	1	1*	1*	1*	1	1*	1	1*	1*	1*	1	0	1*	1	1*	1	6
	12		0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	
	13		1*	1*	1	1	1*	1*	1*	1	1*	1*	1*	1	0	1	1	1*	5	
	16		1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1*	1*	1	0	1	1	1*	3	
IV	11		0	1	1	1*	0	0	0	1*	0	0	0	1*	0	1	1*		8	
V	6		1	1	1	1*	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1*	0	1	1	1*	1	6
	9		1	1	1*	1*	1*	1	1	1	1	1*	1*	1	0	1	1	1*	1	6
Dependence			13	13	1	1	1	1	12	14	1	12	12	1	1	1	7	11	11	
Dependence Power																				

In the ISM model (Figure 1), barriers no (3), (7), (8) (17) come at level one. Similarly, (1), (2), (4), (10), (14), (15) comes at level two. (5), (13), (16), (12), comes at level three. (11) comes at Level four. (6), (9) come at level four.

**MIMAC ANALYSIS**

MIMAC is a strategic analysis is framework used to evaluate the attractiveness of a market or industry.

## Page 183

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

successful counterterrorism initiatives that will protect both national security and economic development. Various counterterrorism initiatives have failed to stop terrorism because existing challenges between social inequality and corruption and political instability alongside weak institutions continue to block enduring solutions. The research systematically examines such challenges through ISM and MICMAC methods with expert opinion collection from questionnaires to create relationship structures that help policy architects address terrorism more efficiently. Results of literature show that The analysis highlights a couple of factors of terrorism and it's a long way-accomplishing effects on diverse socio-economic, political, and psychological dimensions. One of the essential concerns is the economic overspending resulting from security challenges, mismanagement, and location-associated issues in struggle zones such as FATA. Research indicates that addressing terrorism calls for each technocratic and political strategies, with a focus on environmental peacebuilding and localized policymaking. Terrorism has giant mental and neurological outcomes on both combatants and non-warring parties, with the want for tailored remedy plans. Additionally, social networks play a vital function within the psychological well-being of expatriates in terrorism-affected areas, as more potent social ties assist them deal with strain. Economic elements are strongly connected to terrorism, as inflation, poverty, GDP consistent with capita, and political instability extensively have an impact on terrorist sports. Studies show a bidirectional courting among unemployment and terrorism in Pakistan, with macroeconomic variables playing a vital function in shaping security conditions. Terrorism additionally negatively influences tourism, with long-time period effects on monetary balance. Moreover, exposure to terrorism erodes democratic values, with frequent information consumption leading to desensitization in the direction of terrorist acts. Men exhibit greater help for protection over democracy as compared to ladies. The health area is also impacted, as warfare-affected regions show higher prevalence fees of diseases like HBV due to inadequate healthcare centers. Terrorism has lengthy-term results on early life fitness, leading to multiplied stunting and decrease vaccination fees amongst youngsters exposed to violence. Additionally, international members of the family.

Results of ISM modelling show that The barriers are identified and structured using the ISM technique. The key barriers include: (1) Social Inequality, (2) Injustice in Society, (3) Child Labor, (4) Corruption, (5) Institutional Incredibility, (6) Economic Conditions, (7) International Interference, (8) Multilateral Foreign Aid, (9) Weaknesses of Agencies, (10) Political Instability, (11) International Funding, (12) Geographical Location, (13) Strong Terrorist Networking, (14) Literacy Rate), (15) Unemployed Youth, (16) Law & Order Situation, (17) Extremist Mindset. Results of Interpretive model, (3) Child Labor, (7) International Interference, (8) Multilateral Foreign Aid and (17) Extremist Mindset come at Level one. Similarly, (1) Social Inequality, (2) Injustice in Society, corporations, (4) Corruption, (10) Political Instability, (14) Literacy Rate and (15) Unemployed Youth comes at Level two. (5) Institutional Incredibility, (13) Strong Terrorist Networking, (16) Law & Order Situation, geographical location and, (12) Geographical Location), comes at Level three. (11) International Funding comes at Level four, (6) Economic Conditions and (9) Weaknesses of Agencies come at Level five. Results of MICMAC Diagram, (figure 2) barriers no (12), (11) fall in the Autonomous Quarter, while barriers no (17), (8), (3), (14) fall in the Dependent Quarter. In addition, barriers no (6), (9), (5), (1), (4), (7), (2), (10), (13), and (15) fall in the Linkage Quarter. However, no barriers fall into the Independent Quarter. The persistent

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

threat of terrorism in Pakistan disrupts both social advancement and national development and economic progress because of deep-rooted institutional and political solutions and socio-economic problems. Various counterterrorism initiatives exist but have not managed to resolve the problem demonstrating core foundational impediments.

**TABLE 11: JUXTAPOSED RESULTS OF LITERATURE, MICMAC AND ISM**

Result of Literature Review		Results of MICMAC Analysis				Results of ISM	Comments
Code	Issue	Driving	Dependence	Effectiveness	Cluster	Level	
1	Social Inequality	15	12	3	Linkage	Level 2	Key Barrier
2	Injustice in Society	13	14	-1	Linkage	Level 2	
3	Child Labor	2	13	-11	Dependent	Level 1	
4	Corruption	14	12	2	Linkage	Level 2	
5	Institutional Incredibility	16	12	4	Linkage	Level 3	
6	Economic Conditions	16	11	5	Linkage	Level 5	Key Barrier
7	International Interference	14	13	1	Linkage	Level 1	
8	Multilateral Foreign Aid	4	13	-9	Dependent	Level 1	
9	Weaknesses of Agencies	16	11	5	Linkage	Level 5	
10	Political Instability	16	14	2	Linkage	Level 2	
11	International Funding	8	7	1	Autonomous	Level 4	Key Barrier
12	Geographical Location	3	1	2	Autonomous	Level 3	
13	Strong Terrorist Networking	15	14	1	Linkage	Level 3	
14	Literacy Rate	8	12	-4	Dependent	Level 2	
15	Unemployed Youth	13	12	1	Linkage	Level 2	
16	Law & Order Situation	13	12	1	Linkage	Level 3	Key Barrier
17	Extremist Mindset	4	11	-7	Dependent	Level 1	

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

The study relies on Interpretive Structural Modelling (ISM) as a tool to deeply analyze society's main problems which include unequal social structures as well as unstable politics and financial challenges coupled with foreign nation involvement. This research demonstrates how these different factors function as a single interconnected system which causes repeated unsuccessful results with current counterterrorism approaches. The research presents organized knowledge about these challenges which makes important contributions to help public authorities create enduring counterterrorism solutions. The integration of results from the literature review and both structural modeling methods (MICMAC and ISM) provides an extensive view of barriers that combines academic theoretical concepts with quantitative and qualitative systematic assessments. The literature review extracts main barriers from research studies which the MICMAC analysis sorts according to driving and dependence power factors. Through ISM the author develops a hierarchical arrangement to show the interconnecting barriers along with their impact degrees. By combining qualitative research with statistical evaluations we obtain complete insights for making strategic decisions about overcoming identified challenges in the system. Variable (6) Economic Conditions and Variable and (9) Weaknesses of Agencies is the Key Factor in all ISM Method and also need to work on it.

**DISCUSSION**

The research work analyzes the barriers against terrorism elimination in Pakistan through ISM methodology to detect both individual elements and hierarchies between these elements. The ISM analysis unifies understanding between the socio-economic barriers and the political barriers alongside institutional barriers because it shows their relationship network which earlier research had isolated. The analysis highlights a couple of factors of terrorism and it's a long way-accomplishing effects on diverse socio-economic, political, and psychological dimensions. One of the essential concerns is the economic overspending resulting from security challenges, mismanagement, and location-associated issues in struggle zones such as FATA. Research indicates that addressing terrorism calls for each technocratic and political strategies, with a focus on environmental peacebuilding and localized policymaking. Terrorism has giant mental and neurological outcomes on both combatants and non-warring parties, with the want for tailored remedy plans. Additionally, social networks play a vital function within the psychological well-being of expatriates in terrorism-affected areas, as more potent social ties assist them deal with strain. Economic elements are strongly connected to terrorism, as inflation, poverty, GDP consistent with capita, and political instability extensively have an impact on terrorist sports. Studies show a bidirectional courting among unemployment and terrorism in Pakistan, with macroeconomic variables playing a vital function in shaping security conditions. Terrorism additionally negatively influences tourism, with long-time period effects on monetary balance. Moreover, exposure to terrorism erodes democratic values, with frequent information consumption leading to desensitization in the direction of terrorist acts. Men exhibit greater help for protection over democracy as compared to ladies. Terrorism has lengthy-term results on early life fitness, leading to multiplied stunting and decrease vaccination fees amongst youngsters exposed to violence. Additionally, international members of the family. The study reveals various cause-and-effect connections between obstacles through structured evaluations that consider Pakistan's political-economic-social framework. The research generates important consequences that direct internet service providers and software vendors to fortify



**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

cybersecurity measures and extremism surveillance while industries should use corporate social responsibility to combat socio-economic issues alongside governmental efforts to enhance governance and individual-based awareness programs. The research presents an organized analytical framework for terrorism challenges that researchers globally may use to analyze comparable contexts. This research is as per the requirement of the university. The study reveals various cause-and-effect connections between obstacles through structured evaluations that consider Pakistan's political-economic-social framework. Different groups of participants need to be included in testing stages along with a review of potential challenges. Additional research requires collecting data from larger different sample groups during more extended periods of observation to document movement patterns. Survey results must validate the tested findings.

**CONCLUSION**

The research work analyzes the barriers against terrorism elimination in Pakistan through ISM methodology to detect both individual elements and hierarchies between these elements. The ISM analysis unifies understanding between the socio-economic barriers and the political barriers alongside institutional barriers because it shows their relationship network which earlier research had isolated. The analysis highlights a couple of factors of terrorism and it's a long way-accomplishing effects on diverse socio-economic, political, and psychological dimensions. One of the essential concerns is the economic overspending resulting from security challenges, mismanagement, and location-associated issues in struggle zones such as FATA. Research indicates that addressing terrorism calls for each technocratic and political strategies, with a focus on environmental peacebuilding and localized policymaking. Terrorism has giant mental and neurological outcomes on both combatants and non-warring parties, with the want for tailored remedy plans. Additionally, social networks play a vital function within the psychological well-being of expatriates in terrorism-affected areas, as more potent social ties assist them deal with strain. Economic elements are strongly connected to terrorism, as inflation, poverty, GDP consistent with capita, and political instability extensively have an impact on terrorist sports. Studies show a bidirectional courting among unemployment and terrorism in Pakistan, with macroeconomic variables playing a vital function in shaping security conditions. Terrorism additionally negatively influences tourism, with long-time period effects on monetary balance. Moreover, exposure to terrorism erodes democratic values, with frequent information consumption leading to desensitization in the direction of terrorist acts. Men exhibit greater help for protection over democracy as compared to ladies. Terrorism has lengthy-term results on early life fitness, leading to multiplied stunting and decrease vaccination fees amongst youngsters exposed to violence. Additionally, international members of the family. The study reveals various cause-and-effect connections between obstacles through structured evaluations that consider Pakistan's political-economic-social framework. The research generates important consequences that direct internet service providers and software vendors to fortify cybersecurity measures and extremism surveillance while industries should use corporate social responsibility to combat socio-economic issues alongside governmental efforts to enhance governance and individual-based awareness programs. The research presents an organized analytical framework for terrorism challenges that researchers globally may use to analyze comparable contexts. This research is as per the requirement of the university. The study reveals various cause-

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

and-effect connections between obstacles through structured evaluations that consider Pakistan's political-economic-social framework. Different groups of participants need to be included in testing stages along with a review of potential challenges. Additional research requires collecting data from larger different sample groups during more extended periods of observation to document movement patterns. Survey results must validate the tested findings.

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**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

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**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

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**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

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**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025**

**Annexure I**

Approximately 20 minutes required to fill

**Questionnaire**

**Interpretive Structural Modelling of Barriers in Eliminating Terrorism from Pakistan: A View Point of Business Graduates**

- We are conducting research regarding the barriers to eliminating terrorism from Pakistan.
- Your input will greatly contribute to our research work, and this questionnaire will be used for research purposes only in combined statistical statements.

**Section-1**

**Personal Information (Optional)**

Name: -----  
-----  
Designation: -----  
-----  
Address: -----  
-----  
Phone: -----  
---

**Demographics:**

Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male Female	Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Single
Age Group	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-30 40 <input type="checkbox"/> 31-40 <input type="checkbox"/> 41-50 Above 50	Qualification	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 14 years 14 years <input type="checkbox"/> 16 years education <input type="checkbox"/> Above 16
Income (in thousands)	<input type="checkbox"/> <40 40-80 <input type="checkbox"/> 81-100 101-200 <input type="checkbox"/> 201-300 Above 300	Experience	<input type="checkbox"/> up to 5 year 10Years <input type="checkbox"/> 5 – 10Years Above 20

**Section 2: Research Questions**

I.Contextual Relationship = leads to

II.What to enter in the white cells?

*Alternate I:* Fill V when the row leads to the column

*Alternate II:* Fill A when the column leads to the row

*Alternate III:* Fill O when there is no relationship of row and column

**VOL-3, ISSUE-2, 2025***Alternate IV: Fill X when the row and column have a two-way relationship*

Sr .	Barriers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Social Inequality	X																
2	Injustice in Society	X	X															
3	Child Labor	X	X	X														
4	Corruption	X	X	X	X													
5	Institutional Incredibility	X	X	X	X	X												
6	Economic Conditions	X	X	X	X	X	X											
7	International Interference	X	X	X	X	X	X	X										
8	Multilateral Foreign Aid	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X									
9	Weaknesses of Agencies	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
10	Political Instability	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
11	International Funding	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
12	Geographical Location	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
13	Strong Terrorist Networking	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
14	Literacy Rate	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
15	Unemployed Youth	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
16	Law & Order Situation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
17	Extremist Mindset	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X