



UPSC & STATE PCS CURRENT AFFAIRS · UJIYARI.COM

EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

India's Post-LWE Future — From Red Sun to New Dawn

 THE HINDU

23 April 2026 ·

SECURITY & DEFENCE

POLITY

SOCIAL ISSUES

GS2

GS3

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

 [linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)

ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

BharatNotesFree UPSC notes, MCQs, PYQ analysis. **100% Free.**bharatnotes.com →

ADVERTISE

Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach thousands of UPSC aspirants daily.

 epicbharat@gmail.com

India's Post-LWE Future — From Red Sun to New Dawn

 The Hindu

23 April 2026

GS2

GS3

 The Hindu

5 tags ▾

INTERVIEW ANGLE



"Home Minister declared India "free of Maoist insurgency." But is security victory the same as peace? What does the post-LWE roadmap require — and what can the state learn from districts like Simdega and West Midnapore?"

THE CORE ARGUMENT

Home Minister Amit Shah's declaration of India as "free of Maoist insurgency" marks a historic security milestone after five decades of Left-Wing Extremism (LWE). The editorial argues, however, that **security victories are necessary but insufficient** for durable peace. Sustainable transformation in former Maoist-affected districts requires rebuilding governance credibility, delivering justice to long-excluded Adivasi communities, and creating economic pathways for youth — using an **AIEEEE framework** (Accountability, Innovation, Evidence, Equity, Empathy, Efficiency). Districts like West Midnapore (West Bengal) and Simdega (Jharkhand) show that where individual Adivasi women like Salima Tete and Mamta Hansda have found pathways to livelihood and citizenship, the peace becomes self-sustaining.

LWE IN INDIA — A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Origins of the Naxalite Movement

MILESTONE	YEAR	SIGNIFICANCE
Naxalbari uprising	1967	Peasant uprising in West Bengal that gave the movement its name
CPI (Maoist) formation	2004	Merger of People’s War Group + Maoist Communist Centre
Salwa Judum	2005-11	Chhattisgarh state-sponsored militia; declared unconstitutional by SC (2011)
Operation Green Hunt	2009	Multi-state joint security operations
Peak Maoist influence	2010	223 districts affected; ~1,000+ deaths/year
SAMADHAN strategy	2017	Comprehensive counter-LWE doctrine
2026 declaration	2026	Home Minister declares India “free of Maoist insurgency”

Geographic Decline

YEAR	DISTRICTS AFFECTED
2010 (peak)	223 districts
2015	106 districts
2020	53 districts
2024	~12-15 districts
2026	Declared eliminated

The “**Red Corridor**” — once stretching from Nepal border to Andhra Pradesh — has been reduced to isolated pockets in Bastar (Chhattisgarh), Gadchiroli (Maharashtra), and parts of Jharkhand.

WHY THE MAOIST INSURGENCY TOOK ROOT

Structural Drivers

The LWE insurgency was not merely ideological — it was rooted in deep structural grievances:

- ① **Land alienation:** Adivasi communities dispossessed of forest and agricultural land through colonial and post-colonial laws
- ② **Forest Rights denial:** Rights over forests treated as state property; communities excluded from livelihood sources
- ③ **Governance vacuum:** Minimal state presence for roads, schools, courts, hospitals in remote tribal areas
- ④ **Absence of justice:** Police excesses, false cases, arbitrary detention without accountability
- ⑤ **Displacement without rehabilitation:** Mining and dam projects displaced communities without adequate resettlement
- ⑥ **Economic exclusion:** No access to markets, credit, or formal employment

The Maoists as Parallel State

In the absence of the Indian state, Maoists:

- Established “Jan Adalats” (people’s courts) — provided dispute resolution
- Levied “taxes” from contractors and businesses
- Provided protection from police excesses — paradoxically gaining legitimacy
- Organised forest produce collection and primitive accumulation for communities

WHAT CHANGED — THE SECURITY TURNAROUND

SAMADHAN Strategy (2017)

The Home Ministry’s **SAMADHAN** doctrine:

LETTER	ELEMENT
S	Smart leadership
A	Aggressive strategy
M	Motivation and training
A	Actionable intelligence
D	Dashboard-based KPIs
H	Harnessing technology
A	Action plan for each theatre
N	No access to financing

Key operational elements:

- **CoBRA battalions** (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action) — elite CRPF units for jungle warfare
- **Drone and helicopter surveillance** in dense forest areas
- **Intelligence-led operations** — neutralising top leadership
- **Sealing infiltration routes** from neighbouring states
- **Surrender and rehabilitation policy** — financial incentives for surrendered cadres

Socio-Economic Complementary Measures

- **PMGSY** (roads): Connecting villages in LWE areas — reducing Maoist sanctuary
- **Mobile connectivity**: 4G towers in Bastar, Gadchiroli
- **Banking through Business Correspondents**: First formal banking access in remote areas
- **Eklavya Model Residential Schools**: Quality education in tribal districts

THE POST-LWE CHALLENGE — WHAT THE EDITORIAL WARNS

Why “Security Victory ≠ Durable Peace”

The editorial warns against premature triumphalism:

- 1 **Grievances unaddressed** — Land alienation, Forest Rights Act implementation gaps, and displacement without rehabilitation remain unresolved
- 2 **Governance accountability** — Police excesses and UAPA/AFSPA-style arbitrary detention have not been systematically reformed

- ③ **Youth pathways** — Without economic opportunity, youth in Bastar and Gadchiroli remain vulnerable to re-mobilisation
- ④ **Rehabilitation gaps** — Surrendered cadres often face social stigma and inadequate livelihoods

Individual Stories as Policy Indicators

The editorial profiles women like **Salima Tete** (Simdega, Jharkhand) and **Mamta Hansda** (West Midnapore, WB) whose access to education, SHG credit, and forest produce rights transformed their relationship with the state. **Where citizenship is experienced — not just proclaimed — peace becomes self-sustaining.**

The AIEEEE Framework for Post-LWE Development

ELEMENT	MEANING	POLICY APPLICATION
A	Accountability	Police reform; UAPA review; SC monitoring
I	Innovation	Technology in service delivery (health, education)
E	Evidence	Data-driven programme targeting
E	Equity	FRA implementation; land rights
E	Empathy	Community-owned governance; gram sabha
E	Efficiency	Convergence of central schemes

LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

PROVISION	RELEVANCE
Forest Rights Act 2006	Community forest rights; gram sabha consent for diversion
PESA Act 1996	Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas); gram sabha authority
UAPA	Used against LWE activists; raises due process concerns
Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act	FRA 2006 — fuller name
Fifth Schedule	Tribal Areas governance; Governor’s role; tribal advisory councils

UPSC ANGLE

PAPER	ANGLE
GS2 — Polity	PESA, Fifth Schedule, FRA 2006, gram sabha, tribal rights
GS3 — Security	LWE, SAMADHAN, CoBRA, CRPF, counter-insurgency doctrine
GS2 — Social Justice	Adivasi/tribal displacement, land alienation, inclusion
GS1 — Society	Tribal communities, internal migration, caste/tribe exclusion

Mains Keywords: LWE, Naxalism, SAMADHAN, CoBRA, Naxalbari, FRA 2006, PESA 1996, Fifth Schedule, Red Corridor, Salwa Judum, Jan Adalat, Operation Green Hunt

Probable Question: “Security success against Left-Wing Extremism must be followed by structural reforms to prevent recurrence. Critically examine.” (GS2/GS3 Mains)

PRACTICE TODAY'S QUIZ



[Take the 23 April 2026 Quiz →](#)

RELATED DAILY ARTICLES

23 Apr [Current Affairs Today — April 23, 2026](#)

23 Apr [Supreme Court on Pre-Primary Education — Can Article...](#)

23 Apr [CERC's Market Coupling Proposal — Reforming India's...](#)

23 Apr [Online Gaming Authority of India \(OGAI\) — Regulating...](#)

OLDER EDITORIAL →

[Industrial Disasters in India — The Regulatory Gap That...](#)



CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)[Read Full Article on Ujiyari →](#)<https://ujiyari.com/editorials/2026/04/india-post-lwe-future-maoist-development/>

ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

BharatNotes

Free UPSC study platform — subject-wise notes across all 4 GS papers, Prelims MCQs, Mains answer frameworks, PYQ analysis & progress tracking. **100% Free • No Login Required.**

[Start Preparing → bharatnotes.com](http://bharatnotes.com)

📌 OPPORTUNITY

Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach **thousands of serious UPSC & State PCS aspirants** daily through our PDFs, website, and social channels.

Ideal for: Coaching institutes • EdTech platforms • Book publishers • Exam prep apps

[✉ epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)

Write to us for rates & media kit

Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs · ujiyari.com · bharatnotes.com