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(CONSOLIDATION)

CHHATTISGARH

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**Drishti, 641 First Floor,
Dr. Mukharjee Nagar, Delhi-110009**

Inquiry: +91-87501-87501

Website: www.drishtias.com

Email: care@groupdrishti.in

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Road Accidents in Chhattisgarh

Why in News?

According to the Chhattisgarh government, **road accidents** in Chhattisgarh over the last six years claimed more than 33,700 lives and left 70,255 others injured in 79,523 incidents.

Key Points

- **Government Schemes for Road Accident Victims:**
 - **The Ayushman Bharat card** holders can **avail free medical check-ups and treatment for accident-related injuries** in government and private hospitals within the prescribed limit.
- **Compensation for Hit-and-Run Cases:**
 - The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways introduced a new **compensation scheme in 2022 for hit-and-run victims**.
 - Under this scheme:
 - Compensation for serious injury increased from Rs 12,500 to Rs 50,000.
 - Compensation for death increased from Rs 25,000 to Rs 2 lakh.
- **Black Spots:**
 - The government identified 848 accident-prone **"black spots" in Chhattisgarh** during the period covered by the query.
 - Corrective measures have been implemented in 790 locations by the responsible construction agencies.

Ayushman Bharat

- **Launched in 2018**, Ayushman Bharat is a flagship program of the Government of India, in line with the recommendations of **the National Health Policy 2017** to realize the vision of **Universal Health Coverage (UHC)**.
- This initiative aligns with **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, aiming to improve **healthcare access across primary, secondary, and tertiary levels** through a comprehensive **continuum-of-care approach**.
- Ayushman Bharat comprises two interrelated components:
 - **Ayushman Arogya Mandirs** (formerly Health and Wellness Centres or AB-HWCs) and **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)**.

Chhattisgarh Tie-Up with ISRO for Space-Driven Development

Why in News?

The Chhattisgarh government has partnered with the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** to implement **advanced space technology** across key sectors to harness space technology for **governance, agriculture, environmental management, and disaster preparedness**.

Key Points

- The **integration of space technology** will improve climate adaptation strategies, and bridge the gap between scientific advancements and real-world implementation.
 - **Agriculture:** Agriculture will become more **productive** through **precision farming, crop monitoring, and climate-adaptive strategies**.
 - **Soil Health Assessment:** Soil health assessment will help farmers enhance **agricultural productivity** by enabling the precise use of soil data.
 - **Water Resource Mapping:** Water resource mapping will support the **sustainable management of rivers and groundwater** by providing accurate data on water availability. This will help in efficient planning and conservation efforts.
 - **Disaster Preparedness:** It will be strengthened through **early warning systems** for **floods, droughts, and climate anomalies**, enabling timely response and risk mitigation.
 - **Smart Governance:** Smart governance will leverage **space-based solutions** to enhance **data-driven decision-making, improving efficiency and resource management** across various sectors.
 - **Environmental Conservation:** It will be strengthened through **real-time satellite monitoring**, enabling the prevention of deforestation and illegal land encroachments for sustainable ecosystem management.
 - **Urban Planning:** Supporting smart city development and transportation models through **spatial analytics**.

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Note:

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO):

➤ About:

- ISRO is the space agency of India. The organisation is involved in **science, engineering and technology** to harvest the benefits of outer space for India and mankind.
- ISRO is a major constituent of the **Department of Space (DOS)**, Government of India. The department executes the **Indian Space Programme** primarily through various Centres or units within ISRO.
- ISRO was previously the **Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR)**, set up by the Government of India in **1962**, as envisioned by **Dr. Vikram A Sarabhai**.
- ISRO was formed on **15th August, 1969** and superseded **INCOSPAR** with an expanded role to harness space technology.
- **DOS** was set up and **ISRO** was brought under **DOS** in **1972**.

➤ Objective:

- The prime objective of **ISRO/DOS** is the **development and application of space technology** for various national needs.
- ISRO has established a major space system for **communication, television broadcasting and meteorological services, resources monitoring and management, space-based navigation services**.
 - ISRO has developed satellite launch vehicles, **PSLV** and **GSLV**, to place the satellites in the required orbits.

due to the **government's strategic approach**, the **bravery of security forces**, and public support.

- The government has **intensified area domination efforts**, leading to the **elimination of over 300 Naxalites in the past 14 months**.
- Additionally, **972 Naxalites have surrendered**, while security forces have **arrested 1,183 militants**.
- **Milestones in Naxal-Affected Regions:**
 - For the first time, flag-hoisting ceremonies were held in 26 Maoist-affected villages.
 - Several villages, including Pentachimali, Keralapenda, Duled, Sunnam Guda, and Puvarti in Sukma, participated in the **three-tier panchayat elections** for the first time.
 - After 19 years, a health center resumed operations in Potali village, Dantewada district.
- **Other Developmental Measures:**
 - The Governor's **59-point address** included key initiatives such as:
 - Implementation of a **housing scheme for the poor**.
 - Expansion of **forest produce collection programs**.
 - **Promotion of industrialization** to boost economic growth.

Naxalism

➤ Origin:

- The term Naxalism derives its name from the **village Naxalbari of West Bengal**.
- It **originated as rebellion against local landlords** who bashed a peasant over a land dispute.
- The **movement soon spread across Eastern India** in less developed areas of states such as Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.
- **Left-wing extremists (LWE)** are popularly known as Maoists worldwide and as Naxalites in India.

➤ Objective:

- They advocate for the overthrow of the Indian government through **armed revolution** and the establishment of a **communist state** based on **Maoist principles**.
- They view the state as **oppressive, exploitative**, and serving the interests of the ruling elite, and seek to address socio-economic grievances through armed struggle and people's war.

End of Naxalism

Why in News?

Chhattisgarh **Governor Ramen Deka** declared that **Naxalism** in the state is **on the verge of extinction**.

Key Points

➤ Government's Strategy to Eradicate Maoism:

- **Addressing the Chhattisgarh Assembly on the first day of the Budget session**, the Governor asserted that Naxalism is nearing its end in Chhattisgarh

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Note:

New Shops and Establishments Act in Chhattisgarh

Why in News?

To strengthen the State's economy, the Chhattisgarh government has implemented the **New Shops and Establishments Act**, allowing traders to keep their shops open seven days a week and 24 hours a day.

Key Points

- **Objective of the New Policy:**
 - The Chhattisgarh government introduced the new policy to **boost trade and create employment opportunities**.
 - Although, the **policy does not apply to liquor shops** as clarified in the official statement.
- **Increased Flexibility for Traders:**
 - Previously, shops were required to remain closed one day a week.
 - Under the new policy, traders can now operate as per their convenience without a mandatory weekly closure.
- **Worker Welfare Provisions:**
 - Despite the flexibility for traders, **each worker must receive a mandatory weekly holiday**.
 - **No employee** can be required to **work more than eight hours a day**.
 - Shop owners must comply with **labour welfare schemes** to protect workers' rights.
- **Simplified Registration Process:**
 - The new rules have streamlined shop registration.
 - Existing registered shops must obtain a **Labour Identification Number (LIN)** within **six months at no extra cost**.
 - Applications submitted after the deadline will incur a fee as per regulations.

Labour Identification Number (LIN)

- LIN is a **unique identification number assigned to establishments** covered under various labour laws in India.
- It enables **centralized record-keeping and tracking of labour-related compliance**.
- LIN is linked to the **Shram Suvidha Portal**, a single online platform for managing labour law compliance.
 - Employers can use LIN to file returns and manage registrations efficiently.
- It facilitates compliance with various enforcement bodies, including **EPFO (Employees' Provident Fund Organization)**, **ESIC (Employees' State Insurance Corporation)**, and **DGMS (Directorate General of Mines Safety)**.
 - It streamlines regulatory procedures, reducing the complexity of compliance for businesses.

Shrimant Jha Wins Silver at Para-Arm Wrestling Cup 2025

Why in News?

India's top-ranked para-arm wrestler **Shrimant Jha** has won a **silver medal** at the **Para-Arm Wrestling Cup 2025** held in Norway.

Key Points:

- He was competing in the **+85 kg category** and defeated **Marcin Kaplicki of Poland** to secure his place on the podium. **John Frevik of Norway** clinched the **gold**.
- **Achievements & Rankings:**
 - This latest win by Shrimant Jha brings his international medal count to an impressive **52**.
 - He won a **gold medal** at the **Asia Para-Arm Wrestling Championship, 2024** in Uzbekistan, and a **Bronze Medal** at the **Para-Arm Wrestling World Championship** in Kazakhstan in **September 2023**.

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Note:

Para Arm Wrestling:

- **Para Arm Wrestling** is a **competitive sporting** event specifically designed for athletes with **physical disabilities**.
- **Asia Para-Arm Wrestling Cup:** It is one such prestigious tournament held in different countries, bringing together top para-arm wrestlers from across Asia to compete for titles and recognition.
- India Hosted the **Asia Armwrestling Championship 2024**.

CRPF's New Operations Base in Chhattisgarh

Why in News?

The **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)** has established a new operations base in the **Maoist corridor** in Chhattisgarh's south Bastar region, strengthening its presence in core **Left Wing Extremism-affected areas** of the State.

Key Points

- **About Forward Operating Base (FOB):**
 - The **196th and 205th Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA)**, along with other paramilitary units, assisted in establishing the base.
 - The FOB is in a remote, hilly region that houses Maoist training camps, weapons, ammunition dumps, and ration units.
 - It **lies within the stronghold of the Maoists** from the south and west Bastar divisions.
- **Security Challenges and Resistance:**
 - The area serves as the operations centre of the first battalion of armed Maoist cadres.
 - The CRPF demolished a tall red-colored memorial erected by Maoists in memory of their fallen cadres using a heavy earth-moving machine.
- **Government Strategy and Expansion:**
 - This base is the **13th in a series of new FOBs being created** as part of the Union government's goal to **eliminate Left-Wing Extremism** by March 2026.
 - More FOBs are planned before the Maoists' annual **Tactical Counter-Offensive Campaign (TCOC) begins**.
 - The TCOC is a **summer offensive by Naxals**, leveraging improved visibility in dry forests to launch attacks on security forces.
- **Anti-Naxal Operations in Chhattisgarh:**
 - Over the **past three to four years**, the CRPF has established more than **40 FOBs in Chhattisgarh**.
 - The most intense **anti-Naxal operations** are concentrated in southern Bastar, bordering Odisha and Telangana.

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

- The CRPF was initially **established as the Crown Representatives Police in 1939** in response to political turmoil and unrest within the princely states.
- The force was **renamed the Central Reserve Police Force in 1949**.
- **Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel**, the then Home Minister, envisioned a multifaceted role for the CRPF, aligning its functions with the evolving needs of a newly independent nation.
- **COBRA:**
 - It is a **special operation unit of the Central Reserve Police Force of India** proficient in guerrilla tactics and jungle warfare. Originally established to counter the **Naxalite movement**.
 - CoBRA is deployed to address insurgent groups engaging in asymmetrical warfare.

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Note:

LEFT WING EXTREMISM

ABOUT

- ↳ **Originated:** 1967 uprising in Naxalbari, West Bengal
- ↳ **Aim:** Societal and political change through revolutionary methods

IDEOLOGY

- ↳ Overthrow central government through armed revolution (Violence and guerilla warfare)
- ↳ Establishment of a communist state based on Maoist principles

FACTORS RESPONSIBLE

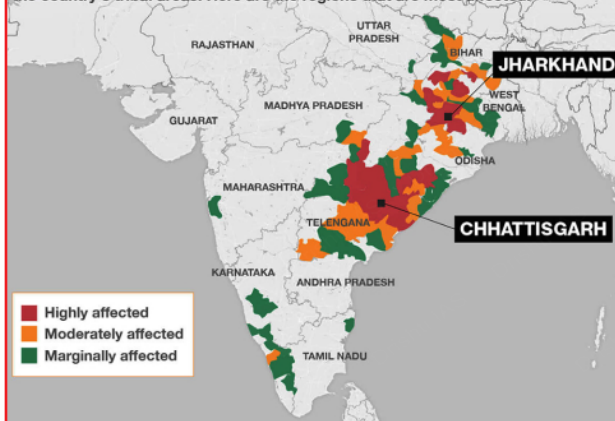
- ↳ **Massive displacement of tribal population;** Due to development projects, mining operations
- ↳ **Tribal dissatisfaction;** Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 prohibits tribes from harvesting forest resources
- ↳ **Poverty and lack of sustainable means;** Driving factors for joining Naxalite movement
- ↳ **Lack of effective governance;** Insufficient technical intelligence against Naxalism

STATES AFFECTED BY LWE

- ↳ **Red Corridor:** Experiences severe Naxalism–Maoist insurgency
- ↳ Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala

A map of India's Maoist conflict

A crackdown on Maoist rebels has led to a rise in the number of casualties in the country's tribal areas. Here are the regions that are most affected.



GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES TO CURB LWE

- ↳ National Policy and Action Plan to address Left Wing Extremism 2015
- ↳ **SAMADHAN Doctrine**
 - ↳ **S-** Smart Leadership
 - ↳ **A-** Aggressive Strategy
 - ↳ **M-** Motivation and Training
 - ↳ **A-** Actionable Intelligence
 - ↳ **D-** Dashboard Based KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) and KRAs (Key Result Areas)
 - ↳ **H-** Harnessing Technology
 - ↳ **A-** Action plan for each Theatre
 - ↳ **N-** No access to Financing
- ↳ **Special Central Assistance (SCA)** in Public Infrastructure and Services
- ↳ **Operation Green Hunt**
- ↳ **Greyhounds** (Elite commando force in Andhra Pradesh)
- ↳ **Bastariya Battalion** (local recruits in Chhattisgarh who know the language and terrain that could generate intelligence and conduct operations)

Countering Naxalism - Bandyopadhyay Committee (2006)

- Highlighted the lack of governance, economic, socio-political and cultural discrimination against the tribals
- Recommended tribal-friendly land acquisition and rehabilitation



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Note:

Dokra Artwork

Why in News?

Recently, the Indian **Prime Minister** gifted **French President Emmanuel Macron** a meticulously crafted **Dokra artwork** of musicians adorned with studded stonework, showcasing **India's rich tribal artistry**.

- He also presented France's First Lady with an exquisite **silver hand-engraved table mirror** featuring **floral and peacock motifs**.



Key Points

- **About Dokra:**
 - Dokra, a centuries-old metal-casting craft from Chhattisgarh, uses the **lost-wax technique** to create intricate **brass and copper sculptures**.
 - The gifted piece portrays traditional musicians in dynamic poses, highlighting the deep **cultural significance of music in tribal life**.
 - **Lapis lazuli and coral accents** enhance the artwork's visual appeal, showcasing India's rich indigenous craftsmanship.
- **Silver Table Mirror:**
 - The **silver table mirror** features detailed **floral and peacock engravings**, representing India's legacy of fine metalwork.
 - Its intricate design merges **artistic elegance with cultural symbolism**, making it a treasured keepsake.

Dokra



- Dokra is a **form of ancient bell metal craft** practiced by the Ojha metalsmiths living in states like Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, West Bengal and Telangana.
- However, the style and also the workmanship of this artisan community varies in different states.
- Dhokra or Dokra, is also known as **bell metal craft**.
- The name '**Dhokra**' comes from the **Dhokra Damar tribes**, who are the traditional metal smiths of West Bengal.
 - Their technique of lost wax casting is named after their tribe, hence Dhokra metal casting.
 - The Dokra artifacts are **made in brass and are unique in that the pieces do not have any joints**.
 - The method is **combining metallurgical skills with wax techniques** employing the lost wax technique, a unique form where mould is used only once and broken, making this art the only one-of-its-kind in the world.
 - The tribe **extends from Jharkhand to Orissa to as far ahead to Chattisgarh, Rajasthan and even Kerala**.
- Each figurine takes about a month to make.
- The dancing girl of **Mohenjo-Daro (Harappan Civilization)** is one of the earliest dhokra artefacts that is now known.
- Dokra Art is **still used to craft artefacts, accessories, utensils and jewellery**.

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Note:

National Conference on Combating Human Trafficking

Why in News?

Recently, the Chairperson of [the National Human Rights Commission \(NHRC\)](#), inaugurated a day-long National Conference on 'Combating [Human Trafficking in the Digital Era](#)'.

- The Commission organized the event in collaboration with Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

Key Points

- **About the Conference:**
 - The conference **examined the increasing exploitation of digital technologies in human trafficking.**
 - Discussions focused on the role of the **internet, social media, cryptocurrency**, and other online tools in facilitating trafficking crimes.
 - Experts deliberated on preventive measures involving technology, law enforcement agencies, and community participation.
- **Keynote Address by the Chairman:**
 - The Chairman highlighted various forms of digital trafficking, including **sexual exploitation, labor exploitation, organ trafficking, and forced marriage.**
 - He elaborated on recruitment strategies such as:
 - Active Recruitment ("Hook Fishing") – Direct targeting of victims online.
 - Passive Recruitment ("Net Fishing") – Using digital platforms to attract potential victims.
 - He emphasized the **need for public awareness, stronger regulatory frameworks, and technological solutions** to counter digital exploitation.
- **Key Recommendations:**
 - Amend the [Immoral Traffic \(Prevention\) Act \(ITPA\)](#) to clearly differentiate between child and adult trafficking and explicitly include cyber trafficking.
 - Establish **formal linkages between the ITPA and the IT Act** to address digital trafficking-related legal gaps.
 - Increase public awareness on self-reporting portals like the [Centralized Complaint and Prevention](#)

[of Women and Children \(CCPWC\)](#) for improved public participation.

- Enhance training and resources for [Anti-Human Trafficking Units \(AHTUs\)](#) to tackle trafficking in the digital era.
- Improve data collection mechanisms to systematically track human trafficking cases across different categories for informed policymaking.
- Strengthen community engagement to encourage local communities to actively participate in preventing and reporting trafficking crimes.

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

➤ About:

- It ensures the **protection of rights related to life, liberty**, equality, and dignity of individuals.
- Rights guaranteed by the Indian Constitution and international covenants enforceable by Indian courts.

➤ Establishment:

- **Established on 12th October 1993**, under [the Protection of Human Rights Act \(PHRA\), 1993](#).
- **Amended by** the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2006, and Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2019.
- Established in conformity with the Paris Principles, adopted for promoting and protecting human rights.

Chhattisgarh High Court Take on Unnatural Sex

Why in News?

The Chhattisgarh [High Court](#) has ruled that a man engaging in **sexual intercourse or sexual acts with his wife** does **not constitute rape**. Consequently, if a husband commits [unnatural sex](#) as defined under [Section 377](#) of the [Indian Penal Code](#) with his wife, it also cannot be treated as an offense.

Key Points

➤ Case Background:

- The Chhattisgarh High Court heard an appeal filed by a resident of **Bastar district challenging his conviction** in his wife's 2017 death case.
- A sessions court had **earlier ruled that the woman became ill and later died due to a forced physical relationship.**

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Note:

- **Trial Court's Conviction:**
 - The sessions court convicted the appellant under:
 - Section 377 (unnatural sex)
 - [Section 376 \(rape\)](#)
 - [Section 304 \(culpable homicide not amounting to murder\)](#) of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.
 - The appellant was sentenced to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment based on his wife's dying declaration.
- **High Court's Ruling:**
 - The court stated that **sexual intercourse or acts by a husband with his wife cannot be termed as rape if the wife is above 15 years of age.**
 - It ruled that **lack of consent for unnatural sex loses significance** under these circumstances, making **Sections 376 and 377 inapplicable.**
 - The High Court also expressed skepticism about the correctness of the dying declaration, raising concerns over its reliability.

BHARATIYA NYAYA SANHITA (BNS), 2023

BNS 2023 replaced Indian Penal Code 1860, incorporating 358 sections (511 in IPC), maintaining most of the IPC provisions, introducing new offences, eliminating court- struck-down offences, and enhancing penalties for various offences.

New Offences

- **Promise to Marry:** Criminalising "deceitful" promises to marry
- **Mob Lynching:** Codify offences linked to mob lynching and hate-crime murders
- Ordinary criminal law now covers **Organized Crime and Terrorism**, including a broader scope for terror financing in BNS compared to UAPA
- **Attempt to Suicide:** Criminalises attempts to commit suicide with intent to compel or restrain any public servant from discharging official duty
- **Community Service:** Added as possible form of punishment

Deletions

- **Unnatural Sexual Offences:** Section 377 of the IPC, which criminalised homosexuality among other "unnatural" sexual activities repealed completely
- **Adultery:** Offence of adultery omitted in consonance of apex court judgement
- **Thugs:** Section 310 of IPC fully omitted
- **Gender Neutrality:** Some laws dealing with children modified to bring gender neutrality

Other Modifications

- **Fake News:** Criminalisation of publishing false and misleading information
- **Sedition:** Introduced under a new name 'deshdroh' with wider definition
- **Mandatory Minimum Sentence:** In several provisions, mandatory minimum sentences prescribed which may limit scope for judicial discretion
- **Damage to Public Property:** Carry a graded fine (i.e. fine corresponding to the amount of damage caused)
- **Death by Negligence:** Elevates punishment for causing death by negligence from two to five years (for doctors - 2 yrs imprisonment)

Key Issues

- **Criminal Responsibility Age Discrepancy:** Criminal responsibility starts at seven, extendable to 12 based on maturity, potentially conflicting with global recommendations
- **Inconsistencies in Child Offense Definitions:** It sets child age below 18, but age criteria for offenses like rape differ, causing inconsistency
- **Retention of IPC Provisions on Rape and Sexual Harassment:** Maintains IPC provisions on rape and sexual harassment, omitting **Justice Verma Committee's 2013** suggestions for gender-neutral rape and recognizing marital rape as an offense.



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Note:

NCST Survey on Tribal Displacement

Why in News?

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) has directed the governments of **Telangana, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha** to conduct surveys to identify the exact number of **tribal people displaced** from Chhattisgarh due to **Maoist violence** and now living in difficult conditions in neighboring states.

Key Points

- **Identification of Displaced Tribal People:**
 - The panel emphasized the need to **determine the exact number and locations of displaced tribal people** in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Maharashtra to plan the next course of action effectively.
- **Coordination for Survey and Data Compilation:**
 - The NCST directed the Chhattisgarh government to **appoint a nodal officer to coordinate with the governments of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Maharashtra** for conducting the surveys.
 - After collecting data from these states, the **Chhattisgarh government must compile a consolidated report and submit it to the NCST** for further action.
- **Petition Highlighting the Issue:**
 - The commission received a **petition in March 2022**, stating that members of the **Gottikoya community**, who fled Chhattisgarh in 2005 due to violence between Maoist guerrillas and **Indian security forces**, are facing severe hardships in their new locations.
- **Estimated Number of Displaced Tribals:**
 - Tribal rights activists **estimate that around 50,000 tribals were displaced** from Chhattisgarh due to **left-wing extremism**.
 - They are **currently residing in 248 settlements in the forests** of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Maharashtra.

- **Land Reclamation and Displacement Concerns:**
 - Reports indicate that the Telangana government has reclaimed land from **internally displaced people (IDPs)** in at least 75 settlements, endangering their livelihoods and making them more vulnerable.
 - The commission, citing the petition, noted allegations that forest department officials demolished IDPs' homes and destroyed their crops.

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)

- **About:**
 - NCST was set up in 2004 **by amending Article 338** and by inserting a **new article 338A** in the **Constitution** through the **89th Constitution Amendment Act, 2003**. Hence, it is a **constitutional body**.
 - By this amendment, the erstwhile National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was **replaced by two separate Commissions namely:**
 - the **National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)**, and the **National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)**
- **Objective:**
 - Article 338A inter-alia gives powers to the NCST to oversee the implementation of various safeguards provided to **Scheduled Tribes (STs)** under the Constitution or under any other law for time being in force or under any other order to the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards.
- **Composition:**
 - It consists of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and 3 other Members who are appointed by the **President** by warrant under his hand and seal.
 - At least **one member should be a woman**.
 - The Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the other Members **hold office for a term of 3 years**.
 - The Chairperson has been **given the rank of Union Cabinet Minister**, the Vice Chairperson has the **rank of a Minister of State** and other Members **have the rank of Secretary to the Government of India**.
 - The **members are not eligible for appointments for more than two terms**.

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Note:

Gotti Koya Tribe

➤ About:

- Gotti Koya are one of the few **multi-racial and multi-lingual tribal communities** in India.
- They live in the forests, plains, and valleys on **both sides of the Godavari River**, in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, **Chhattisgarh**, and Odisha.
- They are said to have migrated to central India from their original home in **Bastar, northern India**.

➤ Language:

- The Koya language, also called **Koyi**, is a **Dravidian language**. It is closely **related to Gondi** and has been strongly **influenced by Telugu**.
- Most Koyas speak either Gondi or Telugu, in addition to Koyi.

➤ Occupation:

- **Traditionally**, they were **pastoralists and shifting cultivators**, but now-a-days, they have **taken to settled cultivation** supplemented by **animal husbandry** and **seasonal forest collections**.
- They grow Jowar, Ragi, Bajra, and other millets.

➤ Society and Culture:

- All Gotti Koya belong to one of **five subdivisions called gotrams**. Every Gotti Koya is born into a clan, and he cannot leave it.
- They have a **patrilineal and patrilocal family**. The family is called "Kutum". The nuclear family is the predominant type.
- **Monogamy** is prevalent among the Koyas.
- They practice their **own ethnic religion**, but also worship a number of **Hindu gods and goddesses**.
- **Many Gotti Koya deities are female**, the most important being the "mother earth."
- They **maintain community funds and grain banks at the village level** to help the needy families and provide food security.
- They either bury or **cremate the dead**. They erect menhirs in memory of the dead.
- Their main **festivals are Vijji Pandum** (seeds charming festival) and **KondalaKolupu** (festival to appease Hill deities).
- They perform a robust, **colourful dance called Permakok (Bison horn dance)** during festivals and marriage ceremonies.

Maoism to be Eradicated by 2026

Why in News?

Union Home Minister Amit Shah stated that the **government will eradicate "Naxals" by 31st March 2026**, ensuring that **no citizen loses their life** due to the **insurgency**.

Key Points

➤ Bijapur Operation:

- The Home Minister highlighted that **security forces** achieved a significant **victory in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh**, by **eliminating 31 Maoists** and recovering a large cache of arms and explosives.
- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister affirmed that **Maoism in the country and the state will come to an end**.
- It is also emphasized that efforts are underway to remove **Improvised Explosive Device (IEDs)** laid by Maoists and to **provide essential infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, roads, water supply, anganwadis, and mobile towers, across the Bastar region**.

➤ Maoist Casualties in 2024:

- According to police records, **security forces neutralized 219 Maoists** in separate encounters in Chhattisgarh.

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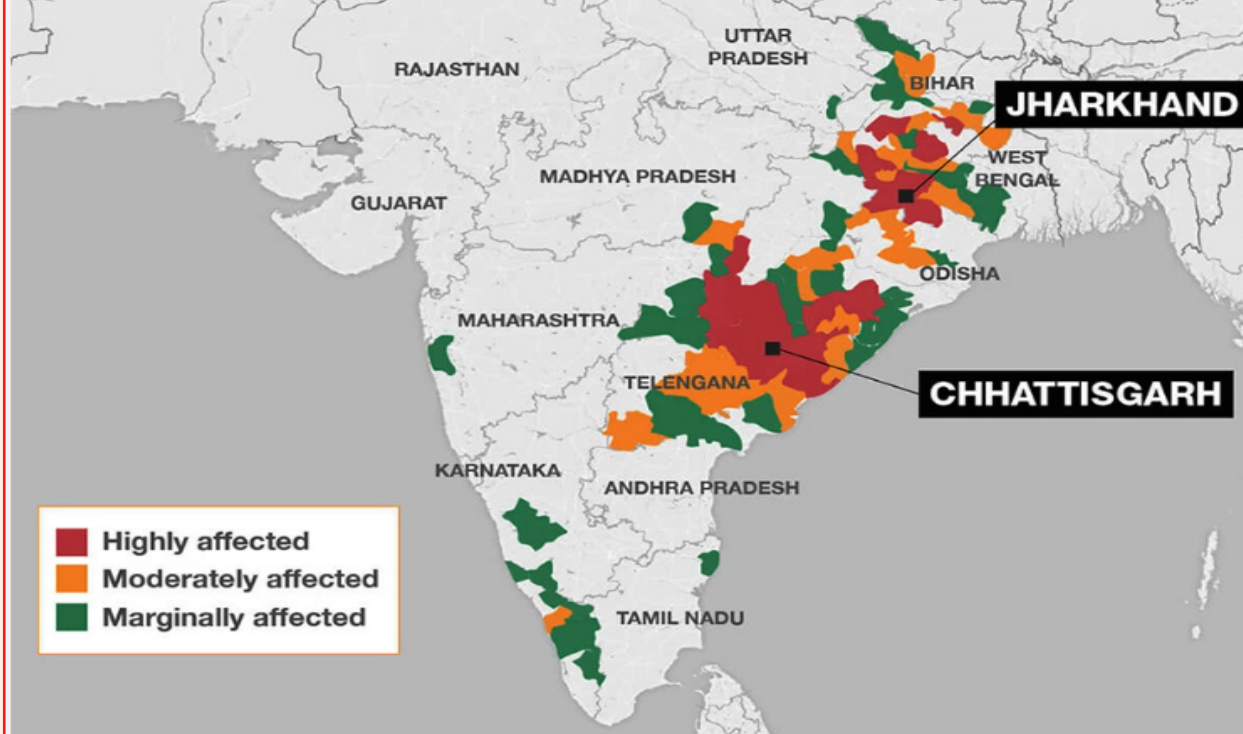
Note:

Maoism

- **About:**
 - Maoism is a form of communism developed by **Mao Tse Tung**. It is a doctrine to capture State power through a combination of **armed insurgency, mass mobilization and strategic alliances**.
 - Mao called this process, the '**Protracted People's War**', where the emphasis is on '**military line**' to capture power.
- **Maoist Ideology:**
 - The central theme of Maoist ideology is the use of **violence and armed insurrection** as a means to capture State power.
 - '**Bearing of arms is non-negotiable**' as per the Maoist insurgency doctrine.
- **Indian Maoists:**
 - The largest and the most violent Maoist formation in India is the **Communist Party of India (Maoist)** formed in **2004**.
 - The CPI (Maoist) and its front organizations were banned under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967**.
 - Front Organizations are the **off-shoots** of the parent Maoist party, which professes a separate existence to **escape legal liability**.

A map of India's Maoist conflict

A crackdown on Maoist rebels has led to a rise in the number of casualties in the country's tribal areas. Here are the regions that are most affected.



Samadhi Smriti Mahotsav in Chhattisgarh

Why in News?

Recently, the Union Home Minister addressed the **first Samadhi Smriti Mahotsav** of **Shri Vidyasagar Ji Maharaj** in **Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh**.

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Note:

Key Points

- **Addressing the Mahotsav:**
 - He also participated in **Shri 1008 Siddhachakra Vidhan Vishwa Shanti Mahayagya**.
 - During the event, the minister released:
 - A commemorative **coin of Rs 100**
 - A special **postal envelope of Rs 5**
 - **108 footprints and portrait** of Acharya Shri Vidyasagar Ji
 - Laid the foundation stone of the proposed **Samadhi Smarak 'Vidyayatan'**
- **Education and Social Development Initiatives:**
 - The minister announced the **foundation stone of a girl's school in Dindori district**, Madhya Pradesh, which will offer **free education, skill development, and employment opportunities**.
- **Role of Jain Saints in National Unity:**
 - The minister acknowledged the contribution of **Jain saints**, who spread the spiritual message from Uttar Pradesh to Karnataka, Bihar to Gujarat.
 - He highlighted that Acharya Ji taught us that India's identity is deeply rooted in its culture.
 - Acharya Ji wrote the **Hindi epic 'Mookmati'**, which has been translated into many languages and remains a significant work on **philosophy, ethics, spirituality, and the nation**.

Acharya Vidyasagar Maharaj



- Acharya Vidyasagar Maharaj was a **highly respected monk in the Jain community**, known for his wisdom and spiritual leadership.
- He **embraced monasticism at a young age** and attained the esteemed title of Acharya, signifying his **deep knowledge and spiritual achievements**.

- He actively worked in the fields of **education, healthcare, environmental protection, and sustainable agriculture**.
- He **encouraged societal progress** and urged people to participate in democratic processes.
- In his final days, he undertook **Sallekhana (a voluntary Jain practice of fasting to death)** and abstained from food and liquids for the last three days of his life.

Encounter in Chhattisgarh

Why in News?

Recently, **security forces killed a Maoist** in an encounter in **Chhattisgarh's Kanker district**. The gunfight erupted in a **forest along the Kanker-Narayanpur border** during an **anti-Naxal operation**.

Key Points

- **Anti-Naxal Operation:**
 - A joint team of **District Reserve Guard (DRG)** and **Border Security Force (BSF)** launched the operation based on intelligence inputs about the presence of Maoist cadres from the North Bastar and Maad divisions in the area.
 - **Since January 2025, 50 Maoists have been killed** in separate encounters across Chhattisgarh.
 - The **Bastar division recorded the highest toll**, with 34 Maoists killed.
- **Annual Maoist Casualties:**
 - In **2024, security forces neutralized 219 Maoists** in various encounters across the state.

District Reserve Guard (DRG)

- The District Reserve Guard (DRG) is a **specialized police unit in Chhattisgarh, established in 2008** to combat **Maoist violence**.
- It consists of **specially trained personnel operating** in affected districts, conducting **anti-Maoist operations, search and seizure, and gathering intelligence**.
- The DRG collaborates with other security forces, like the **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)**, to counter the Maoist insurgency.

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Border Security Force (BSF)

- The BSF was raised in 1965, after the [India-Pakistan war](#).
- It is one of the [seven Central Armed Police Forces](#) of the Union of India under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
 - Other **Central Armed Police Forces** are: [Assam Rifles \(AR\)](#), [Indo-Tibetan Border Police \(ITBP\)](#), [Central Industrial Security Force \(CISF\)](#), [Central Reserve Police Force \(CRPF\)](#), [National Security Guards \(NSG\)](#) and [Sashastra Seema Bal \(SSB\)](#).
- The 2.65-lakh force is deployed along the Pakistan and Bangladesh borders.
 - It is deployed on the Indo-Pakistan International Border, Indo-Bangladesh International Border, and [Line of Control \(LoC\)](#) along with the Indian Army and in [Anti-Naxal Operations](#).
- BSF has been defending [Sir Creek in the Arabian Sea](#) and [the Sundarbans delta in the Bay of Bengal](#) with its state of the art fleet of Water Crafts.
- It contributes dedicated services to the [UN peacekeeping Mission](#) by sending a large contingent of its trained manpower every year.

Key Points

- **Highlights of the Achievement:**
 - **Weightlifting Success:**
 - **Vijay Kumar** made history in the men's 55kg category, securing Chhattisgarh's **first men's weightlifting gold in a decade**.
 - **Gyaneshwari Yadav** continued her dominance in women's weightlifting, winning her second consecutive gold in the **49 kg category**.
 - She also won gold at the [37th National Games](#) in Goa.
 - **Kalaripayattu:** It is a **martial art** based on the ancient knowledge of the human body. It originated in **Kerala** during the **3rd century BC** to the **2nd century AD**.
 - **Vivek Singh won the gold medal**, while Risha Nain and Anita secured bronze medals.
- **Other Achievements:**
 - The **Chhattisgarh women's beach handball team** continued their winning streak, defeating **Assam** in straight sets to grab their **second consecutive bronze** at the **National Games**.
 - The **Men's Badminton Team** reached semifinals with a **5-0 sweep** against Arunachal Pradesh.
 - **Bhumi Gupta secured fifth place** in the women's 100m butterfly final, delivering a commendable performance amid tough competition.

Chhattisgarh Athletes Excel at 38th National Games

Why in News?

Chhattisgarh athletes are making a remarkable impact at the [38th National Games](#) in Uttarakhand, which are ongoing until **14th February, 2025**.

- The state has secured an impressive total of **four gold and three bronze medals**, showcasing its growing prowess in multiple sports disciplines.

National Games 2025

- The **38th National Games**, is India's own **multi-sport event** inspired by the [Olympics](#), will see athletes from 28 states, 8 Union Territories and the Services Sports Control Board (SSCB) compete for medals in 32 different sports.
- The 2025 National Games kicked off with the triathlon events on 26th January.
- The overall winner of the National Games is **awarded the Raja Bhalindra Singh Trophy for each edition**.

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Note:

Key Points

Details

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