



Steps to Counter Maoist Threat

Why in News

To speed up the implementation of the **Road Requirement Plan for extremism-affected areas**, Chhattisgarh has suggested the Centre to divide the remaining contracts into small packets so that local contractors can take up the jobs.

Key Points

- **Road Requirement Plan for Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Affected Areas:**
 - This Scheme is being **implemented by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for improving road connectivity** in 34 LWE affected districts of 8 States.
 - **8 States** are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh.
 - This scheme **envisaged construction of 5,422 km roads lengths** in LWE affected States.
- **Present Issue:**
 - **90%** of the 5422 km Road Requirement Plan stands completed, but progress remains a **problem in Chhattisgarh.**
 - Of the **419 km** of roads remaining across four states, **Chhattisgarh accounts for 360 km.**
 - **Proposed Solution:**
 - **Chhattisgarh** proposed to the Centre to **break up the contracts into small portions** so that local contractors can take up the jobs.
 - When local people take up the contracts, they are in a better position to get the work done.
- **Left Wing Extremism (LWE):**
 - **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 and try to misguide the people** by keeping them ignorant of current happenings.
 - Left Wing Extremists are popularly known as **Maoists** worldwide and as **Naxalites** in India.
- **Other Government Initiatives to fight LWE:**
 - **Greyhounds:** It was raised in 1989 as an elite anti-naxal force.
 - **Operation Green Hunt:** It was started in 2009-10 and massive deployment of security forces was done in the naxal-affected areas.
 - **LWE Mobile Tower Project:** To improve mobile connectivity in the LWE areas, the Government in 2014, approved installation of mobile towers in LWE affected States.
 - **Aspirational Districts Programme:** Launched in 2018, it **aims to rapidly transform**

the districts that have shown relatively lesser progress in key social areas.

◦ **SAMADHAN:**

- It 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, and
 - N- No access to Financing.
- This 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.

Way Forward

- 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.
- Government needs to ensure two things; **security of the peace-loving people** and the **development of the naxalism-affected regions**.
- Centre and states should continue with their **coordinated efforts** in **development and security** both where Centre should play a supportive role with state police forces taking the lead.
- Government needs to undertake **technological solutions** such as the use of **drones** to minimize loss of lives of security personnel.

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