



DATE: 21 FEBRUARY 2026

1 Aditya L1 (Source: *The Hindu*)

Aditya L1 is the first space-based observatory-class solar mission launched by ISRO.

- The spacecraft is placed in a halo orbit around the Lagrangian point 1 (L1) of the Sun-Earth system.
- From the L1 point satellites have the major advantage of continuously viewing the Sun without any occultation/ eclipse.
- Spacecraft carries seven payloads to observe the photosphere, chromosphere, and the outermost layers of the Sun (the corona) using electromagnetic and particle detectors.
- Mission will help in understanding the Coronal Heating and Solar Wind Acceleration.



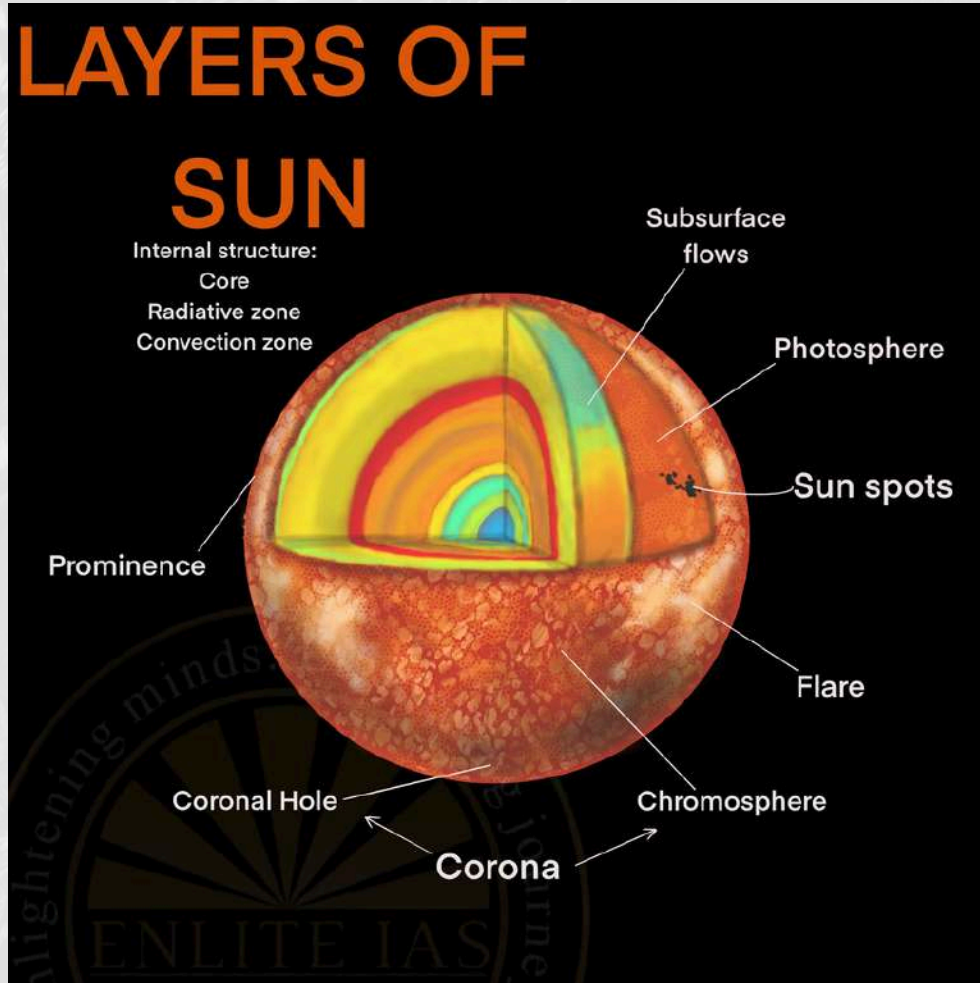
What you need to know about Sun?

- Sun is the nearest star and the largest object in the solar system.
- Estimated age of sun is about 4.5 billion years.
- It is composed of hydrogen and helium gases.
- The constant flow of particles from the sun is known as solar wind and are mostly composed of high energy protons.



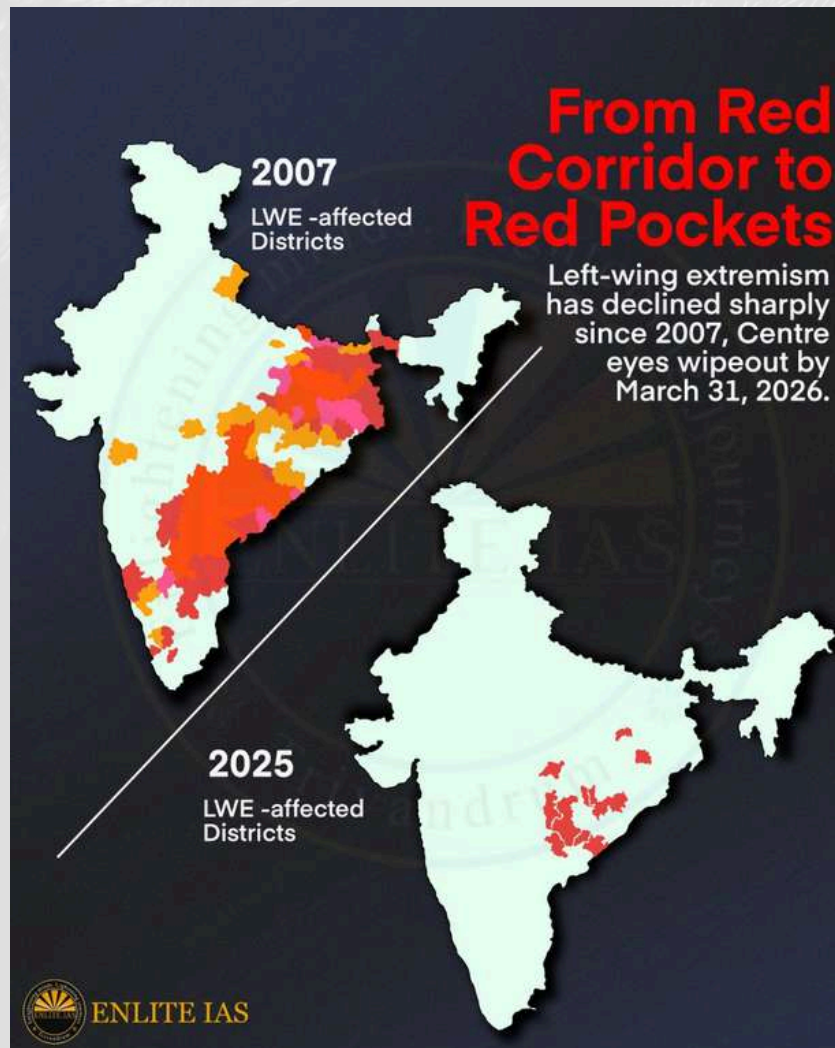
DATE: 21 FEBRUARY 2026

Layers of Sun



2 Red Corridor (Source: *The Indian Express*)

Red corridor is the area affected with Left Wing Extremism(LWE). It includes states such as Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, Kerala, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, and parts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.



What is LWE?

- The Left Wing Extremism (LWE) or Naxal insurgency in India originated in a 1967 uprising in Naxalbari, West Bengal by the Communist Party of India (Marxist).
- The Naxals strongly believe that the solution to social and economic discrimination is to overthrow the existing political system.



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What government is doing?

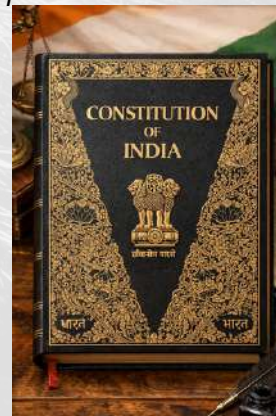
- It has used security-related interventions coupled with developmental measures to root out the violent uprisings.
- Aspirational Districts Programme: Launched in 2018, it aims to rapidly transform the districts that have shown relatively lesser progress in key social areas.
- SAMADHAN doctrine is the one-stop solution for the LWE problem.
- Construction of 17,462 km of roadways had been sanctioned to improve road connectivity.
- ROSHNI is a special initiative under, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana for training and placement of rural youth from 27 LWE affected districts.
- More than 100 Ekalavya Residential Model Schools were sanctioned/
- Grey Hounds commandos to fight left-wing extremists.

3 Features of Federalism (Source: *The Hindu*)

Federalism is a form of government in which the central government and regional government agree to share power. The federalism in India is not the pure form but quasi-federalism in which centre has more power than states.

What are the features?

- Division of power
- Written constitution to showcase supremacy of constitution.
- Independent judiciary.
- Bicameral Legislation.



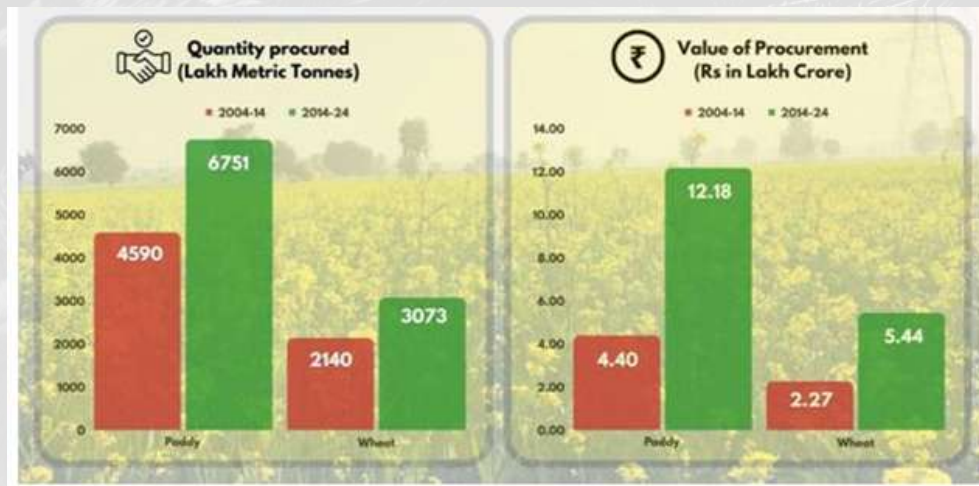
What is confederalism?

- When a group of sovereign states come together to protect their defence, foreign policy and resources. EU is an example

4 Minimum Support Price (MSP)

(Source: *PIB*)

Minimum Support Price (MSP) is a mechanism through which the government supports farmers by purchasing their crops at a pre-determined price. This assured price encourages farmers to invest in quality seeds and technology without fear of distress sales.



What you need to know?

- MSPs is announced by the government for 22 mandated agricultural crops.
- It is announced based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP).
- Cereals and coarse cereals are procured by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and designated State Agencies.





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5 Lion-Tailed Macaque (Source: *Down To Earth*)

Their tail resembles a lion's tail which is where the name 'lion-tailed macaque' comes from. Just like other macaques, these monkeys also have cheek pouches to temporarily store food.

Where are they located?

- Lion-tailed macaques are only native to the south-west of India (Western Ghats hills and mountains of South-western India).

Protection Status

- They are highly threatened by habitat fragmentation, deforestation, and illegal hunting, with many populations isolated.
- They are legally protected under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Fact to know

- Lion-tailed macaques have a grey mane around their face. That's why they're sometimes called bearded monkeys.

IUCN: Endangered

