



Maoists Encounter in Chhattisgarh | Chhattisgarh | 13 Dec 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Seven **Maoists** were **killed in a gun battle** with security forces in **Abujhmad forests** along the **Dantewada-Narayanpur border** in Chhattisgarh.

Key Points

- **Major Anti-Maoist Operation:**
 - **Forces Involved:** The operation was executed by the **District Reserve Guard (DRG)** from Kondagaon, Bastar, Narayanpur, and Dantewada, along with the **State's Special Task Force (STF)** and the **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)**.
 - **Focus Area:** The operation targeted **Abujhmad, a dense forested region covering Bijapur, Dantewada, and Narayanpur districts**, known for Maoist activity.
 - In October 2024, Abujhmad witnessed the largest-ever encounter in Chhattisgarh's history, resulting in the deaths of 38 Maoists.
 - **Recovered Items:** A **large cache of weapons and daily-use items was seized**, while no casualties were reported among the security forces.
 - **Yearly Progress:** Police records show that since 13th December 2023, **217 Maoists have been killed in Bastar**, nearly half in Abujhmad under the **Maad Bachao Aandolan (Save Maad Campaign)**.

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 **specialized 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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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

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES TO CURB LWE

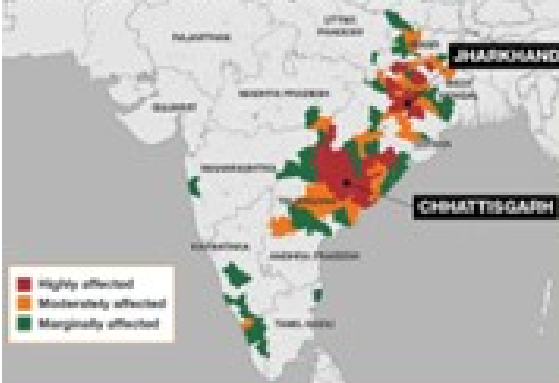
- National Policy and Action Plan to address Left Wing Extremism 2015
- SAMADHAN Doctrine**
 - S- Smart Leadership
 - A- Aggressive Strategy
 - M- Motivation and Training
 - A- Actionable Intelligence
 - D- Dashboard Based KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) and KRAs (Key Result Areas)
 - H- Harnessing 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

A map of India's Maoist conflict

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



Drishti IAS