



drishti

## Reduction in Left Wing Extremism Related Violence

---

 [drishtias.com/printpdf/reduction-in-left-wing-extremism-related-violence](https://drishtias.com/printpdf/reduction-in-left-wing-extremism-related-violence)

### Why in News

---

According to data provided by the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**, there has been a steady decline in **Left Wing Extremism (LWE)** related violence and geographical spread of LWE influence in the country.

- The **geographical influence of Maoists** has contracted to only 41 districts in the country, which is a sharp reduction from 96 such districts in 10 States in 2010.
- **LWE incidents have also reduced** from 2,258 in 2009 to 349 incidents till August 2021.

### Key Points

---

- **Left Wing Extremism in India:**
  - Left-wing extremists, popularly known as **Maoists** worldwide and as **Naxalites** in India.
  - The **term Naxalism** derives its name from the **village Naxalbari of West Bengal**. It **originated as a rebellion against local landlords** who bashed a peasant over a land dispute.

The rebellion was initiated **in 1967**, with an objective of rightful redistribution of the land to working peasants under the leadership of **Kanu Sanyal** and **Jagan Santhal**.
  - The movement has **spread across the Eastern India in less developed areas** of states such as Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.
  - It is considered that **Naxals support Maoist political sentiments and ideology**.
    - 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.
    - **The region, affected by LWE**, is referred to as the **Red corridor**.

- **Reasons for the LWE:**
  - **Tribal Discontent:**
    - The **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980** has been used to target tribals, who depend on forest produce for their living.
    - Massive **displacement of tribal population** in the naxalism-affected states due to development projects, mining operations and other reasons.
  - **Easy Target for Maoists:**
    - Such people who do not have any source of living are taken into naxalism by Maoists.
    - Maoists provide arms and ammunition and money to such people.
  - **Gaps in the Socio-Economic System of the Country:**
    - Government measures its success on the basis of the number of violent attacks rather than the development done in the naxal-affected areas.  
**Absence of strong technical intelligence to fight with naxalites.**
    - **Infrastructural problems**, for instance, some villages are not yet connected properly with any communication network.
  - **No Follow-Up from Administration:**
    - It is seen that **even after police take hold of a region**, administration fails to provide essential services to the people of that region.
    - Confusion over tackling naxalism as a social issue or as a security threat.

- **Governments Initiatives to Check Naxal Activities:**
  - **Aspirational Districts Programme:** Launched in 2018, it aims to rapidly transform the districts that have shown relatively lesser progress in key social areas.
  - **SAMADHAN (2017):**
    - It stands for
      - **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, and
      - **N-** No access to Financing.
    - This doctrine is the **one-stop solution for the LWE problem**. It encompasses the entire strategy of government from short-term policy to long-term policy formulated at different levels.
  - **National Policy and Action Plan in 2015:** It consists of a **multi-pronged approach** comprising security measures, development initiatives and ensuring rights & entitlements of local communities.
    - **The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is supporting the State Governments** extensively by way of deployment of **Central Armed Police Force (CAPF)** Battalions, provision of helicopters and UAVs and sanction of India Reserve Battalions (IRBs)/ Special India Reserve Battalions (SIRBs) etc.
    - Funds are provided under **Modernization of Police Force (MPF), Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme and Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS)** for modernization and training of State Police.
    - **Several development initiatives have been implemented** for construction of roads, installation of mobile towers, skill development, improving network of banks and post offices, health and education facilities.
    - Funds for development are also provided to most **LWE affected districts** under the **Special Central Assistance (SCA) scheme**.
  - **Greyhounds:** It was raised in 1989 as an elite anti-naxal force.
  - **Operation Green Hunt:** It was started in 2009-10 and massive deployment of security forces was done in the naxal-affected areas.

## Way Forward

---

- Though the **number of incidents of LWE violence has come down** in the recent past, continued efforts and focus are needed in eliminating such groups.

- **Innovative measures are required** to be employed in **preventing IED (Improvised Explosive Device) related incidents** which have caused significant casualties in recent years.
- States should **rationalize their surrender policy** in order to bring innocent individuals caught in the trap of LWE into the mainstream.

**Source: TH**