



CURRENT AFFAIRS



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RESOURCE EFFICIENCY CIRCULAR ECONOMY INDUSTRY COALITION (RECEIC)

This article covers “Daily Current Affairs” and the topic details “Resource Efficiency Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC)”. The topic “Resource Efficiency Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC)” has relevance in the “Economy” section of the UPSC CSE exam.

For Prelims:

*What is the Resource Efficiency Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC)?
What is Circular Economy?*

For Mains:

GS2: Economic Development, Environment

Why in the news?

The Resource Efficiency Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC) was launched on the sidelines of the 4th G-20 Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) and Environment and Climate Ministers’ meeting in Chennai. The coalition aims to promote resource efficiency and circular economy practices in the G-20 countries.

What is RECEIC?

- The Coalition, conceptualised by India’s G20 Presidency, is expected to be an industry-driven and self-sustaining initiative that will continue to function even after India’s G20 Presidency ends.
- The coalition comprises “39 original members representing 11 different countries.” The main purpose of RECEIC is to serve as a platform for exchanging knowledge and best practices, encouraging sustainable approaches within its participating industries.
- The fundamental principles of RECEIC centre on
 - fostering impactful partnerships
 - promoting technology cooperation
 - enabling financial scalability
- **Their aim is to tackle environmental issues arising from waste, encompassing areas such as plastics, microplastics, e-waste, and chemical waste.**
- The launch of RECEIC included the signing of the foundational charter and the unveiling of the coalition’s logo. Dignitaries from seven countries, including Mauritius, Denmark, Italy, Canada, UAE, France, and the European Union, participated in the event.

The Fundamental Principles of RECEIC



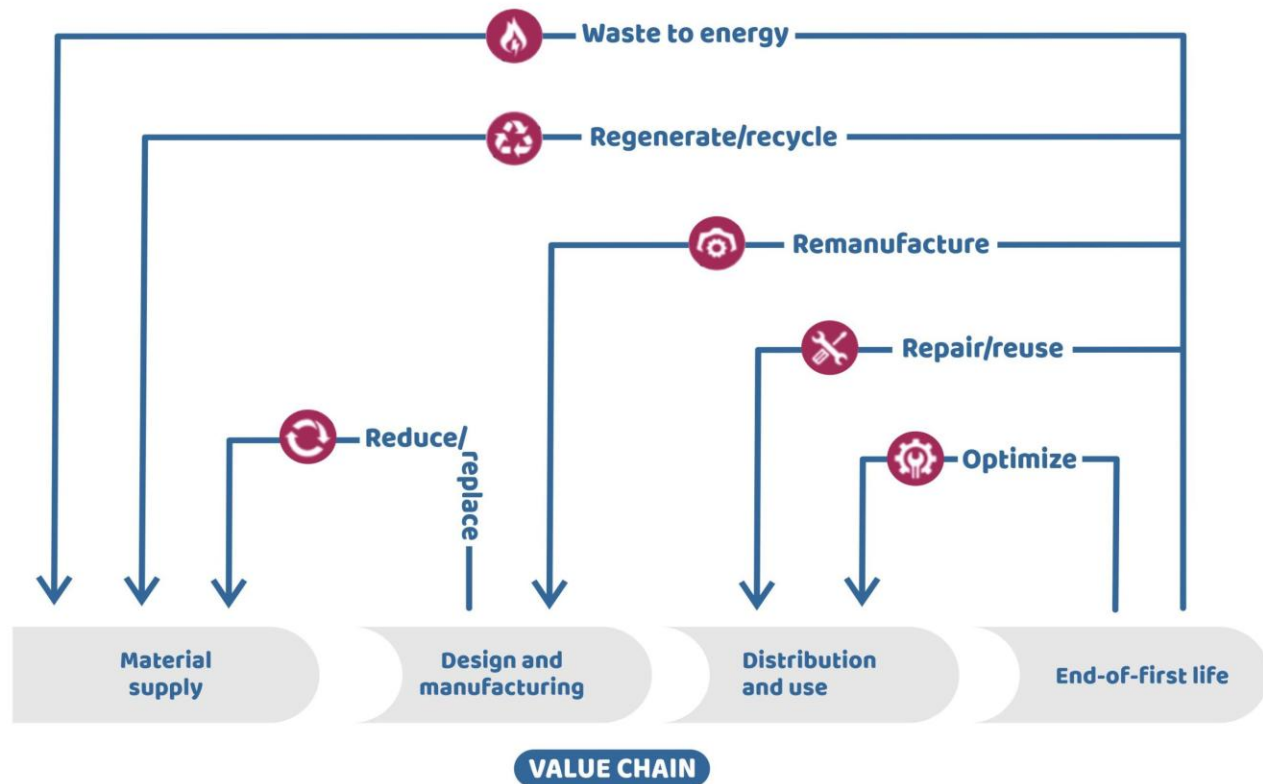
Circular Economy

The circular economy is a production and consumption model that emphasizes various practices to maximize the use of existing materials and products, aiming to extend their life cycle and minimize waste.

Key Principles:

- **Sharing:** Encouraging the sharing of resources and products among multiple users to optimize their utilization.
- **Leasing:** Promoting leasing or rental services for products, enabling multiple users to benefit from a single item's functionality.
- **Reusing:** Emphasizing the reuse of products or materials in their original form for as long as possible.
- **Repairing:** Encouraging the repair and maintenance of products to extend their useful life and prevent premature disposal.
- **Refurbishing:** Upgrading or renovating products to give them a new life and improve their functionality.
- **Recycling:** Collecting and processing materials from discarded products to create new items or inputs for other industries.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY PRACTICES



Contrasting the Linear Economic Model

- **Traditional Approach:** The linear economic model follows a linear path of take-make-consume-throw away, leading to excessive resource consumption and waste generation.
- **Challenging Planned Obsolescence:** The circular economy opposes planned obsolescence, where products are intentionally designed with a limited lifespan to stimulate frequent replacements.

Benefits of Transitioning to a Circular Economy

Environmental Protection:

- **Reducing Resource Usage:** By reusing and recycling products, natural resource consumption is minimized, curbing landscape disruption and habitat destruction.
- **Combating Climate Change:** Circular practices contribute to lower greenhouse gas emissions, as industrial processes and waste management are significant emission sources.

Reduced Raw Material Dependence:

- **Addressing Finite Supplies:** With a growing global population, circularity helps mitigate the risks associated with limited raw materials.
- **Mitigating Import Dependency:** Recycling raw materials domestically reduces reliance on imports, stabilizing supply chains and mitigating price fluctuations.

Job Creation and Consumer Savings:

- **Fostering Economic Growth:** Transitioning to a circular economy promotes innovation, making industries more competitive and supporting economic growth.
- **Job Opportunities:** Job creation is stimulated, with estimates suggesting hundreds of thousands of new jobs in the EU alone by 2030.

- **Enhanced Consumer Experience:** Durable and innovative products lead to improved quality of life for consumers and long-term cost savings.

Government Initiatives to Promote Circular Economy:

- **Policy Formulation:** Government has introduced rules like Plastic Waste Management, e-Waste Management, Construction and Demolition Waste Management, and Metals Recycling Policy to address waste management and resource utilization.
- **NITI Aayog's Efforts:** NITI Aayog has initiated projects for sustainable economic growth, waste utilization, promoting industrial by-products' usage, and organizing conferences on sustainable growth through recycling.
- **Strategic Collaboration:** NITI Aayog, along with ministries, has prepared resource efficiency strategy papers for sectors like steel, aluminum, construction, demolition, and e-waste, aiming to transition towards a circular economy.
- **Committee Formation:** 11 committees, led by concerned ministries, officials, experts, and industry representatives, have been established to develop action plans for implementing circular economy practices in their focus areas.

The circular economy presents a sustainable and economically viable alternative to the linear consumption pattern. Emphasising reuse, recycling, and responsible production practices, it offers environmental protection, resource efficiency, and economic benefits for individuals and society as a whole. By adopting this model, we can work towards a greener and more prosperous future.

Sources:

39 MNCs come together for circular economy coalition – The Hindu

Q1. With reference Resource Efficiency Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC), consider the following statements:

1. RECEIC is an industry-driven and self-sustaining coalition aimed at promoting resource efficiency and circular economy practices in G-20 countries.
2. The RECEIC initiative is solely driven by India's G20 Presidency, and its existence is expected to end after India's presidency term concludes.
3. The coalition aims to focus solely on environmental issues related to waste, such as plastics, microplastics, e-waste, and chemical waste.

Which of the statements given above is/are **NOT** correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) None

Answer: (b)

Q2. Consider the following :

1. The circular economy opposes planned obsolescence, which involves intentionally designing products with a limited lifespan to encourage frequent replacements.
2. Transitioning to a circular economy leads to a decline in job opportunities and economic growth, as it discourages innovation.
3. Transitioning to a circular economy primarily benefits businesses and industries with little impact on consumers.

How many of the abovementioned statements are correct ?

- (a) Only one

- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (a)

Q3. Examine the role of the circular economy in addressing environmental challenges, and discuss how RECEIC can contribute to tackling these issues.

Gaurav Nikumbh

LEFT WING EXTREMISM (LWE)

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details "Left Wing Extremism (LWE)". The topic "Left Wing Extremism (LWE)" has relevance in the Internal Security section of the UPSC CSE exam.

For Prelims:

Definition of Left Wing Extremism (LWE)?

Most affected areas?

Objectives of Sacred Portal?

For Mains:

GS 3: Internal Security

Factors Responsible for LWE?

Government Initiatives?

Way Forward?

Why in the news?

In a recent announcement, the Ministry for Home Affairs disclosed its decision to maintain distinct data for incidents related to Left Wing Extremists (LWE) in India, beginning from the year 2022.

Definition and Nature:

- Left Wing Extremism, also known as left-wing terrorism or radical left-wing movements, is a form of political extremism rooted in leftist ideologies.
- LWE groups seek significant social, economic, and political changes, often advocating for a classless society or socialist/communist principles.
- They believe in achieving their goals through revolutionary means, including armed struggle and violence.

Origin in India:

- The LWE movement in India originated in the late 1960s with the Naxalbari uprising in Naxalbari, West Bengal.
- Inspired by Maoist ideologies, the movement sought to address issues of landlessness, exploitation of peasants, and socioeconomic disparities.

Activities and Targets:

- LWE groups engage in various activities, including armed attacks, bombings, assassinations, and sabotage.

- They target government institutions, law enforcement agencies, infrastructure, private property, and individuals they perceive as oppressors or impediments to their goals.

The most affected areas include:

- **Chhattisgarh:** LWE has a significant presence in the southern and eastern parts of Chhattisgarh, particularly in districts like Bastar, Sukma, Bijapur, and Dantewada.
- **Jharkhand:** The state has been grappling with LWE in various districts, including Latehar, Palamu, Gumla, and Simdega.
- **Odisha:** LWE activities have been reported in some districts of Odisha, especially in areas bordering Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh.
- **Bihar:** Certain districts in Bihar, like Gaya, Aurangabad, and Jamui, have witnessed LWE-related incidents.
- **Andhra Pradesh and Telangana:** While the movement has seen a decline in these states, some areas on their border with Chhattisgarh still face LWE challenges.
- **Maharashtra:** Gadchiroli district in Maharashtra has been affected by LWE activities.
- **West Bengal:** Although the Naxalite movement had its origin in Naxalbari, West Bengal, the state has seen a decline in LWE activities in recent years.

Responsible Factors for LWE:

- **Socio-economic Disparities:** Large sections of the population living in poverty, lack of access to basic amenities, and unemployment contribute to grievances exploited by LWE groups.
- **Land Alienation and Displacement:** Land rights and acquisition issues, particularly in tribal areas, have led to displacement and resentment, providing a breeding ground for LWE.
- **Lack of Adivasi Rights:** Exploitation of natural resources in tribal regions and marginalization of Adivasis have been focal points of LWE agitation.
- **Governance Gaps:** Inadequate governance, corruption, and lack of effective administration in affected regions have facilitated LWE growth.



Government Initiatives:

- **National Policy and Action Plan to Address LWE 2015:**
- A comprehensive approach involving governance, security, and development to counter LWE.

- Focused on improving security measures, safeguarding rights of local communities, and promoting socio-economic development.
- **Integrated Action Plan (IAP):**
- Introduced in 2010 to accelerate development in 82 LWE-affected districts.
- Aimed at bridging development gaps and addressing grievances.
- **Security Operations:** Security forces undertake operations to neutralize LWE groups and leaders, ensuring law and order.
- **Surrender and Rehabilitation Policy:**
- Encourages LWE cadres to surrender and integrate into mainstream society.
- Provides rehabilitation and skill development opportunities.

Way Forward:

- Strengthening governance and administration in affected areas.
- Implementing sustainable development projects and land reforms.
- Addressing socio-economic disparities and ensuring inclusive growth.
- Fostering dialogue and reconciliation with disaffected groups.
- Combining security measures with development initiatives to root out extremism.

Q.1 Which of the following states in India have been affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE) activities?

1. Karnataka
2. Jharkhand
3. Maharashtra
4. Punjab

Select the correct option(s) from the choices given below:

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

Answer: (c)

Q.2 Which of the following statements about Left Wing Extremism (LWE) in India is/are correct?

1. LWE is a form of political extremism rooted in right-wing ideologies, seeking significant social and political changes through revolutionary means.
2. The LWE movement in India originated in the late 1960s with the Naxalbari uprising in Naxalbari, West Bengal.
3. LWE groups in India primarily target government institutions, law enforcement agencies, and individuals perceived as oppressors.

Select the correct option:

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

Answer: (c)