



Left-Wing Extremism (LWE): The Naxal-Free Bharat Goal

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Subject: GS Paper III (Internal Security) **UPSC Relevance:** Linkages between development and spread of extremism.

- **The Shift (2014-2025):** The "Red Corridor" has shrunk significantly. Affected districts reduced from **126 to 11**.
- **The "Triad" Strategy:**
 1. **Security:** Operation *Samadhan* and the deployment of specialized units like **COBRA** and **Greyhounds**.
 2. **Infrastructure:** Construction of **7,000+ km of roads** and 5,000+ mobile towers in the "Grey Zones" to break the physical and digital isolation of tribals.
 3. **Financial Choking:** The NIA has been used to crack down on the "levy" (extortion) system that fuels Naxal funding.
- **The Final Frontier:** The remaining 3 most-affected districts (Bastar, Sukma, Bijapur) are in the **Abujhmad** forest. The challenge here is the "Topographical Advantage" held by extremists.
- **Way Forward:** Post-conflict rehabilitation. The focus is shifting from "Neutralization" to "Mainstreaming" through Eklavya Schools and Skill India programs.