Maoist Insurgency on Decline

Why in News?

In 2024, India has observed **162 Maoist-related fatalities**, with **Chhattisgarh accounting for 141 of these deaths.**

- This marks one of the **highest casualty figures for extremists** in the predominantly tribal state since the establishment of the **Communist Party of India (Maoist) (CPI-M)** in 2004.

Key Points

- "Operation Green Hunt," started in 2009 by involving the **Central Reserve Police Force's CoBRA force** and Chhattisgarh police "**search and comb" operations** led to decline in Maoist activities in India.
- While Maoist casualties have increased, the deaths of security force personnel have come down.
  - In **2024, 14 security force personnel died** in the insurgency, compared to the highest of **198 in 2007.**
  - The number of civilian deaths has also been at its **lowest since 2014**, with 23 people killed in Maoist attacks.
- Bijapur and neighboring Sukma have 20 Border Security Force (BSF) camps due to intense operations.
- In Kanker, a joint BSF and District Reserve Guard operation killed 29 Maoists, including a top commander. In Dantewada, declared 'Maoist-free' in 2021, only 15 Maoists were killed in 2024.

The Greyhounds

- It is an **elite anti-Maoist force raised in 1989** by **IPS officer K.S. Vyas** to combat the growing Maoist threat in Andhra Pradesh.
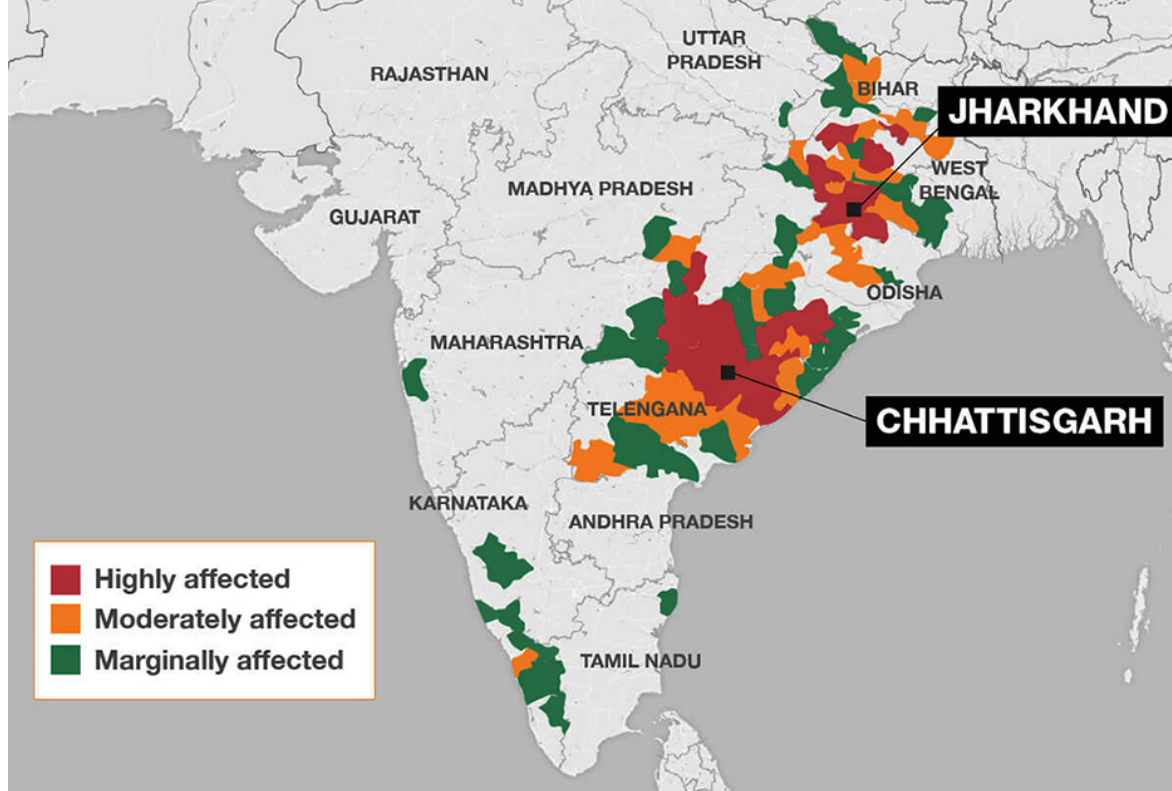- The members are **well-trained in guerilla and jungle warfare.**

Operation Green Hunt

- Operation Green Hunt was a **military operation by paramilitary forces** and the states forces against the Naxalites.
- The **operation began in November 2009 along 5 states** in the "**Red Corridor."**

Red Corridor

- The Red Corridor is the region in the central, eastern and southern parts of India that experience severe **Naxalism–Maoist insurgency.**
- It includes the states of **Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala**

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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.

RAJASTHAN

UTTAR PRADESH

BIHAR

JHARKHAND

WEST BENGAL

MADHYA PRADESH

GUJARAT

ODISHA

MAHARASHTRA

CHHATTISGARH

TELENGANA

KARNATAKA

ANDHRA PRADESH

TAMIL NADU

- ■ Highly affected
- ■ Moderately affected
- ■ Marginally affected

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