



Naxalites Surrender in Dantewada | Chhattisgarh | 06 May 2024

Why in News?

Recently, 35 [Naxalites](#) surrendered in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada district. These cadres were **tasked with digging roads, felling trees to block roads** and putting up posters and banners during shutdowns called by **Naxalites**.

Key Points

- According to the officials, these naxalites were part of Bhairamgarh, Malanger and Katekalyan area committees of the **Maoists** in south Bastar.
 - They were impressed by the police's rehabilitation drive 'Lon Varratu' (return to your home) and disappointed with the hollow **Maoist 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**.
- These Naxalites will be provided facilities as per the **government's surrender and rehabilitation policy**.
- With this, 796 Naxalites, including 180 carrying rewards, have so far joined the mainstream in the district under the police's **Lon Varratu campaign** launched in June 2020.

Lone Varratu

- This campaign means **'Come back home'**.
- This campaign was launched for those Naxalites who intended to leave the path of **red terror and join the mainstream of society**.
- Under this campaign many **Naxalites left the path of terrorism**.

Naxalism

- 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.
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Chhattisgarh Self-Help Groups Boost Voter Turnout | Chhattisgarh | 06 May 2024

Why in News?

An initiative in **Balrampur district of Chhattisgarh to increase voter turnout** in the third phase of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections is attracting attention.

Key Points

- Women's **Self-help groups** are utilizing **traditional methods by going door-to-door** to meet with voters, distributing **tamarind leaves and yellow rice**, in order to encourage greater public engagement.
- The effort has not only sparked **enthusiasm among villagers** but has also demonstrated the **power of community involvement** in promoting **democratic values**.
 - This initiative is also fully **supported by the district administration**.

Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

- Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are **informal associations of people who choose to come together to find ways** to improve their living conditions.
- It can be defined as a **self-governed, peer-controlled information group of people with similar socio-economic backgrounds** and having a desire to collectively perform a common purpose.
- SHG relies on the **notion of "Self Help" to encourage self-employment** and poverty alleviation.
- **Objectives:**
 - To build the **functional capacity of the poor and the marginalized** in the field of employment and income generating activities.
 - To **resolve conflicts through collective leadership** and mutual discussion.
 - To provide **collateral free loans with terms decided by the group** at the market driven rates.
 - To work as **a collective guarantee system for members** who propose to borrow from organised sources.
 - The poor collect their savings and save it in banks. In return they receive easy access to loans with a small rate of interest to start their micro unit enterprise.