



## Left-Wing Extremism in India

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In the review meeting on LWE, the Union Home Minister has termed **Left-Wing Extremism (LWE)** as one of the **major internal security threats** faced by the nation.

However, events of Left Wing Extremism (LWE) violence **came down from 2258 in 2009 to 833 in 2018.**

### Left-Wing Extremism

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- LWE organizations are the groups that try to **bring change through violent revolution**. They are against democratic institutions and use violence to subvert the democratic processes at ground level.
- These groups prevent the developmental processes in the least developed regions of the country & try to misguide the people by keeping them ignorant of current happenings.

### Declining Numbers

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It was because of the never-ending successful efforts of **our security forces** that the number of related incidents, deaths & their geographical spread came down in the past decade.

Sr. No.	Parameters	2009	2018
1	No. of incidents	2258	833
2	Deaths (Civilians & Security Forces)	1005	240
3	Number of affected districts	96 (in 2010)	60

### Government Strategy to Curb LWE

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- **SAMADHAN 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. SAMADHAN 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,
  - **N**- No access to Financing.
- **The national strategy to counter LWE** was formed in **2015** as a multipronged approach to combat LWE. Its main aim was to ensure participatory governance and protection of the rights of local tribals, inter alia.
- Intelligence sharing and raising of a separate 66 Indian Reserved Battalion (IRBs) was done by the government to curb the menace of LWE organizations.

## Development of LWE Affected Areas

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Few schemes being implemented by the government for LWE affected areas are:

- **Special Central Assistance (SCA)**- for filling critical gaps in public infrastructure and services of emergent nature.
- **Road Connectivity Project**- for construction of 5,412 km roads.
- **Skill Development**- for construction of 47 ITIs (01 ITI per district) and 68 Skill Development Centers (02 SDCs per district) by 2018-19.
- **Education Initiatives**- for building new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) & Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) where they are not present. It is also planned to open more schools under the **Eklavya model**.
- **Installation of Mobile Towers**- for endless telecom connectivity.
- **Financial inclusion**- for ensuring the presence of banking facilities within 5 km to all citizens residing in LWE affected areas.

## Way Forward

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- 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 play a vital role in **maintaining law and order**. So, emphasis should be laid on the capacity-building and modernization of the **local police forces**. Local forces can efficiently and effectively neutralize the LWE organizations.

- States should rationalize their ***surrender policy*** in order to bring innocent individuals caught in the trap of LWE in the mainstream.
- States also need to adopt a **focused time-bound approach** to completely eliminate LWE groups and ensure all-round development of the affected regions.
- For the holistic last-mile development of “**New India**”, it is necessary to get rid of the menace of such radicalized groups, & the synergized efforts of the Centre and the States are crucial in achieving the same.

**Source: PIB**