EMPOWERMENT OF INDONESIAN MILITARY RESERVE COMPONENT IN FACING THE PANDEMIC THREAT OF COVID-19

Akhiyar Meideri¹, Syaiful Anwar²
Indonesia Defense University
IPSC Area, Sentul, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia 16810
akhiyarmeideri3@gmail.com¹, morolawe7760@yahoo.com.au²

Article Info

Article history:
Received : December 14, 2020
Revised : March 26, 2021
Accepted : August 15, 2021

Keywords:
Components,
COVID-19,
Defense,
Empowerment,
Pandemic,
Reserve Component

Abstract

Reserve Components are National Resources that have been prepared to be mobilized to enlarge and strengthen the capabilities of the Main Components and Supporting Components. The theory used in this research is the theory of national defense, threat theory, and empowerment. The COVID-19 pandemic is a global health crisis problem that not only affecting the population health sector but also security. The decline in living conditions and people's welfare then also affects the security sector where there is an increase in the number of criminal acts that can threaten public security and order in Indonesia. Therefore, this study aims to find out how the government will empower the reserve components to help protect the country's sovereignty, maintain state security when the COVID-19 pandemic occurs and what steps have been taken by the Indonesian government. The result shows that the Indonesian Military Reserve Component including empowering Indonesian citizens that are implemented by participating and complying with various policies made by the government to reduce the spread of the virus, by implementing health protocols, online learning, enforcing lockdowns, and conducting social distancing. Meanwhile, the government also empowers the national facilities and infrastructure in controlling the COVID-19 virus, one of which is by improving the function of hospital services, cooperate with the mass media to spread information for the people. The government also use information technology to give health service for Indonesian to provide accurate information about COVID-19.

INTRODUCTION

At present, almost all countries are facing a comprehensive threat, the emergence of the COVID-19 virus. At the beginning of 2020, there was an incidence of severe infection that happened first in Wuhan, China. The
infection was then spreading to countries all over the world where the cause was still unknown which then World Health Organization (WHO) described it as a COVID-19 pandemic (World Health Organization, 2018).

This pandemic has very significant impacts on people. Apart from the large number of cases and patients who died as a result of COVID-19, all affected sectors need adaptation or changes that are not easy to do (Wiswayana & Pinatih, 2020). The Indonesian government has declared the Corona Virus or COVID-19 outbreak a national disaster since March 14, 2020, which was announced by the President through the Head of the National Disaster Management Agency based on Law Number 24 the Year 2007. As in Indonesia, the COVID-19 case, which first broke out in March 2020, where until now, through the news reported by several news media on the development of the COVID-19 case in Indonesia, there were an additional 4,265 cases so that on November 18, 2020, Indonesia's COVID-19 cases had reached 478,72 cases (Kompas, 2020).

As of July 20, 2021, the total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the world were 190,743,225 cases with 4,099,018 deaths (Case Fatality Rate or CFR is 2.2%) in 204 infected countries and 151 community transmission countries. As of July 20, 2021, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has reported 2,950,058 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 76,200 deaths (CFR 2.6%) related to COVID-19 have been reported and v patients have recovered from the disease (Kemenkes RI, 2021). Meanwhile, previously, before the COVID-19 pandemic emerged, Indonesia had faced several infectious disease outbreaks that had become serious threats, namely SARS (2002), Avian Flu (2005), Swine Flu (2009), and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus or MERS-CoV (Kemenkes RI, 2018).

The pressure on the government to immediately take strategic steps to protect the Indonesian people in general and medical personnel in particular from the ferocity of the Corona Virus or COVID-19 pandemic continues. The empowerment of Indonesian citizens in facing the COVID-19 pandemic if viewed from an environmental perspective with a policy of limiting activities. All affected countries including Indonesia must be able to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic optimally by using all existing country reserved components effectively and efficiently. Therefore, the Indonesian government must develop a strategy that relies on the use of state components, reserve component, technological capabilities, and total defense. Reserve Components are National Resources that have been prepared to be deployed through mobilization to enlarge and strengthen the strengths and capabilities of the Main Components (Kementerian Pertahanan, 2015).

The COVID-19 pandemic, which is a problem of the global health crisis, has not only affected the population health sector but also security, education, employment, economy, travel, and so on (Siahaan, 2020). The security problems that have arisen as a result of this pandemic certainly require serious handling. According to the perspective of the national security object (Supriyatno, 2014), a proper defense strategy is needed to overcome it. Defense is one dimension of national security, apart from other dimensions. This is because when viewed from the concept of national security from a domain perspective, namely paying attention to the scope of national security which includes defense from internal or external parties, security from domestic or internal parties, public order, and ways of handling disasters that occur. In addition, the definition of national security as quoted by Supriyatno in President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's speech explained that the understanding of security departs from a holistic conception of national goals. They tend to understand it by first formulating what is believed to be the national interest.

This COVID-19 pandemic has been
declared as a national disaster, this is also confirmed by the President of the Republic of Indonesia who issued Presidential Decree Number 12 of 2020 concerning the Determination of Non-Natural Disasters for the Spread of COVID-19. With the issuance of this presidential decree, it can be ascertained that the COVID-19 pandemic is one of the real non-military threats which thus requires special handling based on Law Number 23 of 2019 (Sari et al., 2020). Regulation of the Minister of Defense Number 19 of 2015 concerning the implementation of the 2015-2019 National Defense Policy explains that national defense is one of the government functions carried out by the State defense system. In the life of the state, the defense system is the main element in ensuring the existentialism of the country. A country that is unable to defend itself from various threats, whether real or unreal, that comes from the domestic environment or the external environment shows that the country has failed to maintain its existence (Indrawan & Efriza, 2018).

A national defense system that has a whole or universal character by including all residents, regions, national resources, infrastructure, facilities, and infrastructure which is implemented in a comprehensive, integrated, directed, and sustainable manner, hereinafter referred to as the reserve component. Empowerment of reserve components is very much needed, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic to face various threats that can affect the defense of a country physically and non-physically, including military, non-military, or combined threats which in general represent real and unreal threats. The basis for the Implementation of State Defense is as follows (Kementerian Pertahanan, 2015):

1. The juridical basis, namely Law Number 3 of 2002 concerning State Defense which explains that national defense is carried out through the development and fostering of the nation and state and overcoming various threats that come.

2. The conceptual basis, which explains that a threat is any business and activity that is deemed to hurt the sovereignty and security of the country's territory, as well as the safety of the community. Threats are the main substances that must be considered in preparing the design of the national defense system, both for those that have the potential to occur (potential) or those that have already occurred (actual).

3. The historical basis, one of the non-military threats is the health dimension which includes public safety.

Threats are all actions, activities, and efforts undertaken by individuals, foreign parties, and other parties which are deemed to pose a danger to a country in terms of sovereignty and also the integrity of the country. Threats can also be interpreted as actions that can hinder and hinder the safety and sovereignty of a country. Threats are the main things that become the foundation or foundation, which are actual and potential. We cannot categorize all problems into threats because a problem cannot be directly categorized as a threat, it has its stages.

Buzan, Waiver, and Jaap de Wilde state that several aspects are needed to be related to efforts to analyze security which includes things that are perceived as experiencing real threats or referent actors, and claiming that they feel threatened. In addition, there are also what are called securitizing actors, namely parties that carry out security against a threat, and functional actors who affect a sector that does not have the function of referent objects or securitizing actors and only maintain the dynamism of security (Caballero-Anthony et al., 2017).

Conceptually, empowerment is a word taken from 'power'. Therefore, the main idea of em-power-ment is related to the
concept of power. Power always exists in social relationships between humans. Humans who have power can control other people and also control other aspects of life. However, human power can also empower others to become better and stronger individuals. According to this point of view, empowerment is a stage or action taken to produce a change in something. In principle, the empowerment process depends on the first two things, namely that power can change. Empowerment will not be possible if power cannot change. The second is that empowerment based on the point of view of power can be expanded, meaning that empowerment can be done dynamically and not statically (Suharto, 2009). The gap of this research from other researches is that this research discusses the Indonesian Military Reserve Component during the COVID-19 pandemic. As is well known, pandemics are not things that happen every day and are not a common condition faced by a country and need special action. Therefore, this study aims to find out how the government will empower the reserve components to help protect the country's sovereignty, maintain state security when the COVID-19 pandemic occurs and what steps have been taken by the Indonesian government.

METHODS
This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach. A qualitative method is a type of research in which the research findings are not obtained by the process of using numbers or statistics or other calculations (Sugiyono, 2012). This study uses secondary data sources that are obtained not directly from individuals or respondents but various written documents in the form of previous research journals, news from various internet sites for example from kompas.com, official sites including WHO, and reference books relevant to components reserves and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The descriptive approach in qualitative research methods is implemented to produce a comprehensive interpretation of the topic of the research being carried out. The data were collected by determining the research keywords, collecting related journals, news from various media, then citing them as the basis of the findings for the research (Roselle, 2016). The journals and various literature that have been used are then included in the reference list in this journal.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION
Threats from the COVID-19 Pandemic
The COVID-19 pandemic has had various impacts on the lives of individuals in more than 207 countries globally. It is also felt by people in Indonesia. Precisely in mid-March 2020, since the first COVID-19 case was discovered, there was a significant increase in COVID-19 cases, especially in the first week of May 2020, where the increase in cases averaged 150 to 400 cases per day. Even though based on the information from the online media that the handling conditions in Indonesia are better than the world average. Like active cases, in Indonesia, there were 40,119 cases or 27.2%, lower than the world average of 28.7%. Addition of new cases As of August 20, 2020, an increase of 2,266 cases. The number of patients recovered from COVID-19 has crossed 100,674 cases or 68.3%. While the world average is at 67.76% and the number of deaths (on average) in the world is 3.50%, Indonesia is still 4.35% above the world average (Satgas Covid-19 Indonesia, 2020).

This threat also requires non-military defense. In facing these COVID-19 pandemic conditions, it is impossible to put all the responsibilities to the main component in national defense, the TNI (Indonesian National Armed Forces). As stated in Article 7 of Law Number 34 of 2004 on TNI, that to organize a universal defense system, the activities of Military Operations Other Than War (MOOTW) may also involve reserve components (Law Number 34 of 2004, n.d.). In facing the COVID-19 pandemic, empowerment needs
to be done for all types of reserve components, including Indonesian citizens. According to Article 30 paragraph 1 of the 1945 Constitution and Law Number 23 of 2019 concerning PSDN, article 6 states that "every citizen has the right and obligation to participate in state defense and security". According to the research results, one of the ways to empower Indonesian citizens are as following:

a. Implementing health protocols as stipulated by WHO (World Health Organization), namely by making several efforts such as washing hands regularly with soap and water or cleaning them with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (Oktami Putri, 2020).

b. Formation of a COVID-19 Task Force consisting of competent individuals in their fields that involve ministries/agencies involved in accelerating the handling of COVID-19. In addition to empowering the reserve components, Presidential Decree No.7 of 2020 concerning the Formation of a Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling COVID-19 has subsequently been amended through Presidential Decree No.9 of 2020 to expand the scope of duties and membership of this COVID-19 task force. The relationship between the revised presidential decree and reserve components is that in dealing with COVID-19, it is not only health workers, the military, or the government who are required to participate in handling COVID-19, but the general public is also required.

The Empowerment of Reserve Components

To deal with threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic, as explained in the Minister of Defense Regulation Number 19 of 2015 on the sub-face of non-military threats, the Ministry of Defense helps the government to ward off non-military threats related to social, cultural, political, economic aspects, ideology, public safety, and legislation. The reserve component can be an existential potential in strengthening the country's defense system to face the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. The reserve component is not the main component that uses weapons such as the military, but the reserve component has strength which tends to be attached to social, cultural, ideological, political, religious, and economic aspects.

The Indonesian reserve component consists of citizens, natural resources, and artificial resources. As an Indonesian citizen, the government is empowering to deal with pandemic problems by implementing various policies. Including PSBB (large-scale social restrictions) where people are asked to stay at home and not leave the house if not necessary. Citizens are also asked to comply with various health protocols established by the government, namely always using masks and washing hands, maintaining distance, and no crowding. On March 31, 2020, President Jokowi held a Press Conference, to announce to the public the policies he had chosen to address COVID-19 as a global pandemic that the Indonesian people are currently facing. At the press conference, President Jokowi stated that the Large-Scale Social Restriction (PSBB) policy was the chosen policy in response to a Health Emergency. Law Number 6 of 2018 concerning Health Quarantine is the legal basis for this anticipatory policy. Definition of Large-Scale Social Restrictions are restrictions on certain activities of residents in an area suspected of being infected with coronavirus in such a way as to prevent the possible spread of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (Ristyawati, 2020).

This empowerment certainly requires self-awareness of all Indonesian citizens so that the spread of the virus does not increase. Empowerment is carried out by providing information to citizens about the dangers of the COVID-19 virus through various media. Citizens are invited together to remind other citizens to comply with health protocols established by the government. The government also works
with people who are considered influential in society to always encourage citizen compliance with policies set by the government, for example through various campaigns on their social media, etc. According to the results of the research, WFH (Work from Home) and Social Distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic and the cessation of various economic activities, including several industrial sectors, have contributed to reducing global emissions. This was explained by the Center for Clean Air and Energy Research (CREA) releasing that world CO2 emissions had decreased by 17% due to the COVID-19 quarantine implemented in various countries (Suryani, 2020).

Health workers are also one of the Indonesian Military Reserve Components. The significant involvement of health workers in a situation of a global health crisis can be seen since the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in Indonesia. Where health workers including doctors, nurses, hospital workers, health centers, and others help each other to deal with the treatment of patients who show symptoms or have been identified as having the COVID-19 virus.

This is the responsibility of health workers, whose job is to treat people who are sick, especially during a pandemic that occurs almost evenly throughout Indonesia. In terms of the government itself, the involvement of health workers has started from the implementation of the lockdown or Large-Scale Social Restrictions policy to the implementation of the new normal adaptation stage policy (Sari et al., 2020). For these health workers, the Indonesian government has also provided various facilities, including their place of residence while carrying out their duties at the hospital that handles COVID-19. Providing benefits as health workers who handle COVID-19 patients. This certainly shows that the government is supporting health workers to be able to work as much as possible in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

People cannot go directly to the hospital if they feel unwell. Therefore, due to the condition, online media consulting services were implemented. The purpose of this service is so that people get correct information about COVID-19 and reduce the risk of being exposed by not visiting the hospital in person. By empowering the media, the government is intended to give transparent information to the public regarding activity plans, activity implementation, activity results, and current data of COVID-19 in Indonesia. Furthermore, the government also conducts checks on the smooth distribution of logistics to meet community needs. The goal is that people who are experiencing a threat condition in the form of a pandemic can face it and can still meet all their basic needs. The government is doing its best and is fully committed to encouraging the economic conditions of communities affected by the pandemic by providing assistance in the form of aid in cash transfers (BLT) for households, pre-employment programs, and also cash assistance for private employees. The government has also shown great concern for various aspects of people's lives and is fully committed to breaking the chain of COVID-19 transmission as much as possible (Kemenkes RI, 2020).

The Indonesian government also empowers national facilities and infrastructure by forming a Task Force for Research and Technology Innovation for Handling COVID-19 (TFRIC19) which is tasked with a rapid action plan to strengthen the preparation of detection facilities and infrastructure, provision of health logistics, and an innovation ecosystem in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic (Suhardi et al., 2020). The government also empowers the Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT), which has a mandate from the Ministry of Research and Technology (National Agency for Research and Technology/National Agency for Research...
and Innovation) as the coordinator for the acceleration of domestic product development, to overcome the COVID-19 outbreak which has become a pandemic in Indonesia.

Furthermore, empowerment in the component of state defense reserves, namely empowerment of National Facilities and Infrastructure also includes the adaptation of facilities, infrastructure, and facilities that have been in service locations which of course require adjustment to the COVID-19 pandemic situation. Adaptations that can be done include providing direct services using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks or face shields, imposing social distancing by giving distance to queues and waiting rooms, providing hand sanitizer/hand washing facilities, and sterilizing rooms and facilities with spraying disinfectants and cleaning the air conditioner more frequently. From this explanation, it can be seen that the COVID-19 pandemic was faced by the Indonesian state by managing national resources and infrastructure according to their respective duties and functions to support the interests of national defense. To deal with an outbreak, the World Health Organization has explained five phases, namely (1) the anticipation phase, which is to anticipate the occurrence of recurrent disease outbreaks by detecting and responding as quickly as possible to any case reports of disease outbreaks that arise, (2) Identify humans and animals as early as possible, (3) preventing the disease from the wider transmission, (4) Control the outbreak and mitigate disease, and (5) reduce the risk of disease spread (World Health Organization, 2018).

The Indonesian government has subsequently made various regulations aimed at determining the status of a public health emergency, which is described in Presidential Decree No.11 of 2020. This was followed by the issuance of Government Regulation Number 21 of 2020 concerning Large-Scale Social Restrictions in accelerating the handling of COVID-19, which became the legal basis for determining the status of further large-scale social restrictions by the Minister of Health Regulation Number 9 of 2020 (Hadi, 2020). According to Law Number 23 PSDN 2019 defines state defense as follows:

State defense is all efforts to defend the sovereignty of the country, the territorial integrity of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia, and the safety of the entire nation from threats and disturbances to the integrity of the nation and state (Law Number 23. PSDN 2019, n.d.).

The existence of the COVID-19 pandemic can be stated as a form of existential threat that threatens the lives of all levels of Indonesian society as an object of reference in this issue (BNBP RI, 2020). Therefore, to deal with the non-military threat of COVID-19 effectively, all basic aspects of community life, including military, economic, civilian, social, and psychological aspects, must be integrated. Meanwhile, this strategy must be carried out by all components of the nation (main, supporting, and reserve) in total. In this case, the Task Force led by BNPB must be supported by other components, starting from the central government through related ministries/non-ministerial institutions, local governments through related agencies, The Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI), and Indonesian Police (POLRI) trained communities, and infrastructure other national issues so that the COVID-19 issue is no longer seen only as an ordinary public issue but as a real and emerging threat to national security.

The COVID-19 pandemic is the right time to strengthen the togetherness of the people as a great nation. As a component of the state, Indonesian citizens must understand that the COVID-19 pandemic is a critical global situation that must be addressed together. As explained in Article 30 paragraph 1 of the 1945 Constitution and Law No. 23 of 2019 concerning National Resource Management (PSDN), it is that all
the people in the Indonesian state have the right and also the obligation to defend the country and maintain state security and no exception for that matter. According to the research results, it can be seen that the Indonesian government has been active in empowering the components of the state defense reserve. One way of empowerment is to encourage the compliance of Indonesian citizens with enacted policies including implementing health protocols by using masks and washing hands, maintaining distance from other people and others. The empowerment of Indonesian citizens also applies a lockdown policy where areas with a high rate of case distribution must undergo large-scale restrictions or large-scale social restrictions (PSBB). Therefore, by the Regulation of the Minister of Defense Number 19 of 2015, the national defense strategy is represented by utilizing all potential national resources and infrastructure as a means of protecting or defending the country's sovereignty. Therefore, it is clear that empowering Indonesian citizens and artificial resources are the supporting components in implementing national defense and security in the face of non-military threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATION AND LIMITATION
This study concludes that Indonesian Military Reserve Component has significant roles in facing the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia. The Indonesian Military Reserve Component can be an existential potential in strengthening the country's defense system is facing the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. Empowerment of Indonesian citizens is implemented by participating and complying with various policies made by the government to reduce the spread of the virus, by implementing health protocols, online learning, enforcing lockdowns, and conducting social distancing. Meanwhile, the government also empowers the national facilities and infrastructure in controlling the COVID-19 virus, one of which is by improving the function of hospital services, cooperate with the mass media to spread information for the people. The government also use information technology to give health service for Indonesian. To get correct information about COVID-19 & reduce the risk of being exposed to the virus due to visiting directly to the hospital.

The difference or novelty of this research is that it was conducted at a time when Indonesia was facing the COVID-19 pandemic as a force majeure situation that had never happened before. This research also focuses on empowering the Indonesian Military Reserve Component in this term are Indonesian citizen and national resource which according to the knowledge of researchers, still very few discuss until now. The recommendations that can be given are to examine more deeply the role of the reserve components more specifically to find out the best way to carry out empowerment, especially in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and also other conditions that can threaten Indonesia's national defense.

REFERENCES


UU No. 23. PSDN 2019.
