

22 March 2020: PIB Summary & Analysis

1. Left-wing Extremism

Context:

PM condemns the Maoist attack in Sukma, Chhattisgarh.

Details:

- At least 17 security personnel were killed and 14 others injured in the Maoist attack.
- For more on [Left-Wing Extremism](#), click on the linked article.

2. COVID-19

Context:

A slew of measures were announced by the central and state governments to curb the rapid spread of COVID-19.

Details:

For details on the COVID-19 epidemic, and the measures announced by the governments, please check the link [COVID-19 \(Wuhan Coronavirus\)](#).

3. Technology Development Board

Context:

Technology Development Board under DST invites technology proposals for fighting COVID 19.

About the Technology Development Board (TDB):

- The Government of India constituted the Technology Development Board (TDB) in September 1996, under the Technology Development Board Act, 1995, as a **statutory body**, to promote the development and commercialization of indigenous technology and adaptation of imported technology for wider application.
- The TDB is the first organization of its kind within the government framework with the sole objective of commercializing the fruit of indigenous research.
- The Board plays a pro-active role by encouraging enterprises to take up technology oriented products.
- The TDB provides equity capital or loans to industrial concerns and financial assistance to research and development institutions.

TDB Functions:

- Facilitates interaction between industry, scientists, technocrats and specialists.

- Fosters an innovation culture through contract and cooperative research between industry and institutions.
- Provides an interface with financial institutions and commercial banks for leveraging funds.
- Facilitates the creation of a new generation of entrepreneurs.
- Assists partnerships with other, similar technology financing bodies.
- Provides vistas for venturing into hi-tech areas.
- Creates new job opportunities.

TDB Objectives:

- To promote new ideas from small enterprises even at the risk of failures.
- To encourage production of competitive consumer products.
- To motivate industries and R&D institutions for product innovation.
- To develop socially relevant and profitable technologies.
- To identify and act in areas requiring strategic interventions.
- To invest in core technological strengths to enable India industry to stand-up to the competitive pressure and become a global player.

TDB Members:

- Secretary, Department of Science & Technology – Ex-officio Chairperson
- Secretary, Department of Expenditure – Ex-officio Member
- Secretary, Department of [Defence Research and Development Organization](#) – Ex-officio Member
- Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research – Ex-officio Member
- Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion – Ex-officio Member
- Secretary, Department of Rural Development – Ex-officio Member
- Secretary, Technology Development Board – Ex-officio Member Secretary