Q1. What strategies do left wing extremists adopt to destabilise the democracy? What has been the government's strategy to thwart such threats? Examine.

Introduction

Left Wing Extremism or Naxal Movement has been the source of extreme violence in some parts of the country. These extremists are internally waging wars against the state. It is considered to be the most important security concern. These extremist movements have disconnected several tribal villages from the national main stream. They want abolition of state to establish the rule of people. These extremists attack the symbols of the country's power such as the police, schools and other government institutions.

Body

Strategies adopted by LWE
- They threaten the locals before the conduct of elections and prevent them from voting. Violating the principle of participative democracy.
- They resort to violence through their guerrilla tactics and attempt to setup their own government in the local villages.
- They destroy the roads, transport system and government resources, thereby creating hindrance in governance and last mile connectivity. The poor are deprived further.
- Urban Naxals, who sometimes operate under the cloak of NGOs or social-work units, raise questions about the use of force by government machinery. This helps them build a strong bastion of sympathisers and volunteers in towns and cities and across social media.
- They resort to extortion, abduction of important personalities like Politicians, bureaucrats, police etc and put up their demand.
- They hire vulnerable people who have low literacy levels, unemployed or low income, particularly the tribals, who aren't aware of consequences of joining such forces, building up their cadre.
- They also have nexus with politicians, they find this as a medium to put up their demands through voices of Politicians.
- They attack the police, government and collect weapons, technological devices to fight against them on technological front.

Government Strategy
- Ministry of Home Affairs has created a Left Wing Extremism division to effectively address the Left Wing Extremist insurgency in a holistic manner. This division deals with security related aimed at capacity building in LWE affected states.

- SAMADHAN strategy of government to frame short term and long term policies to tackle LWE. The acronym SAMADHAN stands for Smart leadership, Aggressive strategy, Motivation and training, Actionable intelligence, Dashboard Based KPIs (key performance indicators) and KRAs (key result areas), Harnessing technology, Action plan for each theatre, and No access to financing.
- Government has formulated National Policy and Action Plan adopting multi-pronged strategy in the areas of security, development, ensuring rights & entitlement of local communities etc. This has several sub-schemes like Security related expenditure scheme(2017-20), Special Central Assistance scheme which involves modernisation of police force, Civic action program which aims at bridging the gap between Police and locals through personal interaction.
- Institutional measures like Blank Panther Combat Force (inline with the Greyhounds of Andhra and Telangana region), Bastariya battalion (locals joining as police, who are well informed of the terrain), multidisciplinary groups under MHA to check funding to the naxalites.
- On Infrastructure development front, government has been constructing roads, LWE mobile tower project to bring the locals into mainstream.
- Government is aiming for capacity building and skill development of the locals, schemes like ROSHNI that aims at providing jobs to the locals, the Ekalavya model residency schools for better educational facility to tribal children.
- Government is also working on Economic Inclusion, like providing support prices for Minor forest produce (MFP), establishing Van Dhan Kendras to aid tribal income.
- The Surrender and Rehabilitation policy too, has seen success to some extent.

Conclusion

The action needs to be on both the fronts i.e. action through security forces and developmental action that should aim at integrating the locals with the outside world. The Greyhounds model of Andhra Pradesh that helped northern Telangana districts get rid of Naxalism, can help us find many solutions.

Q2. The term 'urban Naxal' has gained currency in the last few years. What is the meaning of this term? What are your views on the belief that the so-called urban Naxals are a security threat to India? Comment.

Introduction:
The term Urban Naxals is not clearly defined. The phrase "Urban Naxal" loosely means people of the Naxalite bent of mind who reside in urban areas and work as activists, supporters and protectors of the ideology, while the active Naxals battle it out in the jungles and vast swathes of Maoist-dominated areas.

Body:

In India, while LWE has remained largely a rural phenomenon, the Naxal movement has been drawing great following and leadership from the urban areas, especially from highly educated achievers. The most predominant and visible modes of penetration appear to be infiltration into protests, agitations or demonstrations carried out against the government in urban areas.

They are not a threat to Internal Security:
- Political parties and right-wing organizations have wrongly termed some of the Left-leaning social activists as 'urban Naxal' for their political mileage.
- Anybody raising strong questions against the government is being perceived as an urban Naxal, which is very serious malice.
- These are Left-leaning activists who are fighting against social injustice and advocates for the rights of poor and tribal.
- Urban Naxals want to win the information/perception war through legal means, unlike real Naxals who want to overthrow the state through armed conflict.
- The government uses this term to curtail some dissenting voices.

They are Security Threat to India:
- Urban Naxals are the 'invisible enemies' of India. One common thread amongst all of them is that they are all urban intellectuals, influencers or activists of importance.
- These urban Naxal influence the middle-class employee, intellectuals and students with Maoist ideology and radicalize them against the government.
- They also hamper the international image of the country and portray bad social picture in international forums through conferences and newspaper articles.
- It is believed that with ageing leadership the Maoists and Naxalites have been looking at cities and towns for leaders. It feels that this is keeping in line with the tradition that most of their top leaders are well-educated people from universities.
- Some communist parties and Naxal organisations give immense importance to its 'urban movement' not just for the leadership, but for providing personnel, supplies, technologies, expertise, information and logistic support by over ground activities.
- The main focus of the Maoists' urban work is to organise the masses, including the working class, students, middle-class employees, intellectuals, women, Dalits and religious minorities. Naxals create front organisations for extending the reach of the organisation.

- From their ideology, it appears that Naxalites are fighting for the rights of the poor and want to establish a people's government, but the facts are quite contrary. The social uplifting of the downtrodden is not their real aim rather it is political power by undemocratic means.

Way ahead:
- To paint overt and peaceful political rebellions as Naxalism is a bad tactic, a political and moral blunder, which the government and political parties should avoid.
- The government should focus on curtailing the propaganda of the real Maoists in rural pockets of central Indian.
- Take up genuine counter campaigns and outreach programs are the best way to ideologically defeat the leftist insurgency.

Conclusion:

Many top intellectuals regularly support Naxalism, advocating an egalitarian society, human rights and tribal rights. But the use of violent means cannot be supported to achieve a noble cause in a democratic setup. Rather than blind support, the intellectuals should also encourage Naxals to eschew violence, fight elections, join the mainstream society and learn the art of give and take of democratic bargaining without aggression.

Q3. India is the typical example of a country suffering from external state sponsored terrorism. Comment. How is the government planning to address it? Discuss.

Introduction:

State-sponsored terrorism is government support of violent non-state actors engaged in terrorism. This warfare by proxy is as old as the history of military conflict. Today state sponsored terrorism has considerably altered the nature of terrorist activities around the world.

Body:

In recent times, some countries have embraced terrorism as a deliberate instrument of foreign policy. India has been facing this problem from Independence:
- Pakistan nurtures such groups to engage in low grade wars against India and compensate for its traditional military weakness. Lashkar-e-Taiba operating from PoK is supported by ISI of Pakistan. It carried parliament attack in 2000 and Mumbai attack in 2008
- Attacks by state sponsored terrorists hamper the global image of India. As India's global position grows, any terror attack casts doubts over its internal

security framework, hurts India's reputation, and deters potential investors seeking stability. This harms India's developmental Aspirations.

- Groups like Let, JMB, etc enjoy patronage and safe haven in Pakistan, despite global condemnation and they are used to wage proxy wars on in the state of J&K, instilling fear and overall instability in the region.
- Recent attack of military base at Uri and Pathankot and regular infiltration of terrorist and cross border firing along the LOC are instances where terror was raised with the help of state forces.
- Instances of outfits of China Maoists supporting Indian Naxalites ideologically, morally and financially which is a great threat to India's internal security are also seen.

How is the government planning to address it?
- Five point formula: Addressing UN High Level conference on Heads of Counter Terrorism Agencies Special Secretary, Internal Security of India extended five-point formula:
- Exchange of timely and actionable intelligence;
- Prevention of misuse of modern communication through collaboration with private sector;
- Building capacities for improved border controls;
- Sharing of info related to movement of passengers.
- Designation of Counter-Terror focal points for establishing a possible global forum to fight global terror. Addressing the issue on global forums and involving all stakeholders at global stage.
- Recently, Indian Government also repealed Article 370, to strengthen the internal security and integrate the J&K region with the rest of the country. This move has been important because of the constant Pakistan sponsored terror acts and violence observed in the region.
- Convention on Countering International Terrorism (CCIT) was proposed by India two decades back and recently the SCO Summit backed India's proposal.

Challenges:
- India's counter-terror efforts continue to be thwarted due to lack of international collaboration in respect of exchange of information and evidence or of extradition of the accused persons who are hiding outside India's territory.
- Recognition of state sponsored terror acts and direct naming by International community is lacking.

- Reluctance by Pakistan to accept evidences and dodging effective solutions.
- India's internal security shortcoming.

Conclusion:
Countries like Pakistan, Iran, Iraq, Sudan, Libya and North Korea have been engaged in sponsorship of political violence of different nature in their 'enemy' countries. Combating terrorism and radicalisation is increasingly becoming a great threat globally. All nations must thrive together to combat this and ensure global peace through an effective and firm diplomacy.

Q4. With the abrogation of Article 370, there is a fear of Jammu & Kashmir becoming a playground for external state and non-state actors trying to destabilise peace and order in the valley. Do you agree? How can this threat be averted? Suggest.

Introduction
Article 370 acknowledges the special status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir in terms of autonomy and its ability to formulate laws for the state's permanent residents.

Body
Jammu and Kashmir becoming a playground for external state:
- **Strategic location**: Jammu Kashmir location is at the confluence of India, Tibet, Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Central Asian Republics makes it one of the most geo strategically important regions of the world
- **China:** Chinese forces humiliated the Indian Army and captured Aksai Chin, which roughly forms 20 per cent of Jammu and Kashmir. This gave China a big foothold in Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Geographical route:** The state lies on the old silk route between ancient China and Central Asian Republics. Its vicinity to the China–Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the flagship project for China's Belt Road Initiative (BRI), also enhances its geostrategic potential.
- **CPEC:** The CPEC passes through Gilgit-Baltistan, a part of Jammu and Kashmir. China has got its own and troops for security of the development projects in the corridor.
- **Ladakh**: Ladakh which is of strategic importance between Tibet and Pakistan has been a source of disputes between India and China.
- **Islam culture**: Due to its deep mystic moderate Islam culture, it has the potential of reversing the cultural Jehadi threat to the Uyghur region of China in the north.

Jammu and Kashmir becoming a playground for non-state actors:

- **Taliban:** The withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan describes the drawdown of United States Armed Forces and increased tension of Taliban in Middle East.
- **Various terrorist groups**: various terrorist groups are seen in Jammu and Kashmir and there is huge risk of intruders.

Steps for threat to be averted:
- **Intelligence unit:** Within the intelligence community, the different branches need to coordinate better when it comes to intelligence sharing between them, ensuring there is a single stream for the dissemination of counterterrorism intelligence.
- **Defence infrastructure:** Needed to allocate resources towards reaching the goal by overhauling its defence infrastructure and procurement policies.
- **Feasible option**: India has asked Pakistan to take credible and irreversible steps to end cross-border terrorism and dismantle terrorist infrastructure in territory under its control.
- **FATF:** India is also a member of FATF (Financial Action Task Force) whose aim is to establish international standards for combating money laundering and terrorist financing.
- **NIA:** Officers of the National Investigation Agency are going from door-to-door at crack down cross border terror funding.
- **Regional organizations:** Bilateral summit meetings with various countries, and at regional and multilateral forums, such as Shanghai Cooperation Organization, G20, BRICS, among others. Manifestation: zero tolerance to terrorism; rejection of any justification for an act of terror; delinking terror from religion; need for all forces believing in humanity to unite in fight against terrorism has found greater acceptance.
- **Satellite:** ISRO launched an earth observation spy satellite RISAT-2B that can take high resolution images of the earth during day and night, and also under cloudy conditions to keep an eye also on terror camps across the border in Pakistan.

Conclusion
It is the consensus of government and public to maintain peace and harmony of the nation for the welfare of all.

Q5. What is religious indoctrination? How does it lead to youth adopting the path of terror? What is the best way to prevent it? Discuss.

Introduction
Religious indoctrination is the type of biasing the thoughts and thought processing. The words are used in reference to promoting a one-sided opinion as being truthful,

without allowing accesses to other ideas and with no reservation in calling it unjustifiably, the 'truth.

Example: In the fundamentalist branches of Christianity and Islam, children are indoctrinated from a very young age that homosexuality is a sin, that you are going to hell if you don't accept Mohammed as God's final prophet or Jesus as your personal saviour.

Body

Factors lead to youth adopting the path of terror:

- **Vulnerability**: Young people experiencing exclusion, disorientation or a polarized world view are more prone. Example: abandoned kids, poverty, and basic deprivation of resources.
- **Immaturity at the age of teens**: Any impulsive talks can trigger their minds and easy biasing can be noticed. Child with immature cognitive abilities in the helpless context of a family is an abuse of power.
- **Religion orientation:** Spirituality is being traded in the marketplace and there is no force to counter that. Youth are being over religious. Periodic emotional relief: The victim is always to blame and escape is extremely difficult because there is periodic emotional relief but no overall perspective.
- **Ignorance:** Parents are ignored about radicalization of the youth and left unchanged.
- In the name of education: children are sent to missionary schools and madrsas. Children mind are slowly biased to radicalization.
- **"Arabisation":** What you should wear what your rituals or inter-sex relations should be — they have directly imported this culture. Huge influence among the youth can be seen.
- **Extremism is a rational strategy in a game over power**: Extremist actions are an effective strategy for gaining and maintaining power in a hierarchical environment.
- **Digital media:** Viral videos, easy access of videos make easy persuasion to follow radicalisation.

Ways to prevent:

- **Strict measures:** Vigilance, investigation and micro observing in the suspected areas.
- **Rehabilitation:** to rehabilitate the youth who are prone to radicalization and giving right livelihood.
- **Divide and conquer**: When one group is able to infiltrate the opposing side's extremist groups, or establish relationships with ambivalent members of those groups, they can begin to create a wedge between members
- **Skilling and re-skilling:** Most of the youth are deprived by resources and poverty. Basic income can make their life to channelize to mainstream.
- **Peace building**: This approach, which is aimed at addressing the underlying conditions, which foster extremism through democratization, strengthening human rights.

Conclusion

Role of youth, role of parents, role of religious organization, role of media, role of the government, and role of NGOs are equally important in preventing the Religious indoctrination.