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ABSTRACT

The inception and conduct of insurgency movements in Nepal and Sri Lanka along with the government approaches to counter those movements have some significant differences between them. The Maoist insurgency movement of Nepal that lasted for ten years finally came to a negotiated political settlement by signing a CPA between the government and the Maoist in the year 2006 AD. On the other hand the Sri Lankan government's repeated attempts towards reaching a peaceful negotiated settlements of the armed conflict did not materialize to bring the secessionist movement to an end and Sri Lanka's military finally defeated LTTE in May 2009.

The research has attempted to carry out a comparative study of the different aspects of the protracted nature of insurgency of these two South Asian countries alongside various other relevant factors that had a bearing on the selection of an appropriate approach to counter the insurgency. Attempts have been made to verify the data collected from different sources with the primary data gathered by means of email interviews, questionnaires and focused group discussion.

The general accepted principle of defeating the insurgency is primarily through political means or primacy of politics over military. However, analyzing the nature, prevailing strength and ultimate aim of insurgencies, the research has found out that favorable geopolitical situation, supportive domestic political environment, the assurance of required scope of the support to government by the regional and international friendly countries are some of the important factors on the basis of which, respective governments decide on the selection of political heavy approach or military focused approach to counter the insurgencies.