

Security Class 07

27th April, 2024 at 9:00 AM

REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS CLASS: (9:08 AM)

- Marxism: Naxalbari Movement (1967-72).
- The leftwing Extremism in India is on the decline.

CAUSES BEHIND PERSISTENCE OF NAXALISM IN INDIA: (9:10 AM)

- *The only sector that remained untouched by the 1991 reforms was Agriculture.*
- *Second-generation Reforms brought various reforms with respect to Agriculture.*
- **The causes can be discussed as follows:**
- **1. Social Structure:**
- The Naxalite problem invariably coincides with conditions of Poverty and marginalization.
- Its social base is drawn from the poor which includes the Peasantry and the tribals mainly.
- In addition, some of its support is also drawn from educated individuals in urban and semi-urban areas.
- **2. Economic factors:**
- **a) Inequalities:**
- On the one hand, India has experienced relatively fast economic growth, while on the other hand, there are widening inequalities.
- To facilitate growth, businesses need more land and natural resources. However, this requirement coincides with the land rights of the tribal and the peasantry.
- **b) Development and displacement:**
- Owing to leftwing extremism, affected regions being Mineral-rich regions, investments made by industries often result in the displacement of the local population.
- Between 1947 and 2000, 80% of the displaced population comprised tribals.
- **c) Inadequate rehabilitation and resettlement:**
- The inadequacy of resettlement and rehabilitation policies leads to "**Aggravation of Deprivation**".
- Hence they develop an antagonistic attitude towards the state.
- **3. Political/Governance/Administrative factors:**
- It is argued that the main reason behind the persistence of Naxalism is the failure of governance.
- **a) Failure of land reforms:**
- The slow implementation, procedural delays, and the eventual failure of land reforms are the primary reasons behind a heavily skewed class structure and its resultant inequalities.
- Implementation of schedule V provision.
- For instance, Tribal Advisory Councils have not been constituted at various places, there is a lack of guidelines concerning their constitution, etc.
- **b) Poor governance:**
- In the past posting to naxal areas was considered punishment postings, leading to inefficient or incapable officers being deployed there.
- Oftentimes, governance fails to reach these areas, creating a political vacuum, which is then filled by parallel institutions created by the Naxals.
- Similarly, popular schemes take a long time to be devised and an even longer time to be implemented.
- Leaders often delay projects promoted by their opponent parties and at the same time, the propaganda machinery of the Naxalites convinces the locals that their only hope is Naxalites.
- *** There is an unholy nexus between politicians, bureaucracy, businessmen, and Naxalites (Conflict Economy).

- **4. Other Factors:**
- **a) External support.** For instance, China has been both overt and covert in its support of Naxalism.
- In 2009, as per the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), more than 40 Maoist leaders received their training in Nepal.
- **b) Environmental degradation:** The degradation and destruction of natural resources especially forests, wetlands, and rivers, due to mining and industrial activities also riles up the tribal communities because they are not just economically but also culturally significant to them.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA'S VARIOUS INITIATIVES FOR TACKLING NAXALISM: (10:40 AM)

- **Important initiatives of Naxalism affected area:**
- 1. To comprehensively address the left-wing extremism problem the Government has formulated a **National Policy and Action Plan**, employing a multipronged strategy covering 3 essential elements:
 - a) Security.
 - b) Development.
 - c) Safeguarding rights and entitlements of tribals and local population.
- 2. The government has come up with the **SAMADHAN Doctrine**.
- **3. Important Developmental Initiatives:**
- **a) District Mineral Development Fund**, where a proportion of proceeds from Mining activities, shall be dedicated to developmental efforts for tribal and local populations.
- **b) Under the Aspirational Districts Program**, the Central government, the State government, and the Civil Society work in unison towards health, education, and infrastructure development.
- 90% of aspirational districts are LWE (Left Wing Effectuated) affected.
- **c) Development Infrastructures** where the government provides special assistance for the creation of social infra such as schools, health facilities, and Panchayat buildings.
- For example: Eklavya model residential schools.
- **d) Civic Action Plan**, which fosters interaction between security forces and local communities to bridge the trust deficit between them.
- **e) Media Plan:** This counters the Maoist propaganda in LWE-affected areas through effective outreach campaigns.
- **f) Connectivity Projects**, such as Road connectivity projects implemented by the Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways and also the LWE Mobile tower project to improve mobile connectivity.
- **4. Scheme for modernization of Police Forces:**
- **a) Security-related Expenditure Scheme:** This includes reimbursement to the state government for any security-related expenditure in LWE-affected districts.
- **b) Special Centre Assistance Scheme:** It addresses critical gaps in public infrastructure and services.
- **c) Scheme for Fortified Police stations:** Assistance to central agencies for LWE management schemes.
- **d) Creation of elite anti-naxalite forces.** For instance, the creation of greyhounds (Andhra Pradesh), Black Panthers (Chhattisgarh), and Cobra battalion who are specially trained in anti-naxal tactics and topographical requirements.
- **e) Joint Command Centres for CRPF in naxal affected states.**
- **5. Monitoring Mechanism:**
- This includes regular assessments of the LWE situation by the Home Minister, the Home Secretary, and the Additional Secretary (Home).
- CM Conference of states affected by Naxalism under the Union Home Minister.
- **6. Rights and Entitlements:**
- *Forest Right Act.*
- *PESA Act.*

CRITIC OF THE INDIAN APPROACH TOWARDS NAXALISM:(11:32 AM)

- 1. There is a lack of coordination between State governments in terms of sharing intelligence inputs.
- 2. Lack of coordination between Central agencies and State forces.
- 3. A turf war going on between the Central Security forces and State police affects the much-needed coordination required.
- 4. Inadequate training and combat capabilities of state police forces.
- 5. A report by the CAG pointed out that in the state of Chattisgarh, the police department had a total of 49000 units of weapons of which 23% were obsolete.
- 6. The state police spent a total of Rs. 205 crores as against its allotment of Rs. 260 crores under the modernization of the Police forces scheme, leaving an unspent amount of 55 crores.
- 7. The High-handedness of Central Security Forces creates a trust deficit between the local population and the security agencies.
- 8. Inadequate surrender policies: Surrender policies of various states, do not focus on rehabilitation of Naxalites into the mainstream.

WAY FORWARD: (11:42 AM)

- **1. Political solution:**
- Making Tribal Advisory Councils functional.
- Reforms in Forests Rights Act.
- Need for strong anti-corruption legislation.
- Initiation of a sincere dialogue with the marginalized groups to resolve their issues democratically.
- Creating opportunities for them to join the mainstream.
- **2. Administrative Solutions:**
- Encouraging community involvement in developmental efforts.
- Sensitisation of local bureaucracy.
- Deputing officers with desired capabilities and motivation in LWE areas and special incentives for them.
- **3. Law and order solutions:**
- State governments need to upgrade the capability of State security forces.
- For example, Modern arms and ammunition, practical training, and special training in gorilla warfare.
- The Central government must design a model surrender cum rehabilitation policies.

TOPIC FOR THE NEXT CLASS: NORTHEAST INSURGENCY.