

GS III

SYLLABUS: LINKAGES BETWEEN DEVELOPMENT AND SPREAD OF EXTREMISM.

LEFT WING EXTREMISM

THE HINDU, PG.NO: 1.

News: "31 Maoists, 2 jawans killed in Chhattisgarh encounter."

"From my childhood i have heard...Security forces here take our lands if they establish a base, and the police torture us for links with Naxals, while the Naxalites torture us too"—Tribal Resident of Gawadi Village Chattisgarh.

Left-Wing Extremism (LWE), commonly known as **Naxalism**, the areas impacted are primarily concentrated in the so-called "**Red Corridor**," which extends across central and eastern India.

The 'Red Corridor':

- **West Bengal:** Jangalmahal area.
- **Chattisgarh:** Bastar region (includes Sukma, Dantewada, Bijapur).
- **Bihar:** Gaya and Aurangabad.
- **Jharkhand:** Latehar, Palamu, Giridih.
- **Odisha:** Malkangiri and koraput districts.
- **Maharashtra:** Gadchiroli and Chandrapur.
- **Andhra Pradesh & Telangana:** Khammam and Warangal regions.

Security Measures

- **Deployment of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF):**
  - **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF):** lead agency in anti-naxal operations. As of 2021, approximately 55,000 personnel were deployed in LWE-affected areas.
  - **Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA):** a specialised unit of CRPF trained in guerrilla warfare and jungle survival.
- **SAMADHAN Doctrine: 8 Pillars to fight LWE.**
  - Comprehensive strategy announced by Ministry of Home Affairs, focusing on key elements like **Smart leadership**, **Aggressive strategy**, **Motivation and training**, **Actionable Intelligence**, **Dashboard based KPIs**, **Harness technology**, **Action plan for each theatre**, **No access to financing**.
- **State-Level Forces:** Greyhounds (undivided Andhra Pradesh), Jaguar (Jharkhand), Bastar Battalion.
- **Unified command structure** established in 2010 for better coordination in LWE-affected areas.
- **National Technical Research Organisation:** for real-time intelligence using drones, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs).

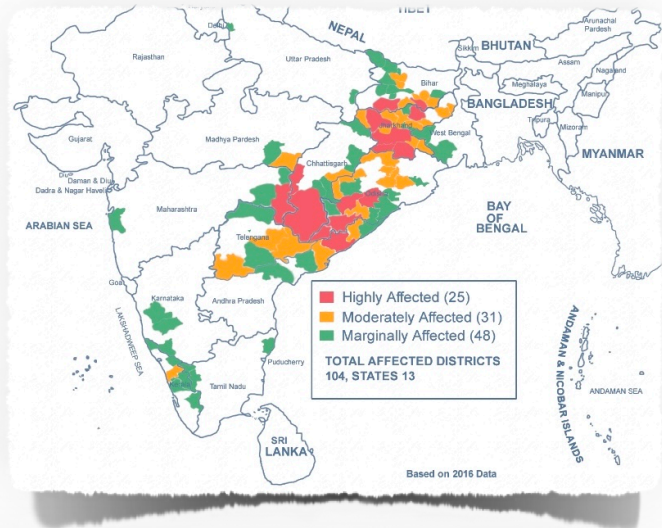
Institutions:

- **Left Wing Extremism Division under Ministry of Home Affairs:** Nodal agency for policy formulation and implementation.
- **Multi-Agency Centre:** facilitate intelligence sharing among agencies like IB, RAW, CAPF etc.

Causes for Left Wing Extremism:

- **Poverty and Unemployment:** Both Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand have higher poverty rates (~40%) — **NITI Aayog's Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2021.**
  - Significant income disparities in these areas, fostering economic injustices — **Gini coefficient.**
- **Land and Forest Right Issues:** ~2 million claims under the Forest Rights Act (FRA) of 2006 were rejected, denial of forest rights leading to displacement — **Ministry of Tribal Affairs reported 2018.**

P.T.O



- **Displacement due to Mining, Industries, large-scale infrastructure projects:** Eg., the Polavaram Dam project in Andhra Pradesh is expected to displace over 300,000 people, many of whom are tribal.
- **Lack of basic infrastructure:** like roads, healthcare and education are lacking. In LWE-affected districts, up to 40% of villages lacked all-weather roads — **CAG report 2018.**
- **Tribal and marginalised communities often feel excluded from political processes.** Eg. In 2019, general elections saw voter turnout in Bastar district as low as 50%, compared to the national average of 67%.
- **Corruption and Inefficiency:** Mismanagement of development funds and corruption erode trust in government institutions — **Corruption Perception Index.**
- **Maoist ideology** capitalises on local grievances, promoting an agenda against perceived exploitation by the state and corporate entities.
- **Youth are susceptible to radicalisation:** due to a lack of employment and education opportunities. Eg. dropout rates in secondary education in these regions are above 30% — **UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring Report 2020.**

Development & Empowerment initiatives

- **PESA 1996:** Grants **special powers to tribal communities in scheduled areas to manage their resources.** This helps to reduce the alienation and discontent among tribal communities.
- **Forest Rights Act 2006:** this addresses the long standing grievances **related to land and resources.** Most LWE affected areas often have large tribal population.
- **Surrender and Rehabilitation Policies 2018:**
  - During period of 2014-2018, **over 2,500 maoists surrendered.**
  - **Monetary assistance of Rs.5 lakhs** for higher ranked cadres.
  - **Vocational training** for skill development.
  - Housing assistance under govt. housing schemes.
- **Special Central Assistance Scheme 2017:** to fund infrastructure projects in most affected districts in education, healthcare and livelihood opportunities.
- **Aspirational District Programme 2018:** by NITI Aayog, inclusive programme covers 112 backward districts, many affected by LWE. Eg. **Bijapur district saw an increase in immunisation rates** from 40% in 2018 to 80% in 2020.
- **Special Infrastructure Scheme:** to strengthen local police stations and improve mobility.
- **Installation of mobile towers:** to improve Communications for residents and aid security operations.

P.T.O



Impacts of initiatives:

- Reduction of LWE violence to 70% and 85% decline in deaths as compared to 2010—**MHA annual report.**
- Shrinking geographical influence: reduced LWE affected districts from 100 in 2010 to 50 in 2020—**MHA annual report.**

10 FEB 2025

PYQs

**GS III 2020:** What are the sound determinants of left-wing extremism in Eastern part of India? What strategy should Government of India, civil administration and security forces

POLITY

PRE-CONTEXT

URBAN CHALLENGE FUND

THE HINDU, PG.NO: 8.

**News:** "How has the Budget allocated funds for urban development?"

Urban Challenge Fund Budget 2025-26:

- **Urban Challenge Fund** of **one lakh crore rupees will be set up** to implement projects for development of cities.
- Half of this funding is expected to come from private investments.

Sources of Funding for Local Bodies:

- **Grants from State Govt & Finance commission:** 15th Finance Commission has allocated significant grants to Panchayats.
- **Transfers form Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes:** PMAY, Swachh Bharat Mission, AMRUT, Smart Cities Mission.
- **Local Taxes and Levies:**
  - Property Tax and Building Fees, Market fees (Haats, weekly markets etc), water cess, sanitation charges etc.
- **Public Private partnership:** Certain Panchayats in Karnataka have collaborated with private players to reduce the need for large upfront public investment in rural water supply projects— **NITI Aayog Case studies.**
- **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Funding.**
- **Philanthropic Organisations:** NGOs, trusts etc may offer grants for education, healthcare, etc.
- **International Funding and aid:** Organisations like the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, or UN agencies occasionally fund rural development projects Eg. World Bank funding road project in rural Odisha.

10 FEB 2025

POLITY

PRE-CONTEXT

ART. 371

THE HINDU, PG.NO: 10.

**News:** "In poll-bound Meghalaya, rat-hole coal mining hopes ride on Article 371 "

Urban Challenge Fund Budget 2025-26:

- Originally, the **Constitution did not make any special provisions for States.** They have been incorporated by the various subsequent amendments made in the context of reorganization of the states or conferment of statehood on the Union Territories.
- **Articles 371 and 371-A to J often give representation to certain religious and social groups** and to allow these groups to exercise **autonomy** over their affairs **without interference from the state and central governments.**
- **States under Art.371:**
  - Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Goa, and Karnataka.
- **Under Article 371-A**, which contains provisions related to Nagaland.
  - Parliament cannot enact laws that affect the social, religious, or customary legal practices of Nagas, or the transfer and ownership of land without concurrence from the state Assembly.

Issue of Rathole Mining in North East:

- Despite the **NGT banned rat-hole mining in Meghalaya in 2014** (it was upheld by the Supreme Court, was extended to other areas of North-east.)
  - **National Green Tribunal(NGT) cannot interfere** with the coal mining activities in Nagaland **because of Article 371A.**
- **Sixth Schedule** of the Constitution of India **empowers district council to make laws** on allotment of land, social custom, forest, etc.
  - 6th Schedule allows the State's law to prevail over that of the district council if there is any conflict.

10 FEB 2025

Thank you!