



Maoists Encounter in Chhattisgarh

Why in News?

Recently, 3 security personnel were killed and 14 others were injured in an encounter with [Maoists](#) along the **Sukma-Bijapur border in Chhattisgarh**.

Key Points

- According to the official statement, the incident took place near **Tekalgudem village during a search operation** by a joint team of security personnel.
- A new camp of security personnel was set up in Tekalgudem, a Maoist stronghold.
- After setting up the camp, the personnel belonging to the Special Task Force, District Reserve Guard and Commando Battalion for Resolute Action [**CoBRA- a jungle warfare unit of CRPF (Central Armed Police Forces)**] were searching nearby **Jonaguda-Aliguda villages** when Maoists opened fire.
- **Sukma District:**
 - It is located in the southern tip of the state of Chhattisgarh, the district was **carved out of Dantewada in the year 2012**.
 - It is **covered with the [semi-tropical forest](#)** and is a **mainland of tribal community [Gond](#)**.
 - One major river that flows through the district is **Sabari (a tributary of [Godavari river](#))**.
 - Over a few decades, this region has become a **fostering ground for [Left Wing Extremism \(LWE\) activities](#)**.
 - Uneven terrains and the tricky geographic locations made this region a safer hideout for the LWE activists.

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 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 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

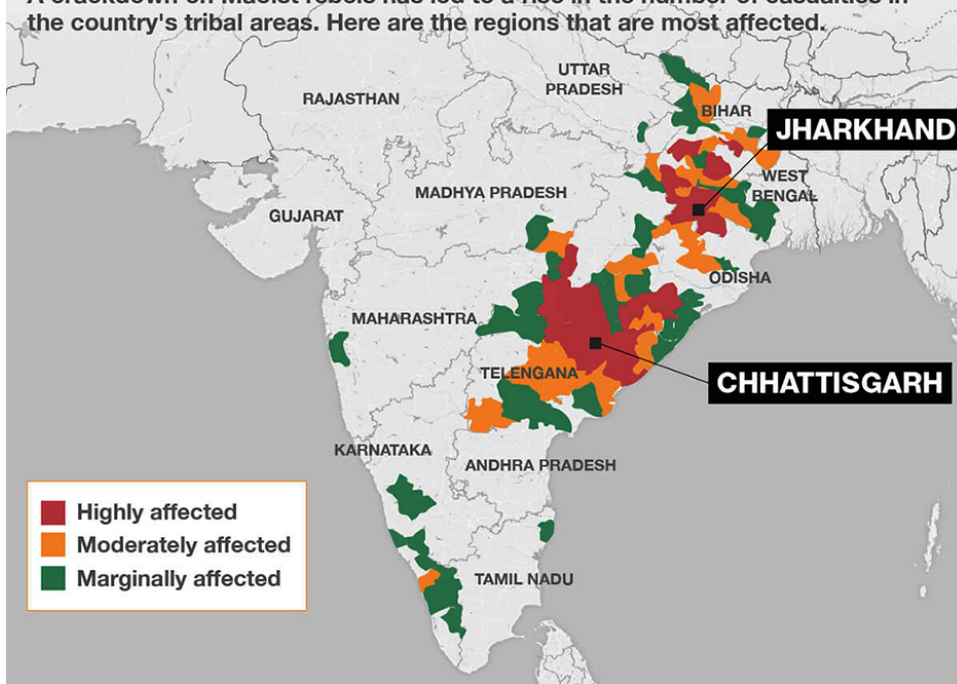
- It is one of the premier **Central Armed Police Forces of India (under the Ministry of Home Affairs) for internal security**.
- **Originally** constituted as the **Crown Representative Police in 1939**, it is one of the oldest Central paramilitary forces. After Independence, the force was **renamed as the Central Reserve Police Force by an Act of Parliament on December 28, 1949**.

- Its Mission is to enable the government to **maintain Rule of Law, Public Order and Internal Security effectively and efficiently, to Preserve National Integrity and Promote Social Harmony and Development by upholding supremacy of the Constitution.**

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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.



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