Defence & Security · GS - III

The Government of India recently stated that Left Wing Extremism (LWE) will be eliminated by 2026. What do you understand by LWE and how are the people affected by it? What measures have been taken by the government to eliminate LWE?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2025	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

LWE, Naxalism, Maoism, ideological extremism, tribal areas, violence, development deficit, displacement, security operations, National Policy and Action Plan, SAMADHAN

Model Answer

Introduction

Left Wing Extremism refers primarily to Maoist/Naxalite insurgency seeking to establish revolutionary political change through armed struggle against the Indian State. It has particularly affected parts of central and eastern India.

1. Impact on people

LWE affects communities through violence, killings, extortion, destruction of infrastructure and disruption of education and healthcare. It can create fear, restrict economic activity and impede development. At the same time, governance deficits, poverty, weak connectivity and unresolved livelihood concerns can create conditions exploited by extremist groups.

2. Government measures

The Union Government follows an integrated approach combining security, development and rights-based governance. Measures include:

1. Deployment and capacity building of Central Armed Police Forces.
2. Modernisation of State police and intelligence capabilities.
3. Security-related expenditure assistance and fortified police stations.
4. Roads, telecommunications and other connectivity projects.
5. Special Central Assistance for critical infrastructure in affected districts.
6. Financial disruption of extremist networks and NIA investigation.
7. Civic-action programmes and improved access to welfare and entitlements.
8. Inter-State intelligence and operational coordination.

The MHA describes this as a National Policy and Action Plan combining security, development, rights and good governance.

Conclusion

Sustainable elimination of LWE requires security pressure against armed groups alongside improved governance, livelihoods, connectivity and constitutional rights for affected communities.

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