

Vigilant India

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Complimentary Copy

Left-Wing Extremism



TO BE WIPE OUT IN TWO YEARS



Remarkable Decline in Maoist Violence

68%

Reduction in
Death of Civilians

52%

Fall in Incidents of
Violence

72%

Dip in Death of
Security Personnel

A New Dawn: Development Wins Over Violence

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From the Editor



Balaji Srivastava

Director General, BPR&D



The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, has set forth a goal to rid India of Left-Wing extremism in the next couple of years. He said that Naxalism is a curse to humanity and the Union Government is committed to eradicate it.



In order to establish a peaceful law-and-order situation in the country, it is essential to eradicate subversive activities. In recent years, the Central government has taken significant steps in this direction and has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and extremism. Our Central Armed Police Forces, security agencies and state police forces have been instructed to deal firmly with such extremist forces. Better coordination between the police forces and security agencies has led to a dip in Maoist activities in the country.

Under the able guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Union government approved the 'National Policy & Action Plan' for dealing with Left-Wing extremism in 2015. This resulted in much more vigour in the actions of the Ministry of Home Affairs against the Naxal problem. The CAPFs have conducted several operations to combat Maoists. But what is more important is the fact that the CAPF operations are not limited to elimination of extremist actions, they also facilitate welfare measures in the lives of the local people in the affected areas. Over the past five years, there has been a significant improvement in the security situation in areas affected by Left-Wing extremism.

Recently, a high-level meeting was held in New Delhi to review the security situation in Left-Wing extremism affected states. The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, who presided over the meeting with the chief ministers and senior officials, set forth a goal to rid India of the Maoist menace in the next couple of years. He stated that Naxalism is a curse to humanity and the Union Government is committed to eradicate it. It is noteworthy to mention that in the year 2022, there has been a remarkable decrease in violence and killings in Naxal-affected areas compared to the last four decades. The data shows that there has been a 77% reduction in violent incidents in Naxal-affected states in 2022 compared to 2010.

The present issue of Vigilant India is centred on combating Left-Wing extremism. Please feel free to send your feedback at sajag-bharat@bprd.nic.in

Jai Hind!



देशभर के हमारे परिवारजनों ने खादी की खरीदारी का जो नया रिकॉर्ड बनाया है, उससे पता चलता है कि यह किस प्रकार जनभावना का एक सशक्त प्रतीक बन गई है। मुझे विश्वास है कि खादी के प्रति यह लगाव नित नए रिकॉर्ड बनाता रहेगा, जिससे आत्मनिर्भर भारत के विजन को नया बल मिलेगा।



श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री



काउन्टर टेररिज्म के एप्रोच में जीरो टॉलरेंस की नीति से आगे बढ़ जीरो टॉलरेंस स्ट्रेटजी और जीरो टॉलरेंस एक्शन को अपनाकर आतंकवाद को जड़ से समाप्त करना होगा।



**श्री अमित शाह
केंद्रीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री**



प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के यशस्वी नेतृत्व में भारत आज ग्लोबल ग्रोथ इंजन बन चुका है। आईएमएफ के अनुसार 2024 में भी भारत 6.3% की विकास दर के साथ विश्व की सबसे तेजी से बढ़ने वाली अर्थव्यवस्था बना रहेगा।



**श्री नित्यानंद राय
केंद्रीय गृह राज्य मंत्री**



Flagged off the Swachhta Freedom Run 4.0 with immense pride and enthusiasm! As we embark on this journey of #SwachhtaHiSeva, let us remember that cleanliness is not just a responsibility but a symbol of our commitment to a healthier and more beautiful India.



**Shri Nisith Pramanik
MoS, Ministry of Home Affairs**



सिविकम राहत शिविरों और मेडिकल कैंपों में आपदा प्रभावित लोगों से संपर्क, प्रभावित क्षेत्रों का दौरा किया। यहां एनडीआरएफ, आईटीबीपी और भारतीय सेना निरंतर बचाव कार्यों में लगी हुई है।



**श्री अजय मिश्रा
केंद्रीय गृह राज्य मंत्री**



केन्द्रीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री श्री अमित शाह ने 7 अक्टूबर, 2023 को उत्तराखंड के देहरादून में 49वीं अखिल भारतीय पुलिस विज्ञान कांग्रेस को मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में संबोधित किया।



**गृह मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार**



Left-Wing Extremism TO BE WIPED OUT IN TWO YEARS

The day is not far when India will be free from all forms of Left-Wing extremism. Maoist violence is shrinking every passing day. Our security personnel should be ready for a final assault on the extremists. Left-Wing extremism will be annihilated within two years.

Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

Bureau

Ever since becoming Prime Minister in 2014, Shri Narendra Modi has worked towards permanent resolution of the chronic problems plaguing the nation. Left-Wing extremism is one such big liability. To combat the menace of Maoism, he has guided a collaborative approach between the Centre and the states due to which there has been a considerable reduction in extremist incidents over the past nine years. Under his guidance, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah

formulated a three-pronged strategy that is working well resulting in continuous eradication of Left-Wing extremism from many areas of the country.

The Central Government believes that unless the country is completely rid of the problem of Left-Wing extremism, the full development potential of India cannot be realised. The Union Home Ministry has been working on a 'National Policy and Action Plan' since 2015 to deal with the threat of Left-Wing extremism. The policy advocates zero-tolerance towards violence.

The Central Government assists states for the modernisation and training of police forces. This



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has always opposed Left-Wing extremism that breeds violence and insecurity. Under his astute leadership, the Union Government is committed to eradicate the menace of Maoism completely. Meanwhile, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, has aptly stated that Maoism is 'a curse against humanity'. He said that the Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with various security agencies is working with the States to uproot the evil and it would be completely eliminated.

includes funds for special infrastructure, planning and security related expenses. Similarly, the Centre has also initiated many development projects, including the sanctioning of 17,600-km roads in areas prone to Left-Wing extremism. In addition, the states are also provided helicopters and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for regular monitoring. CAPF battalions are also deployed on the request of the states for enhancing the capacities and security network of the states. India Reserve Battalion has also been formed in different states to further augment the capabilities of the state police forces to combat Left-Wing extremists.

Under the umbrella of modernisation of police forces, many other sub-schemes are being implemented on the demand of the states affected by Left-Wing extremism and they include special funds for augmenting infrastructure. Projects worth ₹971 crore have been sanctioned as part of such sub-schemes. These projects also consist of 250 fortified police stations out of which 204 have already been constructed.

On the occasion of Police Commemoration Day on October 21, Shri Shah paid tributes to the Police martyrs at the National Police Memorial in New Delhi. He said that while maintaining a zero-tolerance policy against terrorism, the government has enacted stringent laws to curb its spread. For the modernisation of the police, the 'Police Technology Mission' has been established with the aim of creating the world's best anti-terrorism

Key Announcements

- ⇒ All citizens will have access to banking facilities within five kilometres of their homes.
- ⇒ The pace of opening schools under the Eklavya Model will be accelerated.
- ⇒ Emphasis should be on improving road and telecom connectivity, financial inclusion, skill development and education.
- ⇒ Ensuring the rights of local communities along with development works will remain a priority, while enforcing security measures.

force in India. "Since the last one decade, due to our brave police personnel, there has been a reduction of 65% in incidents of terrorism, insurgent attacks, Naxalism and racial violence", he said.

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has created a separate Division for combating Maoism. It has been named the Left-Wing Extremism Division. It includes all references to Maoism under the Communist Party of India (Maoist) and other Left-Wing extremist organisations listed in the schedule of terrorist organisations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The Union Government has also sent messages to the Left-Wing extremists to abandon violence and come forward for talks.



In general, it is the backward tribal communities who have fallen prey to Naxalist violence. Many liberal intellectuals too become victims of Maoist propaganda without understanding the true nature of Left-Wing principles that glorify violence. Between the years 2004 to 2022, Left-Wing extremists have killed nearly 8,625 people in various parts of India. Most of the civilians killed are tribals who are often brutally tortured and labelled as police informers before being murdered. In reality, these tribal and economically backward classes, whom the Maoists claim to support, have been the biggest victims of the so-called 'Protracted People's War' against the Indian nation by the CPI (Maoist).

Emphasis on Infrastructure

The Road Requirement Plan (RRP) for areas affected by Left-Wing extremism is being implemented

by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to improve road connectivity in 34 districts across eight states, namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh. This plan envisaged the construction of 5,362 kilometres of roads, out of which 5,136 kilometres have already been completed. To enhance mobile connectivity in regions affected by Naxalism, the Government approved the installation of mobile towers in these areas on August 20, 2014, and in the first phase of the project, 2,343 mobile towers have been installed. In the second phase, 2,542 mobile towers are being installed.

Civic Action Programme

In areas affected by Left-Wing extremism, the Civic Action Programme is being implemented as a sub-scheme for the modernisation of police forces

Significant Drop in Maoist Violence

52%
Reduction in
LWE Incidents

53% Reduction
in Districts
Reporting LWE
Incidents

68% Reduction
in Death of
Civilians

72% Reduction in
Death of Security
Personnel

62% Reduction
in Police Stations
Reporting LWE
Incidents

49^{वीं} अखिल भारतीय पुलिस विज्ञान काँग्रेस 49th All India Police Science Congress

on

अमृतकाले पुलिसप्रक्रिया
अमृत काल में पुलिसिंग
Policing in Amrit Kaal

दिनांक 07 - 08 अक्टूबर, 2023 देहरादून, उत्तराखण्ड



and to act as a bridge between security forces and the local population. Since this programme displays a people-friendly behaviour of the security forces, it has become successful in mentoring people against the extremists. Under this scheme, funds are released to the Central Armed Police Forces deployed in areas affected by Left-Wing extremism for conducting various civic activities for the welfare of local people.

Fight in a Crucial Phase

The Government of India has undertaken various developmental initiatives to facilitate the development of states affected by Left-Wing extremism. These include the approval of 17,600 kilometres of roads and mobile towers that are being installed to improve telecommunication connectivity in the affected districts. Post offices, bank branches and ATMs have been established and banking correspondents deployed to ensure the financial inclusion of the people in these districts. The fight against Left-Wing extremism has reached a significant phase, and the Government is optimistic about eliminating it completely.

The Government of India believes that by

focusing on development and security initiatives with a comprehensive approach, the problem of Left-Wing extremism can be successfully addressed. However, it is clear that the Left-Wing extremists do not wish to meaningfully resolve core issues such as underdevelopment, otherwise they would not often target useful infrastructure such as schools, roads, railways, bridges, health and communication facilities. Their actions are a means for them to maintain their outdated ideology by keeping the people in their areas of influence marginalised.

Thus, the impact of Left-Wing extremism has pushed back the development process in many parts of the country by decades. It is essential for civil society and the media to understand their tactics, so that pressure can be exerted on Left-Wing extremists to abandon violence and join the mainstream. There is a need to accept that the socio-economic and political aspirations of 21st Century India cannot be fulfilled through a Maoist perspective. Additionally, any ideology based on violence cannot succeed in a democratic system where legitimate platforms exist for the redressal of grievances. ■

New Age Technology to Uproot Terror Funding Ecosystem



Anti-terrorist agencies will have to adopt a ruthless approach to ensure that no new terrorist organisations are formed.

Bureau

There is no room for concessions when it comes to terrorism and terrorist organisations. They must be decisively eliminated. During his address at the third Anti-Terrorism Conference organised by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in New Delhi on October 5, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, urged all security agencies to adopt a resolute stance. He emphasised on the need for anti-terrorism agencies to be resolute in their efforts to prevent the proliferation of new terrorist organisations.

In his speech, Shri Shah also underscored the importance of dismantling not just terrorism, but the entire terrorist ecosystem. He praised the effective measures taken by the Union Government, led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, in addressing challenges

related to cryptocurrency, hawala, terrorist financing, organised crime groups and narco- terrorism.

The Home Minister highlighted that the Union Government's determined decisions have led to significant reduction in violence in regions such as Jammu and Kashmir, Naxal-affected areas and the Northeast. "Over the past five years, the Government has compiled extensive databases, and it is imperative that all Central and state agencies leverage these multi-dimensionally. This approach is vital for our collective success in the fight against terrorism, employing these databases for investigation, prosecution, prevention and action", he said.

The two-day counter-terrorism conference was also attended by the Union Minister of State for Home, Shri Nisith Pramanik, Union Home Secretary, Director of the Intelligence Bureau, Director General of NIA, as well as the Director Generals of Central Armed Police Forces, State Police chiefs along with senior officials from both Central and state governments.

Shri Shah said that the task of NIA, ATS and STF should not be limited to investigation, but they should also think out of the box and take innovative measures to fight terrorism. He said the fight against terrorism requires collaboration from the global level to the grassroots, involving various states within the country along with international cooperation. Both Central and state agencies should harness the power of AI-based technology to investigate terrorism cases, he added. He also emphasised on the need for a standardised training programme for all Central and state-level counter-terrorism agencies to ensure consistency in their anti-terrorism methodologies. He called upon the NIA and IB to lead the effort in this regard.

The Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System has been implemented in 99.93% (16,733) police stations across the country. Moreover, 22,000 courts have been integrated into e-court systems. The National Automated Fingerprint Identification System holds records of over 90 lakh fingerprints. The data on 22,000 terrorist cases is also available for monitoring under the Integrated Monitoring of Terrorism (i-MOT), along with information on UAPA registered cases. ■



Fight Against Left-Wing Extremism in Final Phase

Bureau

When it comes to matters of national security, the Union Government is determined to achieve its objectives without any compromise. The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, has made a firm resolve to completely eradicate Left-Wing extremism from the country. The Union Home Ministry has instructed all related security and investigative agencies to dedicate themselves entirely to this mission. A precise action plan is also being implemented. The Home Minister is confident that Left-Wing extremism will be wiped out from India within the next two years.

On October 6, a review meeting on Left-Wing extremism was held in New Delhi where Chief Ministers and senior officials of the states affected with Maoist violence participated. Chaired by Union Home Minister Shri Shah, the meeting included Union Ministers, the National Security Advisor, the Union Home Secretary, Directors General of Central Armed Police Forces, Secretaries of the Union Government, Chief Secretaries of the states, Director Generals of Police and other senior officials.

Presiding over the meeting, Union Home Minister Shri Shah said that since 2019, Maoist violence affected areas have been consistently shrinking and 195 new camps of Central Armed Police Forces have been established, with an additional 44 new camps to be set up.

Shri Shah said that deployment of Central Armed

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, significant success has been achieved in tightening the grip on Left-Wing extremism in the last nine years. The fight has now entered a decisive phase. With firm determination and cooperation from all Left-Wing extremism affected states, the problem has been tackled substantially.

Police Forces, the streamlining of development activities and the establishment of security camps are the Government's priorities.

Union Home Minister Shri Shah stated that the Union Government has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards Left-Wing extremism since 2014. As a result of this policy, the lowest violence and deaths in the last four decades was recorded in 2022. Comparing the period from 2005 to 2014 with 2014 to 2023, there has been a reduction of over 52% in Left-Wing extremism-related violence, a 69% decrease in deaths and a 72% decrease in casualties among security forces.

Shri Shah announced that Left-Wing extremism would be completely eradicated in the next two years. Since 2019, the areas controlled by Naxalites have rapidly decreased. It was the year when Shri Shah took over the responsibility of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs. This is evident from the fact that 195



To strike at the funding of Left-Wing extremism, the NIA and ED are working in tandem with the security agencies. The affected States need to make concerted efforts by forming joint teams of civil and police administration to stop terror financing.

Shri Amit Shah
Union Home Minister and
Minister of Cooperation

new camps of central forces have been established to counter the Naxalites and an additional 44 camps would be set up for a decisive battle against them.

While presiding over the review meeting, Shri Shah said, “Naxalism is a curse to humanity and the Union Government is committed to uproot it in all its forms”.

To strike at the funding of Left-Wing extremism, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) are working in tandem with the security agencies of the states. The affected states need to make concerted efforts by forming joint teams of civil and police administration to stop the financing of Left-Wing extremism, the Home Minister said. He also said that the Government has increased the compensation to the families of deceased victims of Left-Wing extremism from ₹5 lakh to ₹20 lakh in 2017, and it has now been further increased to ₹40 lakh.

The Union Government has taken several steps to accelerate development in the states affected by Left-Wing extremism. The Home Minister stated that special attention is being given to sectors such as road construction, telecommunication, financial inclusion, skill development and education for the benefit of the

local population.

Shri Shah mentioned that under the Special Infrastructure Scheme, the Union Government has initiated over 14,000 projects to speed up development in districts most affected by Left-Wing extremism. He said that more than 80% of these projects have been completed and ₹3,296 crore released to the states affected by Left-Wing extremism. Also, projects worth ₹992 crore have been approved to strengthen state intelligence branches, special security forces and squads in the affected states. The Government has nearly doubled the expenditure on security in the last nine years, the Home Minister said. ■





A Call to Connect

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, called upon the tribal youth to play a significant role in spreading awareness to eradicate the ideology of Left-Wing extremism. He also urged them not to follow the path of violence and join the mainstream.

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The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, interacted with tribal youth in New Delhi on October 18 under the Tribal Youth Exchange Programme which sensitised them about their rich traditional and cultural heritage and enabled them to preserve it for future generations. During his interaction, he listened to the problems faced by tribal youth and explained about the various schemes initiated by the Government. He said the Union Government was taking several steps to accelerate development in Naxalism affected states. Special attention was being given to sectors such as road construction, telecommunications, financial inclusion, skill development and education, the Home Minister added.

Shri Shah said that the Union Government initiated more than 14,000 projects under a Special Central Assistance Scheme in the districts most affected by Left-Wing extremism. More than 80% of these projects have been completed. Under the scheme, ₹3,296 crore has been released to the affected states. Special infrastructure projects worth ₹992 crore have also been

approved for the construction of fortified police stations and strengthening state intelligence branches. “Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Central Government has almost doubled the security-related expenditure in the last nine years”, he said.

The Union Home Minister said that in the areas affected by Left-Wing extremism, a false notion was being spread that there was no future for the children of the tribal communities. However, he cautioned that employment could not be attained through violence; instead, it was essential to connect with the mainstream society for development and basic infrastructure. “Those who do not want mobile towers, roads and other essential facilities in the Left-Wing extremism-affected areas are creating obstacles in the path of the youth’s bright future”, he said.

The Union Home Minister said that it was the responsibility of the youth to ensure that they neither follow the wrong path themselves nor allow others to do so. “Left-Wing extremists and their ideology are against the interest of the country’s development and future”, he said, adding that the tribal youth should play an important role in eradicating Left-Wing extremism.

The Union Home Minister said that the tribal youth should share their experiences from the youth exchange programme. He said they should tell fellow villagers how the country's progress provides immense possibilities for the tribal communities. Shri Shah said that man's destiny is not decided by his place of birth, but by his endeavour. He said that wealth, knowledge and respect can only be obtained through one's own efforts. He said that they should decide what they want to attain in their lives and work diligently towards achieving it. He told them that they deserve the best and their future will indeed be bright under the able leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi.

According to available data, from 2006-07 to 2022-23, a total of 25,880 tribal youth participated in the exchange programme. However, in the last nine years (from 2014-15 to 2022-23), as many as 20,700 youth took part, including 10,200 youth in the last four years (from 2019-20 to 2022-23). This year, 5,000 young men and women took part in the programme. Initially, 2,000 participants used to take part in the programme annually, which was increased to 4,000 in August 2019 and thereafter to 5,000 participants annually in 2022.

During his interaction, the Union Home Minister said that there are many opportunities available for tribal people and it is a matter of pride that a tribal woman, Shrimati Droupadi Murmu, is the President of India. He added that Prime Minister Shri Modi has given the go-ahead to construct 10 tribal museums across the country at a cost of ₹200 crore in memory of tribal freedom fighters who sacrificed everything for the country's struggle for Independence.

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has been running the Tribal Youth Exchange Programme for the last 15 years. It is being carried out under the aegis of the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, which functions under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. It involves taking tribal youth from remote areas that are most affected by Left-Wing extremism on tour to major cities across the country. This exposes the youth to modern societies and boosts their aspirations. The exchange programme also counters the propaganda spread against the Government by the Left-Wing extremists. The youth from these areas are made aware of developmental activities and industrial advancement. They are also sensitised towards India's rich cultural heritage. This exposure strengthens their trust in the democratic



Those who do not want to allow mobile towers, roads and other essential facilities to come up in left-wing extremism affected areas are creating obstacles for our tribal youth.

Shri Amit Shah
Union Home Minister and
Minister of Cooperation

Key Objectives of Tribal Youth Exchange Programme

- ⇒ Countering CPI (Maoist) propaganda against the Government.
- ⇒ Elevating aspirations of the youth in Left-Wing extremism-affected areas.
- ⇒ Acquainting them with job opportunities, development and industrial advancement.
- ⇒ Fostering appreciation for India's diverse cultural heritage.
- ⇒ Strengthening belief in the democratic process.
- ⇒ Enlightening tribal youth about development and welfare schemes.
- ⇒ Cultivating emotional bonds with peers from different regions.

system. After such events, when these tribal youth return to their villages, they apprise the local people of the Government's developmental and welfare schemes. ■

Reviving Democracy: MHA's

The tide is turning in areas previously influenced by Maoists. The strategy of simultaneously encouraging development and enforcing strict security measures are proving to be effective. Tangible results are emerging and there is a growing sense of encouragement among the once affected population to actively participate in the democratic process.



Bureau

In Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh, a 17-year-old bridge now linking Bansaguda and Hirapur villages stands over the Thalperu river — a structure once avoided by villagers due to the pervasive fear of Maoists. This fear had led to the migration of many villagers to Telangana, as the bridge, meant to connect over two dozen villages, remained out of bounds because of the fear of the Maoists.

However, the tide is turning. The opening of a Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) camp in Bansaguda has initiated a significant change. With the CAPF now

patrolling the entire area, people have started to return, breathing new life into these once-isolated communities.

This resurgence of hope is further solidified by the establishment of polling booths for the Assembly elections, a remarkable shift given the absence of such facilities for the past 17 years due to Maoist intimidation. In the broader Bastar region, encompassing seven districts, 126 new polling booths with heightened security are being set up in areas previously dominated by Maoists. This move signifies not only the restoration of democratic processes, but also the successful efforts of the CAPF and Chhattisgarh

Strategy Yields Results

Police in regaining the trust of local communities.

Forty of these new polling booths are strategically placed within villages, so that people would not have to travel to vote, illustrating the effectiveness of the security measures in place. This entire operation, undertaken with extreme caution, aims to demonstrate that democratic practices are indeed feasible in these regions, dispelling any lingering fear of Maoist activities.

To reinforce this sense of security, 26 new CAPF camps have been established. In an exemplary instance at Chandametha, residents had cast their votes for the first time in 40 years.

In certain Maoist-affected areas, where the challenges are greater, polling parties were dispatched under the strict surveillance of the CAPF, even utilising helicopters to ensure the villagers' vote. For instance, in Sukma district, residents of six villages took part in the electoral process, marking their first opportunity to vote in more than 20 years.

The overarching impact of these developments is a significant reduction in fear and the reintegration of tribal communities into the mainstream, facilitated by the strategic deployment of the CAPF in collaboration with State Police. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has played a crucial role in supporting State Governments to enhance their capacity and strengthen security apparatus. The deployment of CAPF Battalions, along with the provision of helicopters, UAVs and the sanctioning of India Reserve Battalions (IRBs) and Special India Reserve Battalions (SIRBs), has instilled a sense of dread among the Maoist elements.

Under the Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS), projects worth ₹992 crore have been sanctioned, primarily for the construction of fortified police stations and the strengthening of State Intelligence branches and Special Forces. This effort has resulted in the construction of 536 fortified police stations since 2014, a substantial increase from the 66 built before this period.

The actionable intelligence provided by the Intelligence Bureau (IB) and State Intelligence agencies has been crucial in enabling the security forces to neutralise key figures in the Maoist leadership. Additionally, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has established a dedicated vertical for Left-Wing Extremism (LWE), accelerating the investigation and



prosecution of related cases. Financial investigations at both the Central and State level have been instrumental in disrupting Maoist logistic supply lines.

To win over the people, the Government of India's initiatives for the development of LWE affected States have encompassed a broad spectrum of projects. These include the expansion of road networks, with 12,100 km of roads sanctioned and 10,300 km constructed over the last nine years. Efforts in telecom connectivity have led to the installation of over 3,000 mobile towers, with another 13,000 currently under installation. The postal network has also been expanded, with 4,903 post offices opened to ensure coverage within 3 km of each Gram Panchayat. In the banking sector, 955 branches and 839 ATMs have been established in the 30 most affected districts in the past eight years.

In the realm of education, the Government has sanctioned 252 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) in LWE affected districts, with 163 becoming operational in the last four years. The Special Central Assistance (SCA) Scheme has launched more than 14,000 projects, with over 80% already completed. It has released ₹3,296 crore to the affected States.

These comprehensive measures have led to a significant decrease in LWE violence and its geographical spread. The incidents of LWE violence have plummeted by 76% in 2022 compared to 2010. ■

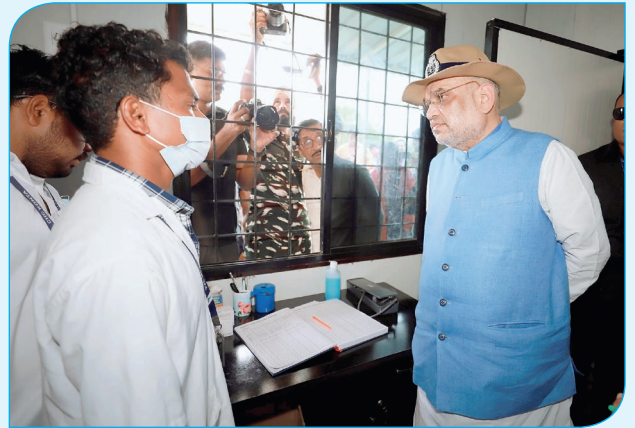
A New Dawn: Development

Areas which were severely affected by Left-Wing extremism have transitioned from violence to development, thanks to the policies of the Union Government and the actions of the Central Armed Police Forces. People are now benefitting from various Central Government schemes and facilities.

Bureau

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, undertook a visit to Sukma in Chhattisgarh, a region once plagued by Left-Wing extremism. His purpose was to gain insights into the challenges faced by the local populace and find a resolution to the menace. Throughout his stay, Shri Shah toured local schools, hospitals, and warehouses, engaging with residents. While inquiring about the well-being of children, women, the elderly, and government employees, the Minister emphasised the imminent need for a decisive campaign against the Naxalites, currently confined to limited areas. Speaking to school children in Potakpalli village, he affirmed that the time had come for a conclusive assault, expressing optimism that the nation would soon be freed from the decades-old menace of Naxalism.

The Union Government has formulated a 'National Policy and Action Plan' tailored to address the challenges posed by Left-Wing extremism. This comprehensive strategy encompasses security measures, development initiatives, protection of tribal and local community rights and perception



management. To accomplish these objectives, the action plan has been in effect in areas that are prone to Left-Wing extremism. It allocates funds to the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) for executing various civic projects aimed at improving the well-being of local residents, yielding visible positive outcomes in recent years.

The CRPF has established direct connections with the local populace in these areas, fostering trust and initiating a new era of development. People now turn to the CRPF to meet many of their fundamental needs, revealing the humane side of the security personnel to



Wins Over Violence

the public. Efforts are being made to build confidence among the population, consistently winning the hearts and minds of the local people and deterring them from the influence of Left-Wing extremists. Through the provision of medical and healthcare services, the CRPF has played a crucial role in addressing the fundamental healthcare requirements of the local population. The availability of medical services, health education and access to safe drinking water facilities within this programme has not only enhanced health outcomes, but also reduced preventable illnesses. In essence, these endeavours are instrumental in fostering trust and goodwill within the local community, eliciting their support and cooperation in counter-insurgency operations. These actions have effectively countered the influence of Left-Wing extremist groups. Moreover, the enhancement of public health is contributing to the overall development of the regions, indirectly bolstering livelihoods.

The scheme includes a range of initiatives such as vocational training, skill development relevant to handicrafts and cottage industries, pre-recruitment training for young individuals, career counselling and coaching.

These efforts have empowered impoverished villagers with skills, effectively curbing unemployment and dissuading them from joining extremist groups. The quality of life for local residents in these areas has also seen a significant upswing.

In regions affected by Left-Wing extremism, where poverty, malnutrition, food scarcity and limited economic prospects were prevalent, the CRPF has undertaken measures to provide high quality seeds,



fertilisers, water harvesting structures and fruit-bearing plants. Additionally, it offers comprehensive support to assist villagers in establishing cooperative farms for pig rearing, goat husbandry and poultry farming, thereby enhancing livelihood and food security. As the local population attains economic stability and begins to place trust in Government initiatives, the allure of extremist ideologies and recruitment efforts diminishes.

The implementation of non-conventional energy sources, including the distribution of streetlights and solar lamps, has notably enhanced the safety of the local population and facilitated various activities necessitating illumination, such as small-scale businesses, agricultural initiatives and educational pursuits. The shift to non-conventional energy resources has lessened the reliance on conventional options such as kerosene lamps and diesel generators, which are both costly and detrimental to both health and the environment. ■



PM Felicitates Athletes for their Splendid Show at Asian Games



Bureau

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Indian athletes at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi after their successful participation in the Asian Games on October 10. He congratulated the athletes for their remarkable performance in Hangzhou in China, where they bagged 107 medals, including 28 gold medals. This was India's best performance at the continental multi-sport event.

The Prime Minister said, "You have made history. The statistics from this Asian Games bear testimony to India's achievement. This surely was India's finest performance in the Asian Games and I take great personal satisfaction in the direction we are moving". He also noted the historical significance of the moment as the inaugural edition of the Asian Games took place in the same stadium in New Delhi in 1951.

Emphasising on the courage and determination of India's athletes, Prime Minister Shri Modi said that their achievements have ignited celebrations across the entire nation. He acknowledged the rigorous efforts of the athletes to surpass the 100-medal target and also commended the coaches, trainers, physiotherapists and officials. He extended his gratitude to their

The budget for sports in the country has increased by three times in the last nine years. Our Target Olympic Podium Scheme and Khelo India have proved to be real game changers.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

parents, recognising the significant contributions and sacrifices made by their families. "From the training grounds to the grand stage, this journey would have been impossible without the support of your parents," the Prime Minister said.

Prime Minister Shri Modi expressed his satisfaction for the remarkable contributions of the female athletes, highlighting their exceptional abilities. Notably, more than half of the medals were achieved by women athletes, with the women's cricket team securing the gold medal. He said, "India's daughters are determined to achieve nothing less than the first place in sports." ■

Standing Tall



Bureau

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi engaged in an interactive session with the personnel of the Army, Border Roads Organisation and Indo-Tibetan Border Police at Parvati Kund and Gunji in Uttarakhand. He emphasised that their commitment and determination serve as a source of inspiration for the entire nation.

The Prime Minister reiterated his vision that this decade would be dedicated to the progress and development of Uttarakhand. Following the meeting, he shared a photo of the interaction on social media, expressing his admiration for the dedicated personnel. He lauded their commitment and service in challenging conditions, highlighting how their dedication serves as a source of inspiration for the entire nation.

On the same day, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for many development projects valued at approximately ₹4,200 crore in Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh district, dedicating them to the nation. Earlier, he performed a puja and visited Parvati Kund, where he prayed and pledged for the good health of every Indian and the progress of the country. He sought blessings for the fulfilment of the aspirations of the people of Uttarakhand.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister expressed his deep gratitude for the overwhelming love, affection and blessings he received from the people of Uttarakhand, describing it as an outpouring of affection akin to the Ganga River. He also paid tribute

During his visit to Parvati Kund and Gunji in Uttarakhand on October 12, the Prime Minister met with the personnel of the Army, Border Roads Organisation and Indo-Tibetan Border Police. He also inquired about their well-being and infused them with renewed enthusiasm.

to the region's rich spiritual and courageous heritage.

The Prime Minister highlighted the significant contribution of every village in Uttarakhand to the nation's defence, producing dedicated military personnel guarding India's borders. He emphasised that the Union Government has fulfilled their long-standing demand for 'One Rank One Pension' with over ₹70,000 crore disbursed under the scheme, benefiting more than 75,000 ex-servicemen's families.

The development of border regions is a top priority for the Union Government, with a rapid expansion of services in these areas. Shri Modi emphasised that the current Government's focus on infrastructure development in border areas is characterised by a fearless approach, stating that 'New India' is unafraid.

Over the last nine years, more than 4,200 kilometres of roads, 250 bridges and 22 tunnels have been constructed in border areas. Regarding ongoing projects, the Prime Minister revealed plans to extend the railway network deep into the border regions. ■

A Confluence of Global Parliamentary Practices

Bureau

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 9th G20 Parliamentary Speakers' (P20) Summit at the newly constructed Yashobhoomi Convention Centre in the national capital on October 13. In his address to the presiding officers of the G20 member countries, he emphasised the pivotal role of the parliaments as a crucial ground for dialogue and deliberation. Notably, the Prime Minister addressed the conference with the central theme of 'Parliament for One Earth, One Family and One Future'.

Prime Minister Shri Modi also apprised the attendees of India's recent landmark decision to allocate 33% of Parliamentary and State Assembly seats to women. Additionally, he highlighted the remarkable fact that over 50% of elected representatives in local self-government institutions in India are women. He said, "Today, India is actively promoting women's participation across all sectors, and the recent parliamentary decision will further enrich our democratic traditions".

The Prime Minister emphasised the steadfast faith of Indian citizens in the country's parliamentary traditions, attributing it to the nation's rich diversity and vibrancy. He remarked, "India boasts a multitude of religions, food habits, diverse lifestyles, languages and dialects".

Shri Modi also highlighted India's vast information landscape, with over 900 television channels in 28 languages, 33,000 newspapers and an estimated 300 crore users on different social media platforms. He underscored the robust flow of information and the high degree of freedom of expression in India. "In this 21st Century, India's diversity and unity are its greatest strengths, inspiring us to confront challenges and overcome difficulties together", the Prime Minister said.

Addressing the interconnected nature of the global landscape, the Prime Minister stressed that a world marked by conflicts and divisions is detrimental to everyone's interests. "The present time calls for peace,



There is a reason for the faith of our citizens in the parliamentary traditions of India. Our strength is our diversity, our vastness, our vibrancy. We have people of every faith living here.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

unity, and collective progress. It is essential to overcome global mistrust and move forward with a human-centric approach, viewing the world with the perspective of — One Earth, One Family, One Future", he said.

Underlining the importance of broader participation in global decision-making bodies, the Prime Minister mentioned the acceptance of India's proposal to include the African Union in the G20, which received unanimous support from all member countries.

The Prime Minister underscored that there is no better means than public participation to address global challenges. ■

Ferry Service to Boost Lanka Ties

Bureau

After four decades, a ferry service connecting Nagapattinam in India with Kankasanturai in Sri Lanka has been inaugurated, ushering in new opportunities for both nations. Addressing via a video message on October 14, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi emphasised that India and Sri Lanka are embarking on a fresh chapter in their diplomatic and economic relations. The launch of the ferry service between Nagapattinam and Kankasanturai marks a significant milestone in fortifying the bonds between the two countries, he said.

The Prime Minister reminisced about his visit to Sri Lanka in 2015, which marked the initiation of direct flights between New Delhi and Colombo. He also highlighted the celebration of the first international flight arriving from Sri Lanka to the holy town of Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh. Furthermore, he mentioned the launch of direct flights between Chennai and Jaffna in 2019, underscoring the importance of the new ferry service between Nagapattinam and Kankasanturai in further advancing this collaboration.

Highlighting the shared history of culture, trade and civilisation between India and Sri Lanka, the Prime Minister said that Nagapattinam and its neighbouring towns have a longstanding legacy of maritime commerce, engaging with various countries, including Sri Lanka. These regions are also featured in ancient Tamil literature, such as Poompuhar, which mentions their importance in historical maritime trade. The Prime Minister also discussed the significance of Sangam era literature, including works such as Pattinappalai and Manimekalai, which describe maritime interactions between the two South Asian nations.

Prime Minister Shri Modi underscored the pivotal role of partnership in the progress and development of India-Sri Lanka bilateral relations. He said, "Our vision is to bring development to all, leaving no one behind". He cited various projects in Sri Lanka, supported by India, that have significantly improved the quality of life for the people. These projects encompass housing, water supply, healthcare and livelihood support in Sri Lanka's Tamil majority Northern Province.

The Prime Minister expressed his delight in



Connectivity brings countries closer, brings people together and connects our hearts. It is not just about connecting two cities.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

contributing to the progress of the Kankasanturai Port and noted the restoration of railway lines, the construction of the Jaffna Cultural Centre, the launch of an emergency ambulance service across Sri Lanka and the establishment of the Multi-Speciality Hospital at Dickoya, all of which align with the vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas'.

The Prime Minister also mentioned the recent G20 Summit hosted by India and its commitment to the concept of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', which has been warmly received on the global stage. He highlighted India's focus on sharing progress and prosperity with neighbouring countries, including the launch of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor during the G20 Summit. This corridor is seen as a vital connectivity initiative that will generate substantial economic benefits across the region, including Sri Lanka.

Shri Modi expressed his gratitude to the people of Sri Lanka for the successful launch of the ferry service and also announced the resumption of the ferry service between Rameswaram and Talaimannar. ■

Counter-Terrorism Enters A New Era With Zero-Tolerance Approach



Newly-recruited and young police officers across the country should focus on issues such as security of our critical infrastructure, keep an eye on activities on cyberspace and continuously monitor social media platforms. They should also keep a vigil on visas issued by the foreign embassies.

Bureau

Over the past nine years, the Central Government has made remarkable progress in enhancing law and order in regions such as Jammu and Kashmir, Naxal-affected areas and the Northeast. Further initiatives are planned for the next five years, with India's self-reliance in internal security gaining momentum.

During his address at the 49th All India Police Science Congress on October 7, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, emphasised that no nation can progress without strengthening both its internal and border security. Good law and order are the fundamental prerequisites for development, he said.

During his speech, Shri Shah highlighted the significance of the event as it was held in Amrit

Kaal. He emphasised Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision for India to lead in all global fields by the centenary year of its Independence in 2047, stressing that achieving the goal requires strenuous efforts in every sector. Key to this endeavour is the strengthening of law and order, internal security and border security, he said.

The Union Home Minister underscored that no nation can progress without fortifying its internal and border security, making good law and order a fundamental prerequisite for development. To this end, the Ministry of Home Affairs has implemented several measures to enhance law and order across the country. These changes will soon be realised on the ground, contributing to the nation's success.

Shri Shah noted that between 2019 and 2023, significant changes have been made in various sectors nationwide. Talking about the Northeastern region,



Shri Amit Shah Heaps Praises on BPR&D

The Union Home Minister announced the release of the Compendium of the 49th All India Police Science Congress and highlighted the launch of the esteemed Hindi magazine Police Science published by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), along with the magazine 'Uttarakhand Police — Marching with the Times'. Over the past five years, the Union Home Ministry has undertaken several measures to strengthen the BPR&D. The Bureau's charter encompasses various aspects, including maritime border management, enhancing the capabilities of the Central Armed Police Forces, addressing internal security challenges, improving the image of the police and enhancing police-community interactions. A dedicated division has been established to encourage the development of indigenous devices, fostering meaningful dialogue with researchers, scientists, professors, students and industries.

Guided by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji's leadership, our nation is advancing across various domains and is poised to emerge as a robust economic force in the near future. Consequently, it becomes imperative for the police and security agencies nationwide to intensify their role in safeguarding our economic institutions.

Shri Amit Shah
Union Home Minister and
Minister of Cooperation

he expressed his satisfaction about infrastructure projects that have enhanced connectivity with other parts of the country. He also highlighted the comprehensive focus on improving the law and order situation in the country during the last four years.

The Union Home Minister emphasised that India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi, is making remarkable progress in all sectors. "As we move towards becoming a robust economic power, our police and security agencies must assume a more substantial role in safeguarding our economic institutions. Progress in various domains brings forth new challenges and our police force must prepare itself to address them", he said.

The Home Minister recommended strengthening of the Directorate of Prosecution, revitalising community policing, regularising police parades and reinvigorating the intelligence gathering system, acknowledging the irreplaceable role of human intelligence.

Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami, Union Home Secretary Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalla and Director General of Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) Shri Balaji Srivastava were also present at the event. ■

Tributes Pour in For Our Braves

The Union Government's commitment to counter terrorist activities is evident as it strives to establish itself as a global leader in anti-terrorism efforts. The launching of the 'Police Technology Mission', which is dedicated to modernise law enforcement is another step in the right direction.

Bureau

Without the dedicated service of our police force, the very foundation of security would crumble. Each day, our police officers set aside their personal challenges and concerns to safeguard our well-being. It is undeniable that a vigilant police system is indispensable for maintaining internal security in the country. The tireless efforts and sacrifices of the police personnel have always been in the service of the public, a commitment echoed by the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah.

This commitment was prominently highlighted on October 21 on the occasion of 'Police Commemoration Day'. On this significant occasion, Shri Shah paid tributes to the brave martyrs at the National Police Memorial in New Delhi. The event saw the presence of distinguished dignitaries, including the Union Minister of State for Home, Shri Ajay Kumar Mishra and the Union Home Secretary, Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalla.

The Police Memorial serves as more than just a symbol; it stands as a poignant tribute to the sacrifice and dedication of our police officers in nation-building. Notably, the current regime remains wholeheartedly dedicated to the welfare of all our police personnel and their family members.

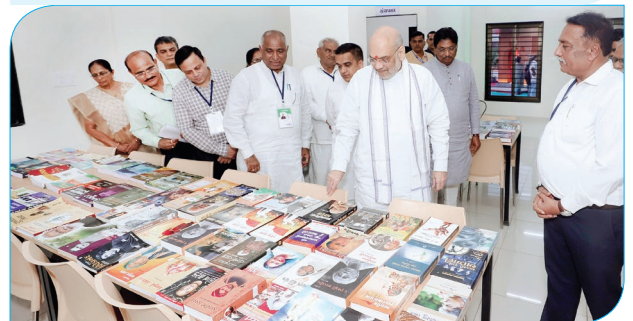
Union Home Minister Shri Shah began his address by honouring 36,250 policemen who have laid down their lives in defence of our nation's internal and border security since Independence. He emphasised that India is making strides in various domains on the world stage today and the bedrock of this progress is the sacrifice of these martyrs, a sacrifice that the nation will forever hold in high regard. These words were directed at the families of the martyred policemen, reminding them that the country's gratitude for their sacrifices is firm.

Turning our attention to the importance of a vigilant police force, it is indisputable that no country can ensure internal and border security without the presence of an efficient police system. Among all



While initiating the 'Vanche Gujarat' campaign, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji had envisioned the enhancement of libraries across the State. In line with this vision, a library has come up in Samau village.

Shri Amit Shah
Union Home Minister and
Minister of Cooperation



individuals serving the nation, policemen bear the most challenging responsibilities. Our dedicated policemen have proven their mettle on every occasion. Over the past year, from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023, as many as 188 policemen have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty to uphold the security and law and order of our nation. ■

Nation First: The Guiding Principle

When Government policies prioritise public interest, it fosters broader participation from the citizens. The Government remains steadfast in its commitment to ensure the safety and security of all its constituents and the Union Ministers of State for Home maintain a consistent level of activity while engaging with citizens.

Bureau

On October 13, the Union Minister of State for Home, Shri Nityanand Rai, participated in the 'Amrit Kalash Yatra' by collecting soil from 1,277 villages across 27 blocks in Bihar's Champaran. The event was held as part of the 'Meri Mati, Mera Desh' campaign at the Sashastra Seema Bal's 47th battalion in Raxaul. During his speech, he said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the 'Amrit Kalash Yatra' is traversing every corner of the country, paying tribute to the indomitable sacrifices made by our brave martyrs. The campaign is instrumental in eradicating slave mentality, fostering pride in our rich heritage and promoting unity within our nation, he added. The event was attended by dignitaries, including Dr Sanjay Jaiswal, MP of Paschim Champaran, Shri Suresh Subramaniam, Deputy Inspector General (District Headquarters) of Bettiah and Shri Gurbinderjit Singh, Commandant of the 47th Corps in Raxaul.

On October 12, Shri Rai inaugurated the newly constructed Border Post building of the Sashastra Seema Bal in Narkatiaganj.

On the second day of his visit to flood affected Sikkim on October 8, the Minister of State for Home, Shri Ajay Kumar Mishra, was engaged in a high-level meeting with Chief Minister Shri Prem Singh Tamang.

The discussion focused on coordinating resources, providing relief assistance and accelerating rescue and recovery operations. Shri Mishra reiterated the Central Government's commitment to closely collaborate with the state government to ensure a swift and effective rescue operation. The Chief Minister of Sikkim expressed his gratitude to the Government of India for its prompt relief and restoration works. He visited the disaster-affected areas in Naga, Mangan district, assuring relief and assistance to the affected residents. He emphasised



that the Prime Minister is monitoring the situation and issued directives to prioritise rescue and relief operations for individuals stranded in remote locations.

On October 9, the Union Minister of State for Home, Shri Nisith Pramanik, participated in the 'Amrit Kalash Yatra' held in Cooch Behar, West Bengal. During this event, he highlighted that the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign is being celebrated across the country in memory of our immortal heroes. He said the initiative is a source of pride for every Indian. ■

Red Terror Declines in Four Years

In the myriad challenges that confronted India, the issue of Left-Wing extremism, known colloquially as Naxalism or Maoism, posed a significant threat to internal security, development and social peace in several states across the country. Originating from a small peasant uprising in the Naxalbari village of West Bengal in 1967, the movement spread across hilly tribal areas of India on the strength of ideological extremism. While the proponents argued that they were fighting for the marginalised section of society against the prevalent oppressive system in the 1970s and early 1980s, their tactics — marred by violence and intimidation — served to further isolate and traumatise the communities they claimed to represent. All the same, it surely exposed the fault lines in the society at large that needed urgent attention.

Given that the menace spanned the jurisdiction of both the Union and State governments, and severely affected ordinary citizens across multiple administrative boundaries, a nuanced approach was the need of the hour. While some States adopted offensive, defensive, and developmental strategies proactively to find solutions and gain upper hand, some others learnt from the experience of these States and were getting their act together. After helming the Union Home Ministry in 2019, Shri Amit Shah Ji got into action and coordinated these efforts in consultation with the State governments affected by Maoist insurgency. He regularly reviewed the situation and spearheaded a well-calibrated approach against the extremists, synthesising the efforts of State governments and Central Security agencies. The result was extremely encouraging and satisfying with extremist activities witnessing a sharp downward trend in the affected States.

Security-oriented approaches, such as the deployment of forces and intelligence-driven operations, have been the cornerstone of the Union Government's strategy to counter the Maoist menace. Though criticised for being aggressive, these measures yielded undeniable success as key extremist leaders have been either apprehended or decimated. Consequently, the geographical presence of Left-Wing extremism has considerably reduced over the last four years.

However, as police actions alone will not be sufficient to counter the threat effectively, the State governments, supported by the Union government, launched several initiatives aimed at social, economic, and political development. In addition to the dedicated Security Related Fund for Naxal-affected areas, many infrastructure projects were launched, communication and road connectivity were improved, schools were built, and healthcare services were extended in previously inaccessible



Durga Prasad Kode

areas. Financial inclusion schemes such as the Jan Dhan Yojana also helped to bring the marginalised communities into the economic mainstream. In the realm of employment, skill development programmes were introduced in tribal areas as viable livelihood options for the youth so that they will not be ensnared by the extreme ideology. The Government encouraged extremists to lay down arms by providing

ample opportunities and avenues to surrender and join the mainstream civic life with attractive rehabilitation packages that help them to settle down to normal life. These policies have not only reduced the manpower available to extremist groups but have also sent a message to disenchanted and disgruntled cadres that reintegration into mainstream society is very much possible. Aging leadership, decreasing ideological fervour, reducing recruitment, increasing desertions, extreme constraints in arms and ammunition supply and similar adverse conditions have further reduced the influence of Naxals and their ability to wreak havoc.

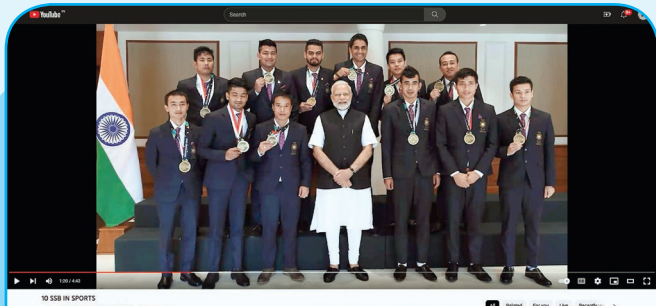
Due to this comprehensive approach, districts once considered extremist hotbeds have shown improvement in terms of security and development. The reduction in violence has led to an increase in the effectiveness of developmental programmes, creating a positive spiral where each success leads to another.

It is also worth mentioning that the deployment of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) in troubled regions bolstered the efforts to maintain law and order. This has also facilitated the delivery of essential civic services to local populations affected by the violent acts of Left-Wing extremists. Adopting a people-friendly approach, the CAPFs have managed to win the hearts and minds of the common masses through their very popular Civic Action Programmes.

CAPF units deployed in areas affected by Left-Wing extremism have undertaken initiatives beyond security — extending to health care through field hospitals, skill development for enhancing job opportunities through training programs and sports promotion — as well as providing assistance in agricultural operations through seeds, fertilisers and even tractors as in some pockets of Chhattisgarh.

Thus, the overarching strategy to empower and upskill the security forces, isolate the hardcore elements within Left-Wing extremist groups, provide a safe exit opportunity to those wanting to join the mainstream civic life and reach out to those sections of society marginalised due to various forms of deprivation, is paying rich dividends and has proven to be a game changer. ■

(The writer is Former DG, CRPF)



BPR&D's YouTube channel 'Police aur Seva' recently highlighted Sashastra Seema Bal's illustrious history in sports and other fields. Sports, a major activity in the police force, not only enhances the physical and mental strength of the personnel but also equips them to handle adverse situations.

Concluding the NSG Raising Day, a counter-terrorism seminar with State Special Forces took place. The seminar served as a platform for special forces to exchange expertise, tactics and strategies for addressing multi-city, multi-target terrorist attacks. IB Chief Shri Tapan Kumar Deka graced the occasion as the chief guest.



Led by Director General Shri Balaji Srivastava, a one-hour cleanliness campaign was carried out by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) at Vasant Kunj in New Delhi. Officers and personnel of the Bureau, along with local residents, participated in paying homage to Mahatma Gandhi.



ITBP organised a blood donation camp during a commemoration programme at the National Police Memorial, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. Many personnel, including senior officers, voluntarily donated blood at the camp.



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- ◆ To ensure maximum coverage, a cap of ₹15 lakh is envisaged per braveheart and the donor would be alerted if the amount exceeds ₹15 lakh, so that they can choose to either decrease their contribution or divert part of the contribution to another braveheart's account, or to the Bharat Ke Veer corpus.
- ◆ Bharat Ke Veer corpus would be managed by a committee made up of eminent persons and senior government officials, in equal number, who would decide to disburse the fund equitably to the braveheart families on a need basis.



Public participation is the most effective means to address global challenges. I have consistently held the view that while Governments are formed through majority support, the functioning of a nation relies on consensus. Our efforts to improve the world through constructive discussions and thoughtful deliberations are bound to yield success in the long run.

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



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