Defence & Security · GS - III

Left Wing Extremism (LWE) is showing a downward trend, but still affects many parts of the country. Briefly explain the Government of India’s approach to counter the challenges posed by LWE.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2018	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Security operations; National Policy and Action Plan; intelligence coordination; road and telecom connectivity; development interventions; tribal rights; rehabilitation

Model Answer

Introduction

Left Wing Extremism (LWE) exploits governance deficits, socio-economic deprivation and grievances in affected regions. India’s approach combines security measures with development and protection of constitutional rights.

Government’s Approach

1. **Security response:** Central and state forces conduct coordinated operations, improve intelligence sharing and strengthen specialised counter-insurgency capabilities.
2. **National Policy and Action Plan:** The approach integrates security, development, rights and public perception.
3. **Infrastructure development:** Roads, mobile connectivity, banking access and communication networks improve state presence in remote areas.
4. **Targeted development:** Welfare delivery, education, healthcare, skill development and livelihood programmes address deprivation.
5. **Governance reforms:** Improved local administration and grievance redressal reduce alienation.

6. **Protection of tribal rights:** Effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act and PESA, where applicable, strengthens community participation.
7. **Surrender and rehabilitation:** Eligible former extremists receive support to leave violence and reintegrate into society.

Challenges

Difficult terrain, inter-state movement, attacks on infrastructure, local grievances and weak service delivery can sustain extremist influence.

Conclusion

A durable response requires proportionate security action alongside accountable governance, inclusive development and protection of tribal and land rights. Winning public trust is central to ending LWE.