

Prosperity of Nepal Vs Security Forces of Nepal: Virgin Field of the Study

Narendra Raj Paudel, PhD

Lecturer, Public Administration Campus,
Tribhuvan University
Email: narendrarptu@gmail.com

Srijana Pahari

Faculty Member
Greenfield National College, Kathmandu, Nepal
Email: paharisrijana@gmail.com

Abstract

We analyze the prosperity of Nepal in relation to security forces of Nepal. The main argument discussed in this article is competent and committed security forces of Nepal contribute to foster and promote prosperity of Nepal. The prosperity of Nepal means the safeguarding sovereignty, territorial integrity, nationality, unity in diversity and maintaining law and order situation in the country. This can be achieved through development of security personnel, formulation of good policies which guides security forces and cultivation of favourable environment in the country. However, there are risk factors associated with this venture if not working properly.

Key Words: Prosperity, security forces, policies, human resource development, management

Introduction

Security has been becoming very crucial aspect for the prosperity of any country. It is assumed that security has pivotal role for the development of the country. It means that less security of the country would result less development and more security more development. Therefore, state invests their huge resources for the security forces to breed favorable environment in order to achieve prosperity of the state. Thus invested huge resource would be productive when the state achieves its prosperity. In the mean time, question is raised, how? There could be hundreds of modality. The modality is framed state-wise. Basically, policy makers set the modality. It depends on the ways of decisions are taken by the policy maker. How the security forces are mobilized? How efforts of security forces are linked to the prosperity of the country? Therefore, it would be pertinent to define prosperity of the particular state and mobilization of its security forces. In this context, we take this opportunity to define the prosperity of Nepal and the roles assumed to play by the Nepalese security forces. We also elucidate the relationship between prosperity of Nepal and the security forces of Nepal.

Methods of the Study

This study is basically based on exploratory research design based on policy documents. It focuses its analysis on the contents explained in its national documents which include the Constitution of Nepal, 2072, Nepal Army Act, 2063 and its Regulation, 2069, Armed Police Force Act, 2058 and its Regulation 2072, Nepal Police Act, 2012 and its Regulation 2071 including periodic plan of Nepal. Two factors- prosperity of Nepal and security forces of Nepal are identified from the policy documents. The prosperity of Nepal is defined from constitution and periodic plan whereas security forces are from their policy documents and the constitution.

Prosperity of Nepal

Our assumption is that Government of Nepal forms competent and committed security forces which are full of required knowledge, skills and attitude. They collectively act to maintain peace and security in Nepal. They safeguard life and property of Nepalese people. Nepalese people can move freely because of security. Nepalese are free from internal and external security threats and challenges. In fact, it is too abstract to define prosperity of the country. Eastern philosophy explains prosperity as all are happy, all are survived with peace and dignity and no one gets any pain and hurt. There should be peace in earth, cosmos, plant, sun, and other. Thus, peace building is main concern along with happiness. Prosperity can be measured from two angles- materialistic and non-materialistic. Materialistic refers to economically sound and full of physical substances whereas non materialistic is about social and individual values, norms, belief, and peace. In case of materialistic life, World Bank define the state which has less than US\$1005 per capita income is low income country, US\$ 1006 to 3955 middle-income country and US\$ 3956 to 12235 high middle-level income and more than US\$ 12236 a high income country. Likewise,

United Nations is also categorized nations on the basis of their per capita income and other social indicators as least developing country, developing country and developed country. On the basis of above categories, Nepal remains in low income and least developed country category.

Constitution of Nepal 2015 assumes that sovereign right is vested on Nepalese people. It also provides right to autonomy and self-rule. People can enjoy freedom in free and fair manner. There must be territorial integrity along with national unity. Nepal would end all forms of discriminations and oppression protecting and promoting social and cultural solidarity, tolerance and harmony. Nepal shall have unity in diversity. Nepalese state policy will be based on socialism oriented economy. The constitution explains national interest in its article 5. This is obligatory to each Nepali and actors for safeguarding of the freedom, sovereignty, territorial integrity, nationality, independence and dignity of Nepal, the right of the Nepalese people, border security, economic wellbeing and prosperity. Whoever and whatever the actors, they have to act their activities under this umbrella of the national interest. No one can go beyond this national interest.

The constitutions also explain following four objectives to achieve through the state mechanism. These objectives also signify the prosperity of Nepal. Our efforts should focus to achieve following objectives. First, the political objectives include welfare system of governance, rule of law, safeguarding human right, gender equality, proportional inclusion and social justice. Second, the social and cultural objectives shall be to build a civilized and egalitarian society by eliminating all forms of discrimination, exploitation and injustice. Third, the economic objective of the state shall be to achieve a sustainable economic development while achieving rapid economic growth by way of maximum mobilization of the available means and resources. Likewise, the fourth objective is their international relations which refers to enhance the dignity of the nation in the world community by maintaining international relations on the basis of sovereign equality while safeguarding the freedom, sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence and national interest of Nepal. To achieve these objectives, the constitution also directed more than one dozens of policies in its article 51.

Besides, the constitution is advocated rights based approach of prosperity of the country. There is separate part for the fundamental rights that have to protect, promote and safeguard by each individuals and state mechanism. Seven fundamental rights were guaranteed in constitution 1951, economic and social rights in the constitution 1959, 22 rights in the constitution 1990, 21 rights in the constitution 2006, and 31 rights in the constitution 2015. Thus, the constitution of Nepal refers safeguarding sovereignty, respect of fundamental rights, national unity within diversity, socialism oriented economy, balanced international relations and achieving national interest etc as the prosperity of Nepal. In the same manner, the periodic plan of Nepal explains prosperity of Nepal more concretely with quantitative indicators. According to this periodic plan, independent, prosperous and socialism oriented economy is main mission of Nepal. Nepal will enter into middle level income country through welfare and social justice country. There would be productive employment oriented, just redistributive oriented high economic growth to eliminate poverty in the country. The main indicators of the periodic plan are as follows.

Table 1: Indicators of Prosperity of Nepal

Indicators	As of 2015/16	2018/019
Average economic growth rate	0.8	7.2
Agricultural sector's growth rate	1.3	4.7
Non agricultural sector's growth rate	0.6	8.4
Money inflation	9.5	7.5
Per capita income(In Rs in,000)	79.4	116.5
People living below poverty line	21.6	17
Human Development Index(HDI)	0.54	0.57
Gender Empowerment Index(GEI)	0.56	0.58
Life expectancy	69	72
Drinking water supply (%)	83.6	90
Admission rate in secondary school	37.7	45
Literacy rate(15-24 yrs)	88.6	92
Electricity generation(MW)	851	2301
Access to electricity (%)	74	87

Irrigation(in Hector Lakh)	13.9	15.2
Internet access	44.4	65

Source: Periodic Plan (2015-2018)

The present periodic plan explains the prosperity of Nepal to achieve by the end of 2018. The country should achieve 7.2 percent of economic growth, USD 1165 per capita income, reducing poverty rate from 21 to 17 percent, 92 percent of literacy rate, 72 years of life expectancy, 2301 MW electricity generation and 87 percent accessibility of electricity etc. When we achieve these indicators by 2018, we will claim we are moving towards prosperity of Nepal. Nepal is a signatory part of global forum of Post sustainable development goals (SDGs). There are 17 goals that should be achieved by Government of Nepal. SDGs refers to ending poverty, ensuring healthy life and equal and quality education, achieving gender equality, making sure of healthy drinking water and sanitation, achieving sustained economic growth, combating with climate change etc. (NPC, 2015). Thus, the prosperity of Nepal refers to implementation of existing periodic plan and achievements of SDGs though abiding present constitution of Nepal. It means socialism oriented and sustained economic growth which reduces poverty from the country, peace and welfare, and respect of human rights through maintaining national unity within the diversity of the country under the umbrella of national interest fixed in the constitution of Nepal.

Security Forces in Nepal

Management of security personnel in Nepal: Human resource development in Nepal Army is managed by Nepal Army Act, 2063 and its Regulation 2069, Armed Police Force, Nepal by Armed Police Force Act, 2058 and its Regulation, 2072 and Nepal Police by Nepal Police Act, 2012 and its Regulation 2071. In Nepal Army, there are about 91 thousand soldiers, 37 thousands (approx) in Armed Police Force, Nepal and 69 thousands (approximately) in Nepal Police. Altogether, about 200 thousands securities personnel excluding intelligence police are serving to the nation. There is huge resource invested for the sake of national prosperity of the country (Racovita, 2018). To manage these human resources, Public Service Commission conducts their examination to ensure merit-based selection. Hundreds percent followers and soldiers in each security forces are recruited through open competition. In case of Nepal Army, 100 percent Pyuthe to Subedar are filled through promotion. There are 30 percent seats allocated for internal competition for those who are already in the Nepal Army service and rest 70 percent for open for the second lieutenant. Positions above than second lieutenants are fulfilled through promotion. In case of Nepal Police, Assistant sub-inspector is fulfilled through both open and promotion competition. The ratio is 40:60 percent. The officer, Inspector is also fulfilled through both open and promotion competition. Sixty percent of total vacant seats are allocated for open competition and rest of 40 per cent for promotion. Positions above than Inspectors are fulfilled through promotion. The same trend is also employed for Armed Police Force, Nepal except Assistant Sub-Inspector. Sixty percent seats are allocated for open and rest 40 percent for promotion competition. To maintain inclusive security forces of Nepal, quota system is adopted. Among total vacant seats, the 45 percent seats are allocated for inclusive category and 55 percent for open category. Assuming 45 percent seats as a 100 percent, 20 percent seats are reserved only for women, 32 percent for ethnic community, 28 percent for Madhesi, 15 percent for Dalits and 5 percent for backward areas of Nepal.

Separate syllabus is prepared for each category for recruiting security personnel. The assumption is qualified security personnel work efficiently and effectively in the security agencies of Nepal. To promote from one position to immediate higher position, training, performance evaluation, medal, and seniority are major ingredients taken into consideration. Thus, these factors make sure of qualified security personnel working in our security forces. To hunt best qualified candidate in security forces, Nepal Army has conducted Master's in Strategic Studies (MSS) in Shivapuri, Post Graduate Diploma in Police Science (PGDPS) and Master of Police Science (MPS) in Maharajganj by Nepal Police and Masters in Security, Development and Peace Studies (MSDPS) in Sanogaucharan, Kathmandu by Armed Police Force, Nepal. All these programs are affiliated to Tribhuvan University of Nepal. To motivate security personnel in Nepal, there are provisions of both monetary and non-monetary incentives provided through their respective regulations. Salary, insurance, provident funds, pay leaves etc include monetary incentives whereas leaves, medals, trainings etc are non-monetary incentives (Paudel & Pahari, 2018). Thus, the security management policies of Nepal envisioned qualified security personnel can be instrumental to achieve institutional goals which eventually lead towards prosperity of the country. These

policies are based on merit based recruitment and promotion, higher study opportunities, inclusive security forces based on Nepal's demographic situation.

Guiding polices of security forces in Nepal: As per this constitution of Nepal, Nepal shall have four security forces viz. Nepal Army, Armed Police Force, Nepal, Nepal Police and Nepal Investigative Department. The constitution also provisions for state police and municipality and rural municipality police. As per article 266, all security forces will be monitored and mobilized under the policy set by National Security Council. The Council is set for making recommendation to GoN, Council for Minister for formulation of a policy on overall national interest, security and defence of Nepal and for the mobilization and control of the Nepal Army. In this council, prime minister will be chairperson and ministers of Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Chief-Secretary of GoN and Commander-in-chief of Nepal Army as members. In this council, Secretary at the Ministry of Defence shall act as the member secretary. The article 267 is focused for Nepal Army and article 268 for Nepal Police, Armed Police Force, Nepal and National Investigation Department. These all security forces will be mobilized as per laws of Nepal. The Nepal Army shall be established for the protection and Defence of the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of the state of Nepal (Military Act, 2063). Likewise, Nepal Police is a capable instrument for preventing and investigating crime and maintaining law and order (Nepal Police Act, 2012). Similarly, Armed Police Force, Nepal is established and operated for the protection of life, property and liberty of the people by maintaining peace and order in Nepal (Armed Police Force Act, 2058). Finally, Nepal Investigation Police is set to collect, analyze and disseminate information on Nepal's freedom, sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence, dignity, unity, interests and those against social cohesion. As per this constitution, the guiding policy of security agencies is policies relating to national unity and national security of article 51(a).

- To keep intact the national unity while protecting the freedom, sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Nepal;
- To promote the national unity while developing mutual cooperative relationship between the Federal Units by maintaining mutual cohesion, harmony and solidarity between various castes, tribes, religions, languages, cultures and communities;
- To maintain law and order by developing a national security system
- To guarantee the overall human security system;
- To make all security organs, including the Nepal Army, Nepal Police and Armed Police Force Nepal, competent, strong, professional, inclusive and accountable to the people, on the basis of national security policies;
- To make and keep the citizens ready and competent to serve the nation as and when necessary;
- To make proper use, in nations' interest of the knowledge, skills and experiences of former public employees including former employees, military and police.

As per National Security Policy, 2073 the roles and responsibilities of security forces are grouped categorically. The main task of the Nepal Army is to defend Nepal's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity from external infiltration and aggressions and to be ready for defending the border security. The main security role of the Nepal Army will be to face the challenges in case of serious threats to national security. In addition to war, Nepal army has to assist in maintaining internal security, combat with terrorism, foster developmental activities, safeguard vital specified places, maintain cordial relations with government and other security agencies develop relations with other neighbour countries etc. Likewise, Nepal Police is designed for maintaining internal law and order situation in the country. Nepal police needs to get cooperation and support from the public by maintaining law and order and internal security in the country thereby assuring people of their security; take preventive actions against disturbance likely to occur in any part of the country; collect, analyze and flow information relating to laws and order; formulate a long-term plan for development of credible and capable organization to assure people of security by maintaining internal peace and security; provide security to VVIPs and VIPs; control, prevent and investigate all types of criminal activities; expand relationship with government and non-governmental organization; manage transportation system of the country etc. Similarly, Armed Police Force, Nepal is a police force of paramilitary nature which has to support for Nepal Army and Nepal Police in demand. Armed Police Force, Nepal has to fulfill responsibilities such as controlling against unlawful activities; protection of Nepal's border; providing security to industrial sectors;

mobilizing to control kidnapping, looting, organized crime or serious type of law and order problem aroused or likely to arise etc.

Working environment of security forces: Security forces have to work with the close connection with government of Nepal. The main source of authority is government. Government has right to give direction, control and supervision of these security forces. We do not assume these forces go beyond the government permission. It depends on how government cultivates the working environment. In addition, the people, non-governmental organization, national geographic situation, religious, social values and norms etc. determine the working environment of security forces. Thus, it can be said that working environment also determine the level of performance of security forces directly and indirectly.

Interrelationship between Prosperity of Nepal and Security Forces of Nepal

Prosperity of Nepal is main concern of Nepal. To achieve prosperity of Nepal, there are hundreds of efforts carried out by Nepal. The role of security forces is one of among them. Therefore, we are going to find out dynamic relationship between prosperity of Nepal and security forces of Nepal. For the sake of analysis, the prosperity of Nepal is examined in two dimensions. The first is low which means Nepal does not able to achieve goals which are explained through its policies documents. Second is high which refers to the goal achievement prescribed in its policy documents.

The security forces of Nepal are analyzed from three dimensions. The first one is human resource development. Despite of many efforts measures, there could be two types of human resources working in security forces- unskilled and skilled. Unskilled human resource includes security personnel who do not learned knowledge, skill and attitude despite of many training and other measure for their upliftment. Skilled human resource refers to those competent security personnel they are full of knowledge, skill and attitude. Security personnel learn required knowledge, skill and attitude from training, education and culture of security forces. The second dimension is about guiding policies. These also could be two types- bad and good. The bad for study purpose means that the policies cannot be materialized despite of many efforts whereas good policies refers to each activities of security forces connected through policies so that security forces are functioning smoothly. The third dimension of security forces is its working environment. The working environment is also examined from two angles- unfavorable and favorable. Unfavorable environment means there could be conflict between government and security forces regarding to the policies execution. Government may not able to prescribe policies, guidelines and instruction as and when required. Citizens would remain indifference with security forces. NGOs and other religious organization would criticize the activities of security forces. The favorable environment means government and citizens are working together with security forces. Government enables security forces through resource and policies. Citizens, NGOs and other organizations support the programs launched by security forces for the sake of sovereignty, national integrity, and achieving national interest and territorial integrity.

Table 2: Interrelationship between Prosperity of Nepal and Security Forces of Nepal

Parameters		Security Forces of Nepal					
		Human resource development		Guiding Policies		Environment	
		Unskilled	Skilled	Bad	Good	Unfavorable	Favorable
Prosperity of Nepal (PoN)	Low	Negative indicators of PoN	Not linked to PoN	Negative indicators of PoN	Not linked to PoN	Negative indicators of PoN	Not linked to PoN
	High	No effect of HR to PoN	Positive signs of PoN	No effect of security policy to PoN	Positive signs of PoN	No effect of environment to PoN	Positive signs of PoN

While analyzing interrelationship between prosperity of Nepal and human resource development situation of security forces, it would result following four conditions.

- When there would be skilled human resource in security forces and high degree of prosperity of Nepal, the result would produce positive symptoms of prosperity. The skilled human resources contribute to safeguard sovereignty, territorial integrity, national pride, peace and security in the country more economically and efficiently. In addition, security forces would set programs and action-plan and work as per national interest as described in the constitution of Nepal.

- When there is unskilled human resources developed in security forces and the prosperity of Nepal remains low degree, there would be negative indicators observed in the country. There might be threats to the safeguarding sovereignty, law and order situation of the country and law enforcement.
- When there is high degree of prosperity of Nepal achieved even if unskilled human resource developed in security forces, there would be no effect of human resource development in security forces for prosperity of Nepal. It signifies the resources invested in the security forces would remain worthless.
- When there is low degree of prosperity of Nepal even though there is skilled human resources developed in security forces, there would be no linked between program of prosperous Nepal and activities carried out by security forces.

Similarly, while analyzing relationship between prosperity of Nepal and guiding policies of security forces, it would result four situations.

- When there is good policies prescribed government of Nepal and executed by security forces and high degree of prosperity of Nepal is achieved, there would result positive indicators of prosperity of Nepal. Nepali people remain optimistic for future. Our national interest would be even stronger and Nepal would remain unity within the diversity.
- When there are bad policies which governed security forces and low degree of prosperity of Nepal is achieved, there could be negative symptoms of prosperity of Nepal. It might result chaos within security forces which hamper to promote and foster national interest.
- When there is high degree of prosperity of Nepal even if bad policies are operated to guide security forces, it might result no effects of security forces for the sake of prosperity of the country. Therefore, it demands to be cautious while formulating security forces policies.
- When there is low degree of prosperity of Nepal eventhough there is good polices executed to govern security forces in the country, it shows no linked between security forces and prosperity of Nepal. Therefore, it indicates both prosperity of the country and security forces are working in isolation.

While prosperity of Nepal and its environment are taken into consideration for their interrelationship analysis, there would also result four conditions.

- When there is high degree of prosperity of Nepal and favourable environment, Nepal would shows stronger indicators of prosperous Nepal. Nepali citizen would be optimistic and gives continuous support to security forces and government. It makes easy to implement policies on safeguarding sovereignty, territorial integrity, national unity and achieving national interest.
- When there is low degree of prosperous Nepal and unfavorable environment for security forces, negative symptoms of prosperity would appear before citizens. There might be difficult to implement the policies by the government as well as security forces. Ultimately, it might affect prosperity of Nepal.
- When there is high degree of prosperity of Nepal even if there is unfavorable environment for security forces, there might be no effect of its environment. The working environment of security forces and prosperity of Nepal are working in isolation. Therefore, there should be close connection between them otherwise it might result negative implications for the prosperity of the country.
- When there is low degree of prosperity of Nepal even though there is favourable environment for security forces, there may not be linked between the environment of security forces and prosperity of Nepal. It shows favourable environment of security forces might not contribute to prosperity of Nepal. It means safeguarding sovereignty, territorial integrity, nationality and unity within diversity might not achieve from security forces.

Conclusion

The analysis of prosperity of Nepal and security forces shows that both topics should go parallel. In the absence of prosperity of Nepal, the role played by security forces remains worthless though security forces are constituted only for prosperous Nepal. As per constitution, security forces are solely responsible for the sake of safeguarding sovereignty, independence and nationality, maintaining peace and security in the country, free from external aggression and terrorism and collectively achieving national interest. The above analysis shows that skilled human resources, good policies of security forces and creation of favourable environment would result the prosperity of the country. The investment on

security forces contributes for the prosperity of country. Achievement of these constitutional provisions by security forces are prosperity of Nepal. Despite of these positive indications, there might be risk factors associated if security agency could not work in close connection with government and people of Nepal. To minimize these risk factors as explain above grid, our security agencies would be more alter for the sake of development of skilled security personnel, formulation of good policies that linked to prosperity of Nepal and its execution and creation of favourable environment in Nepal. To materialize this topics more concretely, there needs more research. Therefore, this is very virgin areas for the sake of study.

References

- GoN. (2012). *Nepal Police Act, 2012*. Kathmandu: Ministry of Home Affairs.
- GoN. (2058). *Armed Police Force, Nepal Act, 2058*. Kathmandu: Ministry of Home Affairs.
- GoN (2063) *Nepal Army Act, 2063*. Kathmandu: Ministry of Defence.
- GoN. (2069). *Nepal Army Regulation 2069*. Kathmandu: Ministry of Defence.
- GoN. (2071). *Nepal Police Regulation, 2071*. Kathmandu: Ministry of Home Affairs.
- GoN. (2072). *Armed Police Force, Nepal Regulation, 2072*. Kathmandu: Ministry of Home Affairs.
- GoN. (2072). *Periodic Plan (2015-2018)*. Kathmandu: National Planning Commission.
- GoN. (2072). *The Constitution of Nepal*. Kathmandu: Law Books Management Board.
- GoN/MOD. (2016). *National Security Policy 2016*. Kathmandu: Government of Nepal, Ministry of Defence.
- NPC. (2015). *Sustainable development goals (2016-2030)*. Kathmandu: National Planning Commission.
- Paudel, N. R., & Pahari, S. (2018). Personnel management in Armed Police Force, Nepal. *Journal of APF Command and Staff College*, 1(1), 20-30.
- Racovita, M. (2018). *Women in state security provision in Nepal: Meaningful participation?*. Genva: Small Armed Survey.