

TERRORISM in INDIA

- According to the [Home Ministry](#), terrorism poses a significant threat to the people of India.
- A common [definition of terrorism](#) is the systematic use or threat or use of violence to intimidate a population or government for political, religious, or [ideological](#) goals

- intimidate a population or government for political, religious, or [ideological](#) goals.
- The regions with long term [terrorist](#) activities have been [Jammu and Kashmir](#), east-central and south-central India ([Naxalism](#)) and the [Seven Sister States](#).
- In August 2008, National Security Advisor M K Narayanan has said that there are as many as 800 [terrorist cells](#) operating in the country.
- As of 2013, 205 of the country's 608 districts were affected by terrorist activity.
- Terror attacks caused 231 civilian deaths in 2012 in India, compared to 11,098 terror-caused deaths worldwide, according to the State Department of the United States; or about 2% of global terror fatalities while it accounts for 17.5% of global population

- Media reports have alleged and implicated terrorism in India to be [sponsored by Pakistan](#), particularly through its [Inter-Services Intelligence](#) (ISI).
- In 2012, the US accused Pakistan of enabling and ignoring anti-India terrorist cells working on its soil; however, Pakistan has denied its involvement.
- In July 2016, [Government of India](#) released data on a string of terror strikes in India since 2005 that claimed 707 lives and left over 3,200 injured.

- The 8th report on [terrorism](#) in India published in 2008 defined terrorism as the peacetime equivalent of war crime.
- An act of terror in India includes any intentional act of violence that causes death, injury or property damage, induces fear, and is targeted against any group of people identified by their political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or any other nature.
- This description is similar to one provided by the [United Nations](#)' in 2000.
- The [Indian government](#) uses the following working definition of terrorism, same as one widely used by Western nations as well as the United Nations, proposed by Schmid and Jongman in 1988.

- **Terrorism is an anxiety-inspiring method of repeated violent action, employed by (semi-) clandestine individual, group or state actors, for idiosyncratic, criminal or political reasons, whereby the direct targets of violence are not the main targets.**
- The immediate human **victims of violence are generally chosen randomly** (targets of opportunity) **or selectively** (representative or symbolic targets) from a target population, and serve as message generators.
- Threat and violence-based communication processes between terrorist organisation, victims, and main targets are used to manipulate the main target (audience(s)), turning it into a target of terror, a target of demands, or a target of attention, depending on whether intimidation, coercion, or propaganda is primarily sought.

India subdivides terrorism in four major groups:

- Ethno-[nationalist terrorism](#) - This form of terror focuses either (a) on creating a separate State within India or independent of India or in a neighboring country, or (b) on emphasising the views/response of one ethnic group against another.
- Violent Tamil Nationalist groups from India to address the condition of Tamils in Sri Lanka, as well as insurgent tribal groups in North East India are examples of ethno-nationalist terrorist activities.

- Religious terrorism - This form of terror focuses on religious imperatives, a presumed duty or in solidarity for a specific religious group, against one or more religious groups.
- Mumbai 26/11 terror attack in 2008 from an Islamic group in Pakistan is an example of religious terrorism in India.

- [Left-wing terrorism](#) - This form of terror focuses on economic ideology, where all the existing socio-political structures are seen to be economically exploitative in character and a revolutionary change through violent means is essential.
- The ideology of Marx, Engel, Mao, Lenin and others are considered as the only valid economic path. Maoist violence in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are examples of left wing terrorism in Indi

- [Narcoterrorism](#) - This form of terror focuses on creating illegal narcotics traffic zones. Drug violence in northwest India is an example of narco-terrorism in India.

TERROR GROUPS IN INDIA

- SATP (South Asian Terror Portal) has listed 180 terrorist groups that have operated within India over the last 20 years, many of them co-listed as transnational terror networks operating in or from neighboring South Asian countries such as [Bangladesh](#), [Nepal](#) and [Pakistan](#).
- Of these, 38 are on the current list of terrorist organisations banned by India under its First Schedule of the UA(P) Act, 1967.
- As of 2012, many of these were also listed and banned by the United States and European Union.

Organisations designated as terrorist organisations by Government of India

- Jammu and Kashmir
- [Al-Badr](#)
- [Dukhtaran-e-Millat](#)
- [Hizbul Mujahideen](#)
- **North-East**
- [All Tripura Tiger Force](#)
- [Kamtapur Liberation Organisation](#)
- [Kanglei Yawol Kanna Lup](#)
- [Kangleipak Communist Party](#)
- [National Democratic Front of Bodoland](#)
- [National Liberation Front of Tripura](#)
- [People's Liberation Army of Manipur](#)
- [People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak](#)

- **Punjab**
- [Babbar Khalsa](#)
- [Khalistan Commando Force](#)
- [Khalistan Zindabad Force](#)
- **Others**
- [Akhil Bharat Nepali Ekta Samaj](#)
- [Communist Party of India \(Maoist\)](#)
- [Communist Party of India \(Marxist–Leninist\) People's War](#)
- [Deendar Anjuman](#)
- [Indian Mujahideen](#)
- [International Sikh Youth Federation](#)
- [Maoist Communist Centre of India](#)
- [Students Islamic Movement of India](#)
- [Tamil Nadu Liberation Army](#)
- [Tamil National Retrieval Troops](#)
- [United Liberation Front of Assam](#)
- [United National Liberation Front](#)

- **South Asian/International**
- [Al-Qaeda](#)
- [Harkat-ul-Mujahideen](#)
- [Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami](#)
- [Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant](#)
- [Jaish-e-Mohammed](#)
- [Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh](#)
- [Lashkar-e-Taiba](#)
- [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam](#)

In Kashmir

- India has been faced with the Kashmir problem for the past half a century and has even faced two Indo-Pakistan wars on this issue, but the government has not been able to take hard decisions and evolve a definite coherent policy.
- Our policy makers have been chasing the mirage of soft options and have been following a weak-kneed approach in dealing with the terrorists.
- **Terrorism in Kashmir assumed a new shape 1988 onwards. The militants launched a bloody battle to underline their separate identity.**

- The neighbouring countries, determined to see turmoil continuing in the valley, are providing training and weapons to the militants even today (i.e., in 1997).
- The people have also been so brain-washed that they talk of the excesses of the police and the paramilitary forces. For the militants, the criticism of the government by the people means that people are more than willing to support them.

- On the other hand, the Hindus have been forced by the militants to leave Kashmir. It is claimed in one report that nearly two lakh Hindus fled Jammu and Kashmir between 1988 and 1991.
- The Hindus claimed that the fundamentalists and militants had infiltrated every sphere of the government in the Kashmir valley till the middle of 1996 and that what ruled the roost was not the writ of the government but that of the militants.

- They maintained that the pro-Pakistan forces had overtaken the valley and in a way, there was a collapse of the administration and the terrorists wanted them to quit the valley.
- The civilian Muslims now claim that they are innocent and are being unnecessarily harassed. The militants had resorted to extortion and kidnapping for monetary gains and political motives

- In October-November 1993, 40-odd militants (including three foreigners) were holed up inside Hazratbal shrine for 31 days. They had kept 20 civilians too as their hostages.
- In July 1995, the militant group of Al-Faran kidnapped five foreigners (British, American, Norwegian, and German) and kept them captives, demanding the release of some hard-core militants.
- After beheading a Norwegian national hostage after a few weeks, the Al-Faran have held the remaining four tourists captive for about two years keeping the governments guessing as to whether the hostages are still alive or not.
- There is no dearth of weapons in the Valley; nor is there any dearth of frustrated youths to operate th

- Hizb-ul-Mujahedeen was claimed to have a cadre strength of 20,000 with at least 10,000 persons being trained in camps across the border and in the Valley.
- The Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) still clings on to the concept of an independent state as opposed to a merger with Pakistan, which is the demand of other militant groups like the Muslim Janpaez Force and the Iqwan-e-Musalmeen.
- All militants at one time had developed a feeling that they had to unite against a common enemy—the Indian Armed Forces.

- Some sources claim that till two years ago, Muslims from other countries such as Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sudan, Libya, Bangladesh, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey were engaged in terrorist activities in Kashmir (India Today: May 15, 1994:45-66).
- Pakistan's aiding and abetting terrorism in Kashmir is said to be the deliberate policy of the government

- It (Pakistan) considers liberation of Kashmir important in three respects:
- Firstly, tension over Kashmir creates a diversion from frustrations at home;
- Secondly, the Kashmir cause allows Pakistan to rally the support of its Islamic parties and their loyalists in the military and the ISI;
- Thirdly, Kashmir could also serve the regime as an important access-point to the markets of Central Asia. No wonder, Pakistan always remains interested in an escalation of the jihad for the liberation of Kashmir.

- The kidnapping and killing of the Vice-Chancellor of Kashmir University, the kidnapping of a daughter of Union Home Minister in 1989, two Swedish engineers in April 1991 (who ultimately managed to escape on July 6, 1991), eight Israeli tourists in June 1991 and five foreign tourists in July 1995 indicate the strategies the terrorists are employing.
- The strategy used to combat terrorism in Punjab cannot succeed in Kashmir. The government might have succeeded in fighting terrorism in Punjab with a policy of “wear them out”, negotiations, elections, and police action but Punjab problem was different from the Kashmir problem in four respects:

- One, the idea of Khalistan did not enjoy universal backing;
- Two, there was ethno-religious advantage of having 48 per cent Hindu population against 52 per cent Sikh population whereas in Kashmir 90 per cent are Muslims, with most Hindus having been 'cleansed' over the last three years;
- Three, the foreign interference in Kashmir is of a qualitatively different level than in Punjab.

- Pakistani training and weapon proliferation to the terrorist elements in Kashmir is of far greater proportions;
- four, most of the individuals and organizations in Punjab were fence-sitters waiting to be co-opted by the government whereas the organizations working in Kashmir mostly consist of pro-Pakistani extremists.

- Some people believe that during the last one and a half year, the chemistry of terrorism in Kashmir has undergone a major change. The modus operandi of the militants has now been drastically altered.
- Instead of using the local militants, militants from Pakistan and Afghanistan are being more and more used in terrorist activities in the state.

- The savage car bomb blasts in the heart of Srinagar and killing of one journalist and seriously injuring others through a letter bomb at the BBC's Srinagar office in September 1995, and the kidnapping of tourists from the western countries, indicate a significant change in methods, means and motives which require a fresh thinking on the part of the newly elected state government. Besides the military strategy, political, economic, and cultural strategies too have to be used in combating Kashmir uprisings. The bridges of trust have to be built by far-sighted political initiatives.

The insurgency in Punjab

- **Insurgency** originated in the late 1970s, as some [Sikhs](#), including [Khalistan proponents](#), turned to militancy. The roots of the insurgency were very complex with the main factors being inadequate recognition of [Sikhism](#) and the [Punjabi language](#) and mistreatment from the [Indian Congress](#) Government since its formation in 1947.
- With all schools in Punjab teaching Punjabi children Hindi even after Punjab's linguistic reorganisation, parents and community leaders started to become concerned.

- The [Punjabi Suba](#) civil movement was started to address the language issue and restore Punjabi as the official language of Punjab. The [Punjabi Suba](#) movement was banned by the government on 14 April 1955. During this time the Sikhs were faced with much humiliation and difficulties including peaceful protesters and innocent pilgrims being beaten, hit with bricks, arrested, and temple raids.
- Following the [Indo-Pak war of 1965](#) Punjabi was finally recognised as the official language of Punjab in 1966 when the Punjab land was further split into the states of [Himachal Pradesh](#), the new state [Haryana](#) and current day [Punjab](#).

- However this did not solve all problems, the Sikh community still feeling alienated within India, put forward a resolution to address all grievances they had with the Indian state. In 1973, the Sikhs put forward the [Anandpur Sahib Resolution](#).
- Within this resolution were issues including both religious and political concerns. From easy issues of recognizing Sikhism as a religion to allowing all states within India to set local state level policies and not be forced to get permission from the central government.
- The Anandpur Resolution was rejected by the government but the religious leader [Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale](#) joined the Akali Dal to launch the [Dharam Yudh Morcha](#) in 1982, a peaceful march, in order to implement Anandpur Sahib resolution.

- Thousands of people joined the movement, feeling that it represented a real solution to demands such as a larger share of water for irrigation and the return of [Chandigarh](#) to Punjab.
- The Congress government decided to repress the mass agitation with a heavy hand; over a hundred people were killed in the police firings.
- The security forces arrested over 30,000 Sikhs in two-and-a-half months. After this, Bhindranwale suggested it was time for a militant approach with the help of arms and weapons to solve the problems of majority Punjab population leading to the beginning of the insurgency.

- On 6 June 1984, Bhindranwale was shot dead in [Operation Blue Star](#) and on 31 October 1984, Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her Sikh bodyguards [Satwant Singh](#) and [Beant Singh](#).
- These two events played a major role in the Sikh and Anti-Sikh violence that would consume Punjab till the early 1990s.

The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA)

- ULFA is a separatist outfit operating in [Assam](#), [North East India](#) for the [Indigenous Assamese people](#). It seeks to establish a sovereign Assam with an armed struggle in the [Assam conflict](#).
- The [government of India](#) banned the organization in 1990 citing it as a terrorist organization, while the [United States Department of State](#) lists it under "other groups of concern."

- According to ULFA sources, it was founded on 7 April 1979 at [Rang Ghar](#), a historic structure dating to the [Ahom kingdom](#) (1228–1826) and began operations in 1990.
- [Sunil Nath](#), former Central Publicity Secretary and spokesman of ULFA has stated that the organisation established ties with the [Nationalist Socialist Council of Nagaland](#) (NSCN) in 1983 and with the [Burma](#) based [KIA](#) in 1987. Military operations against the ULFA by the [Indian Army](#) began in 1990 and continue into the present.

- On 5 December 2009, the chairman and the deputy commander-in-chief of ULFA was taken into Indian custody. In 2011, there was a major crackdown on the ULFA in [Bangladesh](#), which greatly assisted the government of [India](#) in bringing ULFA leaders to talks.
- In January 2010, ULFA softened its stance and dropped demands for independence as a condition for talks with the Government of India.
- On 3 September 2011, a tripartite agreement for Suspension of Operations (SoO) against ULFA was signed between the Indian government, the Assam government and the ULFA

- The ULFA was founded on 7 April 1979 in [Sivasagar](#), Assam by some youths which included Paresh Baruah, Arabinda Rajkhowa, Anup Chetia, Pradip Gogoi, Bhadreswar Gohain and Budheswar Gogoi. The organisation's purpose was to engage in an armed struggle to form a socialist Assam.
- Ulfa during its heyday (late eighties and nineties of the last century) was quite popular among many indigenous Assamese people of the Brahmaputra valley.
- Majority of the supporters felt that a powerful organisation was necessary to get the voice of a peripheral region heard in the corridors of power in Lutyen's Delhi.
- But gradually, the organisation's undue emphasis on collection of money and weapons in the name of furthering the 'revolution' led to mindless violence throughout the state.

- It witnessed a period marked by growing disillusionment and anger amid its supporters. In their bloody conflict with the security agencies, many innocent people lost their lives and several thousands were permanently maimed.
- It is estimated that more than ten thousand local youths perished during that turbulent period. In the process, owing to the twin factors of increasing pressure by the security agencies and dwindling support among its core sympathisers, its importance in Assam has been steadily declined.

- Recruiting for the front did not begin until 1983. Soon after it finished recruitment in 1984, it began to seek out training and arms procurement from other groups such as the [Kachin Independence Army](#) (KIA) and the Nationalist Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN).
- In 1986 it launched a fund raising "campaign" across India by way of extortion. It then began to set up camps in [Tinsukia](#) and [Dibrugarh](#) but was soon banned by New Delhi on 7 November, under the [Unlawful Activities \(Prevention\) Act](#)

- In less than a decade of its formation, the ULFA emerged as one of the most powerful and violent insurgent outfit in Southeast Asia, largely because of the immense popularity it enjoyed during the first decade of its struggle as well as its economic power which in turn helped it in bolstering its military capabilities. In the early 1990s, ULFA launched an aggressive campaign with victims such as security forces, political opponents, and blasting rail links.
- In July 1991 the front captured and held 14 people for ransom, included in the abductees was an engineer and a national of the Soviet Union. From the 1990s on the ULFA have continued to carry out terrorist attacks.

- ULFA according to itself
- The ULFA is a revolutionary political organisation engaged in a liberation struggle against state terrorism and economic exploitation by India for the establishment of a [sovereign, independent](#) Assam for the [Indigenous Assamese people](#).
- It does not consider itself a [secessionist](#) organisation, as it claims that Assam was never a part of India and as a matter of fact the [Treaty of Yandaboo](#) was signed in 1826 by General Sir Archibald Campbell on the British side, and by Governor of Legaing Maha Min Hla Kyaw Htin from the Burmese side.
- With the British army at Yandabo village, only 50 miles from the capital Ava, the Burmese were forced to accept the British terms without discussion.

- According to the treaty, the Burmese agreed to (1) cede to the British Assam, Manipur, Rakhine (Arakan), and Taninthayi (Tenasserim) coast south of Salween river, (2) cease all interference in Cachar and Jaintia, (3) pay an indemnity of one million pounds sterling in four instalments, (4) allow for an exchange of diplomatic representatives between Ava and Calcutta, and (5) sign a commercial treaty in due course.
- It claims that among the various problems that the [Indigenous Assamese people](#) are confronting, the problem of national identity is the most basic, and therefore it seeks to represent "independent minded struggling indigenous Assamese peoples" irrespective of [race](#), [tribe](#), [caste](#), religion and nationality.

- ULFA according to Government of India
- The [Government of India](#) (GOI) has classified it as a terrorist organisation and had banned it under the [Unlawful Activities \(Prevention\) Act](#) in 1990.
- Concurrently, GOI started military offensives against it, named [Operation Bajrang November 1990](#), [Operation Rhino September 1991](#), [Operation All Clear December 2003](#) and [Operation Rhino 2](#) led by the [Indian Army](#).
- The anti insurgency operations still continues at present under the Unified Command Structure.

Maoism

- **Maoism**, is a [political](#) theory derived from the teachings of the [Chinese](#) political leader [Mao Zedong](#) (1893–1976), whose followers are known as Maoists.
- Developed from the 1950s until the [Deng Xiaoping](#) reforms in the 1970s, it was widely applied as the guiding political and military ideology of the [Communist Party of China](#) (CPC) and as theory guiding revolutionary movements around the world.
- The essential difference between Maoism and other forms of [Marxism](#) is that Mao said that peasants should be the bulwark of the revolutionary energy, led by the working class in China.

- The **Communist Party of India (Maoist)** is a [Maoist^{\[4\]} communist party](#) in India which aims to overthrow the government of India through [people's war](#). It was founded on 21 September 2004, through the merger of the [Communist Party of India \(Marxist–Leninist\) People's War](#) (People's War Group), and the [Maoist Communist Centre of India](#) (MCCI).
- The merger was announced on 14 October the same year. In the merger a provisional central committee was constituted, with the erstwhile People's War Group leader [Muppala Lakshmana Rao](#), alias "Ganapathi", as general secretary. Further, on [May Day](#) 2014, the [Communist Party of India \(Marxist–Leninist\) Naxalbari](#) merged into the CPI (Maoist).
- The CPI (Maoist) are often referred to as the [intellectuals](#) in reference to the [Naxalbariinsurrection](#) conducted by radical Maoists in [West Bengal](#) in 1967. CPI(Maoist) is designated as terrorist organisation in India under [Unlawful Activities \(Prevention\) Act](#).

- In 2006, Prime Minister [Manmohan Singh](#) referred to the Naxalites as "the single biggest internal security challenge" for India, [\[12\]\[13\]](#) and said that the "deprived and alienated sections of the population" forms the backbone of the Maoist movement in India.
- The government officials have declared that, in 2013, 76 districts in the country were affected by "[left-wing terrorism](#)", with another 106 districts in ideological influence

- The CPI (Maoist) believes that the Indian [state](#) is being "run by a collaboration of [imperialists](#), the [comprador bourgeoisie](#) and [feudal lords](#)."^[16] According to the [South Asia Terrorism Portal](#), the two factions of the Party adhered to differing strands of communism prior to their 2004 merger, although "both organisations shared their belief in the 'annihilation of [class enemies](#)' and in extreme violence as a means to secure organisational goals." The People's War Group (PWG) maintained a [Marxist-Leninist](#) stance, while the Maoist Communist Centre of India (MCCI) took a [Maoist](#) stance.

- After the merger, the PWG secretary of [Andhra Pradesh](#) announced that the newly formed CPI-Maoist would follow [Marxism-Leninism-Maoism](#) as its "ideological basis guiding its thinking in all spheres of its activities."
- Included in this ideology is a commitment to "protracted [armed struggle](#)" to undermine and to seize power from the state.¹
- On May Day 2014, Ganapathy and Ajith (Secretary of the CPI (ML) Naxalbari) also issued a joint statement stating that "the unified party would [continue to] take Marxism-Leninism-Maoism as its guiding ideology."

- The ideology of the party is contained in a "Party Programme." In the document, the Maoists denounce [globalisation as a war on the people](#) by [market fundamentalists](#) and the [caste system](#) as a form of social oppression.
- The CPI (Maoist) claim that they are conducting a "[people's war](#)", a strategic approach developed by [Mao Zedong](#) during the guerrilla warfare phase of the [Communist Party of China](#).
- Their eventual objective is to install a "people's government" via a [New Democratic Revolution](#).

Naxalites

- Naxalites are a group of far-left radical communists, supportive of [Maoist](#) political sentiment and ideology. Their origin can be traced to the splitting in 1967 of the [Communist Party of India \(Marxist\)](#), leading to the formation of the [Communist Party of India \(Marxist–Leninist\)](#).
- Initially the movement had its centre in [West Bengal](#). In recent years, it has spread into less developed areas of rural central and eastern [India](#), such as [Chhattisgarh](#) and [Andhra Pradesh](#) through the activities of underground groups like the [Communist Party of India \(Maoist\)](#).

- In 2007, it was estimated that Naxalites were active across "half of the India's 28 states" who account for about 40 percent of India's geographical area an area known as the "[Red Corridor](#)", where, according to estimates, they controlled 92,000 square kilometers.
- In 2009, Naxalites were active across approximately 180 districts in ten states of India. In August 2010, [Karnataka](#) was removed from the list of Naxal-affected states .
- In July 2011, the number of Naxal-affected areas was reduced to (including proposed addition of 20 districts) 83 districts across nine states.
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- The term Naxalites comes from [Naxalbari](#), a small village in [West Bengal](#), where a section of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPI-M) led by [Charu Majumdar](#), [Kanu Sanyal](#), and [Jangal Santhal](#) initiated an uprising in 1967.
- On 18 May 1967, the Siliguri Kishan Sabha, of which Jangal was the president, declared their support for the movement initiated by Kanu Sanyal, and their readiness to adopt armed struggle to redistribute land to the landless.

- The following week, a [sharecropper](#) near Naxalbari village was attacked by the landlord's men over a land dispute.
- On 24 May, when a police team arrived to arrest the peasant leaders, it was ambushed by a group of tribals led by Jangal Santhal, and a police inspector was killed in a hail of arrows.
- This event encouraged many [Santhal](#) tribals and other poor people to join the movement and to start attacking local landlords.

- These conflicts go back to the failure to implement the *5th and 6th Schedules* of the [Constitution of India](#). In theory these *Schedules* provide for a limited form of tribal autonomy with regard to exploiting natural resources on their lands, e.g. pharmaceutical and mining, and 'land ceiling laws', limiting the land to be possessed by landlords and distribution of excess land to landless farmers and labourers.
- [Mao Zedong](#) provided ideological leadership for the Naxalbari movement, advocating that Indian peasants and lower class tribals overthrow the government and upper classes by force. A large number of urban elites were also attracted to the ideology, which spread through [Charu Majumdar](#)'s writings, particularly the '[Historic Eight Documents](#)' which formed the basis of Naxalite ideology.

- At the time, the leaders of this revolt were members of the CPI (M), which joined a coalition government in West Bengal just a few months back. Leaders like land minister [Hare Krishna Konar](#) had been until recently "trumpeting revolutionary rhetoric, suggesting that militant confiscation of land was integral to the party's programme."
- However, now that they were in power, CPI (M) did not approve of the armed uprising, and all the leaders and a number of Calcutta sympathisers were expelled from the party.
- Subsequently, In November 1967, this group, led by [Sushital Ray Chowdhury](#), organised the [All India Coordination Committee of Communist Revolutionaries](#) (AICCCR).
- Violent uprisings were organised in several parts of the country. On 22 April 1969 ([Lenin](#)'s birthday), the AICCCR gave birth to the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (CPI (ML)).

- Practically all Naxalite groups trace their origin to the CPI (ML). A separate offshoot from the beginning was the [Maoist Communist Centre](#), which evolved out of the *Dakshin Desh* group. The MCC later fused with the [People's War Group](#) to form the Communist Party of India (Maoist).
- A third offshoot was that of the Andhra revolutionary communists, mainly represented by the [UCCRI\(ML\)](#), following the [mass line](#) legacy of [T. Nagi Reddy](#), which broke with the [AICCCR](#) at an early stage.
- The early 1970s saw the spread of Naxalism to almost every state in India, barring [Western India](#). During the 1970s, the movement was fragmented into disputing factions.
- By 1980, it was estimated that around 30 Naxalite groups were active, with a combined membership of 30,000

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- The **Naxalite–Maoist insurgency** is an ongoing conflict^[15] between Maoist groups, known as Naxalites or Naxals, and the Indian government. The conflict in its present form began after the 2004 formation of the CPI (Maoist), a rebel group composed of the PWG (People's War Group) and the MCC (Maoist Communist Centre).
- In January 2005 talks between the Andhra Pradesh state government and the CPI-Maoists broke down and the rebels accused authorities of not addressing their demands for a written truce, release of prisoners and redistribution of land.
- The ongoing conflict has taken place over a vast territory (around half of India's 29 states) with hundreds of people being killed annually in clashes between the CPI-Maoists and the government every year since 2005.

- The armed wing of the Naxalite–Maoists is called the PLGA (Peoples Liberation Guerrilla Army) and is estimated to have between 6,500 and 9,500 [cadres](#), mostly armed with [small arms](#).
- The Naxalites control territory throughout Bihar, Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh states and claim to be supported by the poorest of the rural population, especially the [Adivasis](#).
- According to a study of the newspaper [The Times of India](#), 58% of people surveyed in the state of Andhra Pradesh, have a positive perception of the guerrilla, against only 19 % against it.
- The Naxalites have frequently targeted tribal, police and government workers in what they say is a fight for improved land rights and more jobs for neglected agricultural labourers and the poor. The Naxalites claim that they are following a strategy of rural rebellion similar to a protracted [people's war](#) against the government.

- In February 2009, the Indian central government announced a new nationwide initiative, to be called the "Integrated Action Plan" (IAP) for broad, coordinated operations aimed at dealing with the Naxalite problem in all affected states, namely ([Karnataka](#), [Chhattisgarh](#), [Odisha](#), [Andhra Pradesh](#), [Maharashtra](#), [Jharkhand](#), [Bihar](#), [Uttar Pradesh](#), and [West Bengal](#)).
- This plan included funding for grass-roots economic development projects in Naxalite-affected areas, as well as increased special police funding for better containment and reduction of Naxalite influence.

- In August 2010, after the first full year of implementation of the national IAP program, [Karnataka](#) was removed from the list of Naxal-affected states. In July 2011, the number of Naxal-affected areas was reduced to (figure includes proposed addition of 20 districts) 83 districts across nine states.
- In December 2011, the national government reported that the number of Naxalite related deaths and injuries nationwide had gone down by nearly 50% from 2010 levels.
- The Naxalite–Maoist insurgency gained international media attention after the [2013 Naxal attack in Darbha valley](#) resulted in the deaths of around 24 [Indian National Congress](#) leaders including the former state minister [Mahendra Karma](#) and the Chhattisgarh Congress chief [Nand Kumar Patel](#).

Global Terrorism

- The world is today witnessing a rise of terrorist activities in different parts of the world. A number of groups, owing allegiance to some political ideology or some particular religious beliefs, have chosen the path of violence and terror to achieve their objects.
- These vested interests are rabid fundamentalists or fanatics having no sanctity for life. They know no principles or values. They believe in the power of the gun and want to achieve their objects overnight.

- While some of these groups are fighting for control over some pieces of land, others are fighting for spreading their own ideology or religious philosophies. They choose to defy public opinion and refuse to see reason.
- They think that their own view point or stand is the only right view point or stand, and that they have a right to convert other people to their thinking by force.
- For this avowed purpose they do not hesitate from committing the worst of crimes including murder of innocent citizens, looting or burning property, kidnapping people, hijacking planes and creating terror in one way or the other.

- Some of the important terrorist organizations operating in different parts of the world have already been identified.
- The AlOaeda in Afghanistan, the Jaishe Mohmmad and the Lashker-e-Toiba based in Pakistan, the Palestine Liberation Organisation in the Middle East, the LTTE in Sri Lanka, the Maoists in Nepal, the Naxalite organization called People's War Group (PWA) in parts of India, the Naga National Council, several pro—Pakistan groups operating in Jammu and Kashmir, the Irish Army in the U.K., etc. are already playing havoc in their respective areas.
- The number of these organizations is so large that it is difficult to list them out.

- They have their own training systems where they catch hold of young boys and indoctrinate them in subtle ways through guile, treachery, temptations or money.
- At several places they are running their own schools to 'Catch them young' and wash their brains. Some of the Madarsas being run by Muslim fundamentalists are allegedly involved in this type of activities.

- It would on September 11, 2001 that the world woke up to the dangers of this terrible menace. A group of Al- Qaeda terrorists, guided and supported by the Taliban leader Osama Bin Laden based in Afghanistan, struck terror in the U.S.A. in a big way.
- They hijacked four US planes from some US civilian airports. While one of these planes hit against the US headquarters in Pentagon, another two planes brought down the towering World Trade Centre, killing at least 5000 innocent US citizens.
- The fourth, luckily, missed the target. It was, the reports say, scheduled to hit the White House, the residence of the US president.

- George Bush, the President of the USA, swung into action and ordered US air force to attack Afghanistan and bring the terrorists to book. In a massive attack, the Taliban were defeated and destroyed and a new government came to control Afghanistan.
- Similarly America attacked Iraq as President Saddam himself appeared to be a big terror. Iraq was badly damaged. A group of terrorists trained in Pakistan attacked the Indian Parliament House on December 13, 2001 even when the Parliament was in session.
- The Indian security personnel killed all the five attackers on the spot but the incident shook whole of the country and the world. The war against terrorists is continuing and the world community has decided to continue to fight till terrorism is fully wiped out from the face of this earth.

- The UNO has, in a resolution, called upon various nations to join hands and work as United Alliance to face this threat of terrorism anywhere at any time in the world.
- Pak-trained terrorists continue to cross over to India and let loose a reign of terror in J & K. Terrorism has already taken a heavy toll of life and property. It is a shame that even as the human civilization is marching ahead, some people are bent upon pushing the world back to the age of barbarism and brutality full of chaos and indiscipline.
- The law of the jungle will take us nowhere. We can only pray for good sense of prevail so that the world is able to share and enjoy the blessings bestowed upon mankind by new leaps in the field of science and technology.

Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act TADA

- **Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act**, commonly known as **TADA**, was an Indian anti-terrorism law which was in force between 1985 and 1995 (modified in 1987) under the background of the [Punjab insurgency](#) and was applied to whole of India.
- It came into effect on 23 May 1985. It was renewed in 1989, 1991 and 1993 before being allowed to lapse in 1995 due to increasing unpopularity after widespread allegations of abuse.
- It was the first anti-terrorism law legislated by the government to define and counter terrorist activities.

- The Act's third paragraph gives a very thorough definition of "[terrorism](#)":
- "Whoever with intent to overawe the Government as by law established or to strike terror in the people or any section of the people or to alienate any section of the people or to adversely affect the harmony amongst different sections of the people does any act or thing by using bombs, dynamite or other explosive substances or inflammable substances or lethal weapons or poisons or noxious gases or other chemicals or by any other substances (whether biological or otherwise) of a hazardous nature in such a manner as to cause, or as is likely to cause, death of, or injuries to, any person or persons or loss of, or damage to, or destruction of, property or disruption of any supplies or services essential to the life of the community, or detains any person and threatens to kill or injure such person in order to compel the Government or any other person to do or abstain from doing any act, commits a terrorist act."

- The law gave wide powers to [law enforcement agencies](#) for dealing with national terrorist and 'socially disruptive' activities. The police were not obliged to produce a detainee before a [judicial magistrate](#) within 24 hours. The [accused](#) person could be detained up to 1 year.
- Confessions made to police officers was admissible as [evidence](#) in the court of law, with the [burden of proof](#) being on the accused to prove his innocence. Courts were set up exclusively to hear the cases and deliver judgements pertaining to the persons accused under this Act.¹
- The trials could be held in camera with the identities of the witnesses kept hidden. Under 7A of the Act, Police officers were also empowered to [attach](#) the [properties](#) of the accused under this Act. Under this act police have no rights to give third degree or harassed anyone to speak as mentioned in the act.

- **Controversial provisions**
- The Act was widely criticised by human rights organisations as it contained provisions violating human rights. The criticism are centred on the following facts:-
- Under this Act whoever advocates directly or indirectly for [cession](#) or [secession](#) in any part of India is liable to be punished.
- The Act provided that a person can be detained up to 1 year without formal charges or trial against him.

- Section 20 of the Act provides that detainee can be in police custody up to 60 days which increases risk of [torture](#).
- Also the detainee need not be produced before a judicial magistrate, but instead may be produced before an executive magistrate who is an official of police and administrative service and is not answerable to high court.
- The trial can be held secretly at any place and also keeps the identity of the witnesses secret violating international standards of fair trial.

- The Act reverses the presumption of innocence of the accused under the Act. Under section 21 of the Act, the person who is accused of committing a terrorist act where arms and explosives were recovered or made confessions to someone other than a police officer or provided financial assistance for the commission of the terrorist act or by suspicion that the person has arms or explosives or financial assistance to commit the terrorist act, then the person shall be presumed to be guilty unless contrary is proved.
- A person making confessions to a police officer not below the rank of superintendent of the police can be used as evidence against him.
- Section 19 of the Act bars persons accused under this Act to appeal except the [Supreme court](#).

- Impact
- The number of people arrested under the act had exceeded 76,000, by 30 June 1994. Twenty-five percent of these cases were dropped by the police without any charges being framed.
- Only 35 percent of the cases were brought to trial, of which 95 percent resulted in acquittals. Less than 2 percent of those arrested were [convicted](#).
- The TADA act was ultimately repealed and succeeded by the [Prevention of Terrorist Activities Act](#) (2002-2004) and this act was subsequently repealed after much controversy as well.

Anti-Terror Laws in India

- The various central acts dealing with terrorism in the past and present are:
- The Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987. It was allowed to lapse in 1995 after its misuse.
- The Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA), 2002. It was enacted after the Parliament attack in 2001. It was also repealed in 2004.
- The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. It was amended in 2004 to deal with terror activities. It was last amended in 2012.
- Further, we also have state enacted laws viz. MCOCA (Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act) and Gujarat Control of Terrorism and Organised Crime (GCTOC) in place in Maharashtra and Gujarat.
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- ***Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act or TADA***
- TADA was the first anti-terror law enacted in 1985. It was first enacted for 2 years but later its life was extended in 1987 via the TADA-1987. The act was repealed in 1995 due to its misuse.
- Under TADA 1985, two new offences were created namely 'terror act' and 'disruptive activities' were included. The law had placed restriction on granting bails and gave enhanced power for detention of suspects and attaching the properties of the accused. The law made confession before a police officer admissible. Exclusive courts were set up to hear the cases under the act.

- ***The Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002 (POTA)***
- POTA was enacted in 2001 in the wake of Indian airlines flight hijack in 1999 and Parliament attack in 2001. Under the act, a suspect can be detained up to 180 days by a special court.
- The law included the act of fund raising for the purpose of terror as a 'terrorist act'. A separate chapter to deal with terrorist organisations was included. The union government was authorized to add or remove any organisation from the schedule. After its misuse by some state governments, it was repealed in 2004.

- ***Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) Amendment***
- UAPA was first enacted in 1967 and amended several times with the last one in 2012. Under UAPA, the definition of “terrorist act” has been expanded to include *offences that threaten economic security, counterfeiting Indian currency and procurement of weapons* etc.
- Additional powers are granted to courts to provide for attachment or forfeiture of property equivalent to the counterfeit Indian currency involved in the offence or to the value of the proceeds of terrorism involved in the offence.

- As of now, under Section 35 of the UAPA, there are 39 groups in the list of banned terrorist organisations, the latest one to have been added being the NSCN (Khaplang). There is also a proposed amendment of this act to “designate individuals” along with terror organisations under the “banned list of entities.” Presently, there is no provision for an individual, suspected of having terror links making it to the list of terrorist entities banned.

