



## CURRENT AFFAIRS



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Date: 22 May 2023

### NAXALISM

*This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details "NAXALISM". The topic "NAXALISM" has relevance in the Internal Security, Social Justice section for the UPSC CSE exam.*

#### **Relevance of NAXALISM**

##### **For Prelims:**

*Where did the attack occur?*

*What is NAXALISM?*

##### **For Mains:**

*GS 3: internal security*

*Challenges of NAXALISM?*

*Government efforts?*

#### **Why in the news?**

Recently, there was one of the biggest attacks by Maoists in **Dantewada, Chhattisgarh** in two years. Officials say they lack proper technology to detect IEDs while Naxals have been avoiding direct combat.

#### **What is NAXALISM?**

Naxalism, also known as **Maoism or Left-wing extremism**, is an ideology and movement that originated in the **late 1960s in the Naxalbari village of West Bengal, India**. It takes its name from the Naxalbari uprising, which was led by radical communist groups. Naxalism is characterized by armed struggle, radical land reforms, and the establishment of a communist society through a so-called protracted people's war. **Central and eastern regions of India**, including states like **Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, and parts of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Telangana**, are the areas most affected by Naxalism

## Challenges of NAXALISM:

**Social and Economic Inequality:** Naxalism thrives in areas where there is widespread socio-economic disparity and the absence of basic amenities. Issues such as land redistribution, resource exploitation, and lack of development contribute to the grievances that fuel Naxalite ideology and attract support from marginalized communities.

**Persistent Insurgency:** Naxalism continues to thrive in certain regions of India. The movement's ability to recruit cadres and carry out armed attacks poses a significant challenge to law and order and disrupts development activities.

**Security Forces' Capacity:** The armed nature of the Naxalite movement demands a well-trained and well-equipped security apparatus capable of dealing with guerrilla warfare tactics. The security forces face challenges such as inadequate intelligence, difficult terrain, and asymmetric warfare strategies employed by the Naxalites.

**Infrastructural Development:** Naxalism often impedes infrastructure development in affected areas, including roads, railways, and power projects.

## Government efforts:

**Security Operations:** The government has launched several joint operations by central and state security forces to combat Naxalism.

**Development Initiatives:** The government has implemented development programs and welfare schemes targeting Naxal-affected regions.

**Community Engagement:** Engaging with local communities is vital to win their trust, address their grievances, and prevent their alienation from mainstream society.

**Legal and Judicial Reforms:** The government has enacted special laws and provisions to tackle Naxalism effectively. Expedited trials, witness protection, and rehabilitation programs for surrendered Naxalites are some of the measures adopted to ensure the rule of law and promote the reintegration of former insurgents.

## Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/foiling-ied-attacks-in-south-bastar-region-of-chhattisgarh-last-major-challenge-for-anti-naxal-ops-officials/article66782549.ece>

**Q.1 Which of the following statements regarding Naxalism in India is/are correct? Select the correct option(s).**

1. Naxalism is an armed movement that originated in Naxalbari village of West Bengal.
2. Naxalism primarily thrives in socio-economically marginalized areas with grievances related to land distribution and social inequality.
3. The Indian government views Naxalism as a significant internal security threat and has taken various measures to counter it.

4. Naxalism is a right-wing extremist ideology inspired by religious fundamentalism.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2, and 4 only

**Answer:(b)**

**Q.2 Which of the following statements regarding Naxalism in India is/are correct? Select the correct option(s).**

1. Naxalism emerged as a political ideology in the early 20th century with its roots in the nationalist movement against British colonial rule.
  2. Naxalism is primarily concentrated in urban areas and metropolitan cities in India.
  3. Naxalism aims to address socio-economic disparities and grievances through armed struggle and radical land reforms.
  4. Naxalism is a religious extremist movement influenced by radical Islamist ideology.
- (a) 1 and 3 only
  - (b) 3 only
  - (c) 2 and 4 only
  - (d) 1, 3, and 4 only

**Answer (b)**

**Q.3 “Discuss the socio-economic and political factors contributing to the rise and persistence of Naxalism in India. Analyze the implications of the Naxalite movement on internal security, development, and governance. Suggest effective strategies to address the root causes of Naxalism and restore peace and stability in affected regions.”**

**(15 marks)**

**Rishabh**