CHAPTER- 2
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND HUMAN SECURITY

2.1 INTRODUCTION:
This chapter highlights the concept of National security which has great relevance to Human security, from its inception since seventeenth century to the recent one, i.e. security concept in the age of globalization. In conceptual framework of security, an attempt has been made to discuss various views on security apart from contemporary relevance. Concept of individual security, National security, dimensions of National security and element of Human security and its significance have been discussed before making the conceptual framework for the present research work.

Security is the degree of resistance to, or protection from, harm. It applies to any vulnerable and valuable asset, such as a person, dwelling, community, Nation, or organization. But the concept of security has for too long been interpreted narrowly, as security of territory from external aggression, or as protection of National interests in foreign policy or as global security from the threat of a nuclear holocaust. It has been related more to Nation-States than to people. Forgotten were the legitimate concerns of ordinary people who sought security in their daily lives. However, majority of developing countries have larger percentages of their population living perpetually under the ghastly effects of disease, hunger, unemployment, crime, social conflict, political repression and environmental hazards etc. Their lives are full of fears and uncertainties - fear of harm and uncertainty of the future. This population does not feel secure and, in fact, are not protected from the threats of physical, economic and social harm.

In view of changing dimension of National Security the term ‘National Security’ got redefined and the aspects internal to a State were articulated, including human security. As the recent history has proved; States suffered and even disintegrated because of internal tumults related to human security, economic and socio-cultural security, the attention of the world was drawn to these aspects and unhinged the minds of the scholars from earlier orientation towards territorial security; making a paradigm shift in the view. It is now felt that Human Security is an important integral part of National Security. The researcher attempts to highlight the subparts of the concept of National Security and specifically trying to establish relationship between the National Security and Human Security in the chapter.

2.2 NATIONAL SECURITY:
National security is the requirement to maintain the survival of the State through the use of various dimensions of power including its projection. This concept of National Security was
developed in the United States during post World War II Era. Initially focusing on military might, it now encompasses a wider range of facets, all of which impinge on the non military or economic security of the Nation and the values espoused by the National society. Accordingly, in order to possess National security, a Nation needs to possess economic security, energy security, environmental security and human security too.

2.2.1 Definition and Concept of National Security: Basically the National Security means an ‘ability of a Country/Nation’ to protect the internal values from the external threats or aggression. The term ability of a country encompasses the every dimension of the National Security i.e. Socio-cultural, Economic, Political and Military etc. Over the past three centuries, the definitions of National Security have changed and many interpretations have been offered by scholars. The definitions and interpretations continue to undergo changes as the international community experiences political, economic, social, environmental and ‘inter-state-relations’ transitions. The early interpreters were inclined more towards viewing National Security from a platform of external threats – albeit the military aspects of provision of security to one’s Nation from external attacks and these scholars felt that absence of an external threat meant presence of ‘security’. While Richard Lowenthal added the aspects of political and self-determination in the definition of security, Joseph Nye opined that security also should be viewed from the perspective of providing social autonomy as a group and a degree of political status and certain minimal expected enjoyment of economic welfare, apart from the aspect of physical survival. Richard Ullman suggests a broader definition, where he considers, among other aspects, threat to National Security as an event or sequence of events that threaten drastically and over a relatively short span of time, degrade the quality of life for the inhabitants of the State.

The National Security concepts are probably enshrined in the very idea of a State. Bhadauria Sanjeev, in his study in 2006, considered that strength of a State is a relative concept and that it can be measured in terms of the State’s willingness and ability to provide fundamental political goods associated with the statehood, such as Physical Security, Legitimate Political Institutions, Economic Management and Social Welfare.\[1\] Thus, it implies that a Nation-State exists for and because of the society that forms it. The society is a collection of groups and individuals who share a common culture and interests concerning safety, security, well being and development for better living. A State is thus a facilitator in offering goods, services and systems that help ensure collective good of the entire citizenry.

Security threats may not only involve Nation- States but may also involve other factors such as manmade and natural disasters that cause severe environmental damage and human loss.

2.2.2 An Understanding of National Security: There is no single universally accepted definition of National security. The variety of definitions provides an overview of the many usages
of this concept. As per Prabhakaran Palleri views on the same, he says the concept of National security still remains ambiguous, having originated from simpler definitions which initially emphasised the freedom from military threat and political coercion to later increase in sophistication and include other forms of non-military security as suited the circumstances of the time.\cite{2}

A typical dictionary definition, in this case from the Macmillan Dictionary defines the term as "the protection or the safety of a country’s secrets and its citizens" emphasising the overall security of a Nation and a Nation State.\cite{3} A later definition by Romm Joseph J., states that "The distinctive meaning of National security means freedom from foreign dictation."\cite{4} The objective of National Security aims absence threats and fear. National Defense College of India defines National security as,\cite{5} “National security is an appropriate and aggressive blend of political resilience and maturity, human resources, economic structure and capacity, technological competence, industrial base and availability of natural resources.” According to Prabhakaran Paleri, National security may be defined as "The measurable state of the capability of a Nation to overcome the multi-dimensional threats to the apparent well-being of its people and its survival as a Nation-State at any given time, by balancing all instruments of State policy through governance, that can be indexed by computation, empirically or otherwise, and is extendable to global security by variables external to it."\cite{6}

As per the Ullman R.H., We can widen the scope of National security to include elements such as economic, human and environmental security. "National security then is the ability to preserve the Nation's physical integrity and territory; to maintain its economic relations with the rest of the world on reasonable terms; to preserve its nature, institution, human resources and governance from disruption from outside or inside; and to control its borders too."\cite{7}

2.2.3 Dimensions of National Security: As we have discussed the various definitions of the National Security and understood the basic concept of National security. It is observed that “Security” has comprehensive nature and wider meaning therefore it is essential to have a proper understanding of various dimensions of National Security.\cite{8} Following are the major dimensions of National security.

i) Military Security: National Security implied physical protection of the State’s land mass from external aggressions. Thus, efforts of the states towards maintaining National Security were seen as the enhancements in military power to safeguard the Nation. These efforts were also seen as attaining military power that a State’s Political Will could be imposed in international arena based on its military might. Though this view exists even today, and naturally so as conflicts have grown over centuries and a State is expected to ensure inviolability of its territory, it was a limited view and other dimensions of National security were also added with time.
ii) Political Security: In the journal, “Rethinking India’s National Security” Mishra Rajesh quoted that dimension of security is more concerned with the internal aspects of a State’s political machinery. Political will of the people and internal threats to a State’s sovereignty are conspicuous to a State’s internal stability. Here, political groups with different aspirations attempt to splinter the State. Transnational political groups, many times undertaking armed rebellions and insurgencies, lead to loss of political control within a State. The troubles in Sri Lanka and balkanization of Yugoslavia are glaring examples of Political insecurities. Thus, Political leadership, decision making, healthier inter-state relationship and capacity to maintain the law and order are the important pillars of Political Security.

iii) Economic Security: In today’s international systems and world orders, economic interdependence has gained importance. Though Nations are interdependent for trade, they still attempt to maintain economic freedom and accumulation of wealth. To enhance the Economic power the Country must have maximum export and minimum import, greater job opportunities, greater consumption, higher savings and better multiplication at individual as well as at the State level. Loss of economic freedom and acquisition of greater wealth by the State and its distribution amongst the masses affects the aspirations of the populace and internal disturbances result from it. Today, the States impose their political will through the instruments of economy and this aspect has gained tremendous importance. Modern history shows that the States having better economic security are the powerful Nations in the world today.

iv) Environmental Security: The world has realized the adverse effects of climate change caused mainly due to human interventions. These threats render the entire world community insecure. It is universal problem. Romm Joseph J. in his “Defining National Security: The Non Military Aspects” made attempts that to deal with the environmental security have led to arguments towards reduction in industrial activities that have ill-effects in terms of emissions. Nations are attempting to curb the emissions by passing laws that adversely affect the industrial processes and consequently have economic impact on developing States. Thus, debates over strategies to reduce global warming, deforestation and protection of biodiversity have emerged as unending debates and have become political tools for ascendancy in the world order and lead into the area of National security.

v) Socio–Cultural Dimension of National Security: The Socio Cultural factor is one of the most important dimensions of National Security. It is the responsibility of the political elite of the country to bring the variety of Socio Cultural identity under one umbrella i.e. “Indians”. To bring this variety of sections into main National Streams, the process of assimilation should be continue without any dissemination and to provide the network of the roads is vital part of it, as the network and road transportation is considered as a key factor for economy and industrial development of the
country. While providing network of road and transportation Government has to ensure the safety and security of the people. Country like India, numbers of States have inadequate network of roads and causalities owing to road accidents. Therefore while carrying out the process of assimilation government must pay due attention towards every section of the society in this context. **However, Human Security is an inseparable element of all the above factors explained which is explained in detailed in the proceeding paragraphs.**

### 2.2.4 Relationship Between National Interests, and Multiple Dimensions of National Security:

No Nation can develop unless it is secure. Development process can only take place if a Nation is free from external and internal threats. The strength of USA is largely attributable to the fact that its boundaries has not been violated by external aggression, its natural resources have given it strength to grow economically and its technology has boosted it. It also ensures greater protection of its citizenry allows better environmental protection within. Its systems have been developed to swiftly react to the threats to its human resource, assets and freedom of action. **Rao Meena and Vijayalaxmi** given example in *Challenges of peace and security in 21st Century* that the nature of National States is highly competitive, National security highly rely on technical measures and operational procedures. This includes multiple aspects such as information security, State secrets, international negotiation strategies etc. Other factors that dominate the reality of competition between Nation States are climate change, natural and manmade disasters, proliferation etc. \[11\]

Though the ultimate aim of National security is to achieve peace and harmony among people, the government and people must abide to law, constitutional democracy, socio-political and individual life stability, good governance thus helping in Nation-building. Apart from above aspects, National survival greatly relies on effective conservation of our environment so Industrial, technological growth must go in hand with environment. Ecological balance is a shared responsibility of all, as individuals, families, and communities.

This shared vision inspires and motivates the citizens to get involved and participate vigorously in the programs that promote the country’s and individual security and development goals and objectives.

With the advent of Nation-States, another dimension was added; that of National Interests. Many scholars have classified and defined National Interests. **V.V. Dyke** defined the interests as ‘Vital’ and ‘Non-Vital’ interests. His definition of Vital Interests states that, “Security and Self-Preservation have been identified as the most vital interests. Security is that of territory, political and cultural identity. The “self” implies the territory and people, sovereignty, equality and independence and political and economic systems that have been accepted by the people of the Nation-State”.

Another scholar, **T. W. Robinson**, created a six layered model of National Interest. In his definition of Primary Interests, that he feels cannot be compromised, he has included preserving of...
physical, political and cultural identities. Thus, National Security directly reflects National Interests or vice-versa. And the protection of individuals (read citizen) as part of Primary or Vital Interests directly reflects upon Human Security with aspect of the National Security. All the arguments above lead to the conclusion that the world community has graduated in their views about National Security. The aspect of Human Security has become an inseparable part of concerns, plans and operationalisation of National Security.

What emerges is an inter-relation between National Security, National Interests and the vital sub-part of Human Security within the system. Security issues should not be addressed on the traditional National and international levels alone, but take into account the security is a concern of communities and individuals. This led to the emergence of alternative security concepts such as ‘Societal Security’ and ‘Human Security’. Today, in the globalised world, where the ‘Global Systems’ are in vogue, the National Security is connected at two ends; on one hand it is interactive with the notion of Regional and Global Security and at the lower end it is connected with the security of groups and individuals. Thus, the concept of ‘Security’ encompasses a wide canvas ranging from military to political, economic, social, environmental and personal (read human) in its areas of interventions and from a single individual level to Global level in its scaling.

2.3. HUMAN SECURITY:

A State exists because the people of the State exist and they agree to form a State, governed as per their collective will. Unless the human as assets are protected, their aspirations are met and their freedom is ensured, a State cannot be expected to remain secure. It is the people who contribute immensely to the growth in terms of technology, economy, administration and governance as well as providing military might. Thus, the humans are useful to a State’s security and are permanent assets. Thus, protecting this human asset is important to ensure a State’s protection and abilities for growth and strength in the world order. Tadjbakhsh and Chenoy, in his “Human Security: Concepts and implications” given example that today, countries that have shown negative population growth and where the quantum of work force is depleting are facing problems of productivity. Realization of this fact has led to adding of human dimensions to National Security and Human Security has become an inseparable part of it. Thus, internationally, accepted that the National Security has undergone a change where the dimensions of State Centricism in external and governance aspects have been strongly supplemented by People Centralism.\[12\]

Security is the degree of protection against danger, damage, loss, and criminal activity. “Security” as a form of protection is structures and processes that provide or improve security as a condition. Human security is centric to the common masses, its focusing the protection of individuals. The important dimensions are to entail the well-being of individuals and respond to
ordinary people’s needs in dealing with sources of threats. Human security is not to only protect, but also empower the people and societies as a means of security.

The concept of human security stresses that people should be able to take care of themselves; all people should have the opportunity to meet their most essential needs and to earn their own living. This will set them free and help ensure that they can make a full contribution to their own development, their community’s development and their country’s development. After all human security is a critical ingredient of participatory development.

2.3.1. Concept of Human Security: In the emerging globalised world, there has been a paradigm shift in the context of National Security. The erstwhile context only related to security from the external military threats and that context has been termed as part of the Strategic Security. The gamut of strategic security also has important aspects of Cross Border Terrorism, the Narco-trafficking, Arms Smuggling, Cross Border Refugee problems and Economic Conflicts showered on any Nation-State that act as destabilizing factors. Thus, the earlier sort of National Security was essentially related to the ‘External Aspect’. These nuances in strategic security gamut are equally matched by threats to security from within and these are termed as “Non-Strategic Security” issues. Today, the Non-Strategic Security has assumed as much importance as Strategic Security. However, in the arena of Non-Strategic issues a Nation-State is the main and basic actor. Threats to Non-Strategic Security mainly emanate from Economic instability, Actions against the State by dissatisfied groups and threats to individuals. Major portion of the Non-Strategic Security thus leads to the consideration and involvement of Human Security issues. In this regard, Dr. Navniit Gandhi has stated that there is an inalienable relationship between National Security and Human Security and the latter must find due considerations in policy designs. [13] She makes it amply clear that the former is incomplete without the latter.

Some of the threats that undermine Human Security within and across the States are imbalanced growth of citizenry; ethnic conflicts within a State that also have collateral effects on other States, separatist movements based on political and religious ideologies that threaten to dismember a State, Criminal gangs – drug cartels (like those in Mexico) or arms smuggling (Afghan Taliban), Illegal immigrations that threaten demography (Bangladeshi Nationals immigrating to India or the Mexicans immigrating to the USA), illegal trade of strategic material (Nuclear, Chemical or Biological) and last but not the least, Natural and Human Induced disasters that take a heavy toll of individuals and large sections of the populace and threaten the very existence of the society and therefore, that of a Nation State. These reasons could be any within the ambit of human actions or outside it.

Jawaharlal Nehru, in his treatise the Discovery of India has explained the horrendous famine in Bengal where thousands of lives perished for lack of food. He called it “deaths with no
purpose, no logic and no necessity”; caused by sheer “incompetence of and callousness” of the society. \cite{14} He goes to explain the extinction of Indus Valley civilization, attributed to probable flooding of Indus River or to climatic changes, a result of the nature’s wrath. All these and many more are the threats to security of a Nation arising out of vulnerability of its population, and undoubtedly fall in the realm of Human Security.

Rothschild Emma, of the USA, had viewed National Security as a concept which comprises of actions of the society to assure its survival and realize its aspirations internationally. The Atlantic Charter mentions about security for a Nation, as for individual, embodies not only freedom from fear, but also the desire of a Nation to go about its usual business and life. \cite{15} Therefore, there is a requirement to view Human Security not only from a short-term perspective of military solutions, but from a long-term strategy of reducing physical, health, and education-related, legal, social and political insecurities. Thus, ensuring of Human Security actually leads to National Development.

2.3.2. The Genesis of Human Security: The concept of human security originated as part of Human development at UNDP. It was the first one to launch international document that articulated concept of Human security along with policies and action. The Roundtable which was held in Costa Rica anticipated clearly that the post cold war world needed “a new concept of global security,” This concept would be in lined with Defence and foreign policy changed from an almost exclusive concern with military security and broadened the aspect by extending attention to individual security. Individual security comprises of social violence, economic distress, and environmental degradation. According to global \textit{HDR}, the concept of security had always been viewed from single dimension of security of territory from external aggressions or as protection of National interests in foreign policy, or as global security from a nuclear holocaust. This approach was widened to cover multiple aspects to include the safety of individuals and groups from such threats as hunger, disease and political instability; and protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in patterns of daily life.

The concept of Human Security was recognized and supported by Oscar Arias, former president of Costa Rica and who was also winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. He also funded this concept through Global Demilitarization Fund. After 1994, the concept of human security became a fundamental theme of a number of governments through their foreign and defense policies.

2.3.3. An Understanding of Human Security: There is no single universal definition of Human Security nor are the values and conceptual views revered. Different States and institutions have defined it differently. \textit{UNDP}, in 1994, had developed a people-centered approach that encompassed seven components that were treated as inter-dependent and included economic, health, food, personal, environmental, community and political security. The UN agenda spelt out that Human Security is not restricted to individuals and community alone or is not the sole responsibility of a
State but is nuanced as part of a Global Responsibility and indicates, in fact, a sense of ‘Collective Security’. The last quarter of the 20th century had experienced global spurts in natural calamities – floods, droughts, earthquakes etc, all leading to major disruptions in many Nations, particularly the developing ones and eliciting global aid. This is one reason why the UN had declared the decade of 1990’s as the decade of Disaster Management and bore a direct relationship with Human Security having Global connectivity.

Human security is an emerging paradigm for understanding global vulnerabilities whose proponents to challenge the traditional notion of National Security. Human Security argues that the proper referent for security should be the individual rather than the State. Human security holds that a people-centered view of security is necessary for National, regional and global stability. The simplest definition of security is “absence of insecurity and threats”. To be secure is to be free from both fear (of physical, sexual or psychological abuse, violence, persecution, or death) Human security therefore deals with the capacity to identify the threats, to avoid them whenever possible, and to mitigate their effects when it occurs. It means helping victims cope with the consequences of the widespread insecurity.

Mishra Rajesh concludes his thoughts that, protecting the people is an important component of the State’s duties towards National Security. The overall responsibility towards Human Security rests with the State; however, contribution of each individual, social groups and organizations matters as much. The protection has to be given to the people by the State and the people have to use mechanism of protection within their control too. The components of Human Security include- Protection from disease, Social Security (against communal violence, political violence and discrimination etc), Removal of hunger (food security), Protection from Natural and Human induced disasters and Ensuring life of dignity, rising above the age, caste, creed, economic and gender biases.

Many scholars have articulated ‘Freedom from Want’ as one of the aspects of Human Security. This should be seen in correct light. Human wants are enormous; but, there is a threshold that defines minimum required needs to lead a healthy and secure life with dignity. The wants have to be viewed from this perspective and “Greed” has no place there. This aspect is already included in the components listed above and hence freedom from want is not articulated separately as a component.

The United Nations (UN), in their development programme in 1994 had adopted a theme that defined a wide range in its percepts of National Security as ‘from Nuclear Security to Human Security’ and also added the aspect of ‘Protection from sudden and hurtful disruption’. In 1995 the Secretary General of the UN called for a conceptual breakthrough going beyond the restricted view of armed and territorial security and including ‘the security of people in their homes, jobs and
communities’. The paper published by ‘Sahel and West Africa Club’, states “.... the protection of individuals is a strategic concern for National as well as international security; secondly, security conditions for people’s development are not bound to traditional matters of National Defence, law and order, but rather encompass all political, economic and social issues enabling a life free from risk and fear”. [18]

Nevertheless, it may be useful to have a more explicit definition. Human security can be said to have two main aspects. It means, first, safety from such chronic threats as hunger, disease and repression. And second, it means protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions like Natural or Manmade Disasters. Such threats can exist at all levels of National security and development.

2.4. CONCEPTUAL VIEW OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND HUMAN SECURITY WITH DISASTER MANAGEMENT:

The UN and other States gradually developed concepts in Human Security, as per their experiences and perceptions. The CHS States have a concept about threats to Human Security as ‘protection of people from critical, severe and pervasive threats and situations’. Government of Canada sees it as ‘people focused’ with aspects like armed conflicts, violence, human rights abuses and public insecurity. Government of Japan lays stress on physical and material well-being.

Debates on State-Centered Versus Human-Centered security issues reveal that State is the primary provider of security and that the Individuals as equal to the State in terms of Human Security. Secondly, it also brings out that the security value could be assessed in terms of the degree of Personal Safety, Individual’s Well-being and Freedom as obtainable within a State while the State continues to maintain sovereignty, power and territorial integrity. This indicates an external and internal connectivity of Human and National Security. The third dimension identifies threats to National security as violence, aggression and coercion from other States and non-State actors in a State-Centered arena while Human Security arena identifies Direct and Indirect threats to the State’s population in terms of death, drugs, dehumanization, discrimination, gendered violence, deprivation, disease and disruption by Natural Disasters along with environmental degradation, poverty, population displacement etc.

The above argument indicates a shift in the conceptual framework of Human Security as part of overall National Security. Analysis of various definitions indicates a convergence in the idea that human security is within, but not exclusively, the prerogative of a State and percolates down to individual security within the State with multiple actors in the society; of which the State is an important contributor. It also could be deduced that security of a State and that of its subjects have
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**Figure No:** 2.1 Depiction of ambit of National and Human Security.  
**Source:** Synthesized on research study.
interdependence. Human beings have therefore become a point of International and National interests and have become part of ‘Collective Security’.

When collectively analysed, the aspects of National Security and the position of Human Security within it can be represented by the diagram given subsequently. *(Pl See Figure No- 2.1)*

When the above depiction is taken into consideration it can be deduced that the collective responsibility of the international community (global member States) to act upon issues that relate to not only international peace and well being but seeps through the well being, safety and security and development of humans within each State. Whereas, the collective responsibility towards international human security interventions are undertaken by the global players, it is the individual State that has to concentrate on its external direct threats and also take appropriate measures for internal direct and indirect threats, to ensure overall stability and well being of the citizenry and communities as well as the individuals and has an inherent responsibility of ensuring that through their rightful actions it helps remove indirect threats to Human Security within the State. This means that the issue of Human Security needs to be included in the Policy agenda by every State and actionable and measurable strategies have to be worked out and spread through the entire length and breadth of the citizenry. While arguing the interventions of the stakeholders in terms of membership of ‘stake holding community’, Agency, Instruments and Obligations, *Shahrbanou Tadjbakhsh and Anuradha Chenoy* have given a table that attempts to identify the stakeholders ranging from individuals to the states. At the same time, the authors have identified objectives of Human Security in which ‘preparing for disasters’ has been mentioned as one objective amongst many. [19]

It thus accrues that the State and communities as well as individuals have direct responsibilities towards protection of themselves from any threats within. However, the primary and major responsibility is that of the State. The domestic responsibilities of the State with regard to Human Security can be further concluded as follows:-

i) The State has to ensure that such environment exists within the State that the threats to Human Security are prevented. Be it in the region of internal communal conflicts or prevention of diseases, guarantee against economic risks, and promotion of rights and allowing freedom to the citizenry or even threats to culture and dignity etc.; the State has a major role to play. The State has to play this role through policy-making, creation of institutions that would strategize the policies and implement them.

ii) The State has to create and foster within its parts such Mitigation mechanism that the failure of preventive regime could be kept within practical limits so that quick remedial actions could be effectively launched. This is the mechanism of damage control or absorption of shocks created by situations aimed at bringing down severity.
iii) The State has to prepare a mechanism for quick and adequate response by individuals, groups of communities, NGOs and State institutions by ensuring capacity building of all these stakeholders. It has to ensure that when a situation demands in case of failure of preventive regime, the response is actually effectively generated and maximum retrieval is affected. Speedier the response lesser would be the adverse impact.

iv) The State is expected to strategize and plan to restore normalcy at the earliest by working out recovery methods. Here, the State has to ensure that because of the ill-effects of the hazards the population does not migrate and has to help the population to rehabilitate.

One of the factors that lead to a state’s failure is the failure of its Human Security regime. USAID’s approach in determining fragility (also termed as Weakness) of states considers four dimensions of state function – economic development, governance, security and social development. Stewart Patrick, of George Mason University (USA) has published a State Fragility Index. \[20\] that indicates the past record of performance of many states and includes consideration of security and social development as factors and point towards Human Security as well. It is seen that the states that show the highest fragility are weak even in Human Security aspects. This leads to a deduction that, greater the threat to Human Security in a state, greater is the degree of State Failure. Physical, Economic and Socio-cultural factors of Human Security are the prime issues to ensure that the population is restful and does not create internal strife and divisions. As brought out earlier, Disasters affect Physical, Economic and Socio-cultural platform of the population and hence there is a need for connecting the Disasters with the aspects of Human Security. Humans are the most precious assets of a nation, particularly those who positively contribute to the state’s growth – doctors, engineers, scientists etc. Other sections of the community are also important as the nation cannot afford to have them turned into liabilities and increase the state’s vulnerability and burdens.

A.K.M. Abdus Sabur, in his chapter on ‘Evolving a Theoretical Perspective on Human Security’ states that the response and methods of all the actors ranging from the civil society, the governments, NGOs and the regional nations as well as the UN. He opines that Natural and Human induced disasters have to be taken care of to ensure Human Security. \[21\]

Sabina Alkire, in her article has identified threats to Human Security under three categories; firstly, the direct security threats like the wars or the threats arising out of communal violence; secondly, indirect or structural threats resulting from the actions by groups or systems or institutions and thirdly, covariant threats. \[22\]

One can adduce from the above categorization that the first category of threats have to be essentially prevented and mitigated by the State. In the second category, the indirect effects like threats emanating from efforts of development. These are rampant in the developing countries. One such
Figure No: 2.2 Linkages of Human Insecurity Factors.
Source: Synthesized on Research Study
example is of landslides occurring due to development activities like quarrying and blasting or may be nuclear power plant accidents. These are unintended threats causing harm to humans.

**Sabina Alkire** has defined ‘vital core’ concept, suggesting that these are the functions that offer a minimal or basic or fundamental set of status related to survival, livelihood and dignity. She argues that individual’s natural orientation towards survival is at the core. Weak states are the ones who are unable to protect their citizen. **Sabina** has clubbed road accidents as an intense insecurity for which the state and the community are responsible.

While taking into consideration of overall aspects and views on Security it is essential to have a special approach for Human Security. Therefore it is vital to have a different view on Human Security as it is a core part of overall Security.

Towards this end, one needs to view Human Security from the viewpoint of building up a respect for humans. This is then within the norms of a culture and a way of discipline and thus the Human Security must mean that all actors – institutional or individual – must ascertain that their actions do not threaten human security – own and others.

**Amitav Acharya, Subrat Kumar Singhdeo** and M. **Rajaretnam**, in their paper “**Human Security: From Concept to Practice - Case Studies from Northeast India and Orissa**” have detailed out the aspects of Human Security as it affected the State of Orissa in India. They have considered the factors like – the number of families (households) living below the poverty line, the number of people affected by diseases like malaria, number of deaths due to disasters, especially the natural calamities, number of deaths due to socio-cultural aspects like the dowry, cultural factors like the incidences of communal violence, development aspects like inaccessibility to safe drinking water and environmental aspects like depletion of forest cover. The authors had assigned a specific weightage by using the Principal Component Analysis (PCA) method for three time periods, i.e. the years 1998, 2002 and 2007. [23]

Opposite page is about pictorial representation of the connected factors of Human Insecurity. (Pl. see figure 2.2)

All the factors relate to the physical security subset of Human Security. It also appears from the study that these factors are inter-related in one way or the other. For example, the depletion of forest cover has a direct impact on employment and results into poverty.

The poverty affects living standards and hence the self-preservation is impacted. Poverty also has an impact on education and hence the level of awareness and the degree of tolerance in this pluralistic world. The low tolerance and pluralism has an effect on communal harmony. The low education also results into continuance of ill-practices like dowry. The poor living standards and the lack of awareness contribute towards greater vulnerability and risk during the episodes of Natural Disasters. Orissa has a past history of frequent cyclones and flooding. If the class of victims is
analysed, it is evident that maximum deaths and destruction has been experienced in the communities that were economically challenged and with other factors inherently contributing to the intensity of affliction. In the study, one aspect distinctly stands out; and that is of poor governance. This amplifies the responsibility of a State towards Human Security in terms of reducing probability of occurrence of an incidence, mitigation measures for risk reduction in case the incidents are beyond a State’s control and ability to protect the population from becoming victim. Not only the natural disasters, but human interventions also affect Human Security at individual and collective levels and the State is unable to prevent or mitigate these afflictions. Inadequacy of protective measures leads to greater vulnerability of the people. This, in turn, affects the economy and growth and sets back the National progress by a few decades. A developed State has distinct identities in terms of provision of goods and services, expected out of the governance, to reach every citizen and at the same time each individual, group and the community is aware about the utilization of these goods and services for own and collective good. Both these streams are interdependent and cannot be strengthened in isolation. Thus, the elements of development have to be collectively addressed by every State and the individual members of the community have to feel equally responsible and involved in it.

The communal Violence, acts of terrorism or even political violence are declarative of an uncivilized society and weak conditions of a State’s governance. Sudan had more than 2000 deaths on account of political violence in 2002 and 2003each. [24] Terrorism is taking a huge toll of humans and unbalancing many States. The Arab Spring or the recent actions of the ISIS to capture Iraq through a terror war are stark examples of such violence. The entire global peace appears to get disturbed, sucking into its wake many Nations. The Indian Express, 19 June 2013 had given news that the disaster that struck Kedar Nath valley of India in June 2013 is a glaring example of human negligence that was abetted by the nature’s fury. [25] It also speaks loud about the indifference in governance towards prevention and mitigation measures and a case of man’s greed that places communities on the verge of dangers. Landslide that occurred at Malin village of Ambegaon Tehsil of Pune District of Maharashtra is a recent example of how callous planning of development led to deaths of hundreds of people and uprooted a small village. [26] Amongst the major losses, the ones caused by Tsunami of December 2004, the Earthquake in Bhuj (Gujarat, India) in 2001 and the one in Latur (Maharashtra, India) in 1993 stand toll as the episodes of intense loss and destruction. In Latur, on 30th September 1993 an earthquake of 6.4 magnitudes on the Richter scale killed 30000 people. [27] During the Bhuj earthquake more than 20000 people lost their lives and many RCC buildings collapsed in Ahmadabad. [28] Both these have been the cases where the State’s ill-preparedness, inadequacy and inability to enforce laws and so also the ill-preparedness of the community were exposed. Human induced disasters have greater responsibility on individual or group
actions, undertaken callously and without considerations towards likely adverse effects on self and others. Some disasters like the road accidents results into small one-time losses of life. However, the sheer frequency over an annual count indicates deaths and injuries that outnumber similar effects shown by intense natural calamities. When more than 1.35 Lac lives are lost every year in India, a decadal loss surpasses any loss of life resulting from any other disaster. This is a huge indicator of Human Insecurity. India is very badly affected by Road Accidents and the State of Maharashtra leads the numbers. Improved road conditions and high end performance of vehicles has actually contributed to greater insecurities. Most of the road accidents have been attributed to human error. This is a case where the State has some intervention to offer; however, the major interventions are individualistic in nature and relate to attitudes, sense of responsibility, a matter of discipline and the emotion of thrill or a sense of power generated by speed of movement.

2.5 CONCLUSION:

If we consider death of the only bread earner in a family attributable to road accidents, the social and economic impact on the dependent family members is huge. Many eminent personalities have died in road accidents, the latest being the death of Shri. Gopinathji Munde, that resulted in National loss. Americans had lost General George Patton in a road accident. Princess of Wales, Dina Palmer’s death in a road accident caused a lot of political flutter. All these could have been avoided. Since Human Security is closely linked up with the National Security, loss of valuable human assets results into a great loss to the Nation. So the aspect of physical loss needs to be related to its causes and, Road Accidents figure much higher in the realm of avoidable disasters, as a major cause of insecurity in India and Maharashtra. The risk reduction attributed to Road Accidents, becomes a priority issue for India and needs to be seen holistically from the perspective of Policy-formulation. Quality of roads enhance safety, the Warning Systems, other preventive and structural and non-structural mitigation measures of the human factors (Awareness, Discipline, Sense of Responsibility and Skills) and creation of response structures as well as procedures, suitably linked to the legal regimes, would be critical aspects of Disaster management and, consequently, the Human Security. It is worth to summarize the State’s share of responsibilities towards prevention, mitigation and response to Natural Disasters is very high while the individual responsibilities are restricted to personal risk reduction through right awareness and knowledge and application of these and are moderate. However, in terms of ‘Human-induced’ disasters, the onus on individual and groups towards prevention and mitigation is extremely high and that of the State is moderate. Road Accidents form part of this canvas where the individual responsibilities and interventions are required to be very high in bringing down the National level losses that have been affecting India and particularly the State of Maharashtra. It is then an imperative that the community takes up this cause and together we build a safer India.
FOOTNOTES:


26 “Landslide near Bhimashankar in Malin Village”, Times Of India, 02 August 2014.

