

Integrated Governance

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Integrated Governance: Naxal Elimination and Welfare Deepening

Context:

In the first year of its third term, the central government has adopted a dual approach—**intensifying the fight against Left-Wing Extremism (LWE)** and **expanding major welfare schemes**. The strategy reflects a balance between ensuring **national security** and advancing **inclusive development**, particularly in underdeveloped and conflict-prone regions.

Final Push Against Left-Wing Extremism

Union Home Minister Amit Shah declared that the government aims to **eliminate Naxalism by March 31, 2026**. The campaign has gained unprecedented momentum, with major breakthroughs in Maoist-dominated areas.

In **Chhattisgarh alone, 209 Maoists were killed** in the first five months of 2025—nearly matching the **219 killed in all of 2024**. For comparison, only **53 Maoists** were killed across India in 2023. A key milestone was the elimination of **Basavaraju**, the general secretary of the CPI (Maoist), in **May 2025**—a top-level Maoist leader killed for the first time in **three decades**.

Operation Black Forest: Tactical Success

Launched on **April 21, 2025**, Operation Black Forest was a **joint campaign by CRPF and Chhattisgarh Police**, targeting the Maoist base in the **Kurragutta hills** along the Chhattisgarh-Telangana border.

Key outcomes:

- **54 Naxalites arrested**
- **84 surrendered** across **Chhattisgarh, Telangana, and Maharashtra**

Factors behind success:

- Strong political will and top-level backing
- Intelligence-led operations
- Centre-State coordination
- Active involvement of **District Reserve Guards (DRG)** and local forces

Despite these gains, Maoists still pose a threat in regions like **Kolhan (Jharkhand)** and **Abujmad (Chhattisgarh)**, where ambushes continue to cause casualties among security personnel.

Expanding Health Coverage: Ayushman Bharat for 70+

In **September 2025**, the government expanded **PM-JAY (Ayushman Bharat)** to cover **all citizens aged 70 and above**, regardless of income or caste—ensuring health protection for the most vulnerable.

Launched in **2018**, PM-JAY provides **₹5 lakh per family per year** in health insurance to over **40% of India's poorest**. With India's elderly population expected to rise to **319 million (19.5%) by 2050**, this move addresses a critical demographic challenge. As per the **India Ageing Report 2023**, only **20% of the elderly** currently have insurance coverage.

Housing and Rural Connectivity Boost

To address rural housing needs, the government has extended the **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G)** till **2029**, with a target of constructing **2 crore additional homes**. So far, **₹34,000 crore** has been released to states and **84.45 lakh houses** have been sanctioned.

Simultaneously, **PMGSY-IV (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana Phase IV)** aims to connect **25,000 villages** with **all-weather roads** by **2028-29**, strengthening rural infrastructure and accessibility.

Digital Push in Agriculture

The government launched the **Digital Agriculture Mission** in **September 2025** with an allocation of **₹2,817 crore** to modernize farming.

Key initiatives:

- **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)** for agriculture
- **Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGCES)** for accurate and timely crop data

This digital push aims to make agriculture more **data-driven**, **efficient**, and **inclusive**, especially for small and marginal farmers.

Conclusion

The first year of Modi 3.0 marks a decisive shift in governance—combining **firm internal security measures** with **welfare expansion**. From eliminating Maoist strongholds to securing healthcare and housing for the vulnerable, the government is pursuing an integrated model of **development-led security**. Sustaining this balance is crucial to achieving long-term peace, prosperity, and inclusive growth in India's rural and conflict-prone regions.



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