

Twitter Thread by [Neha](#)



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THREAD - Who are Urban Naxals?

India Today TV filed an Right to Information (RTI) on 21st Jan 20, with Union Home Ministry seeking to know the official status of "Urban Naxals".

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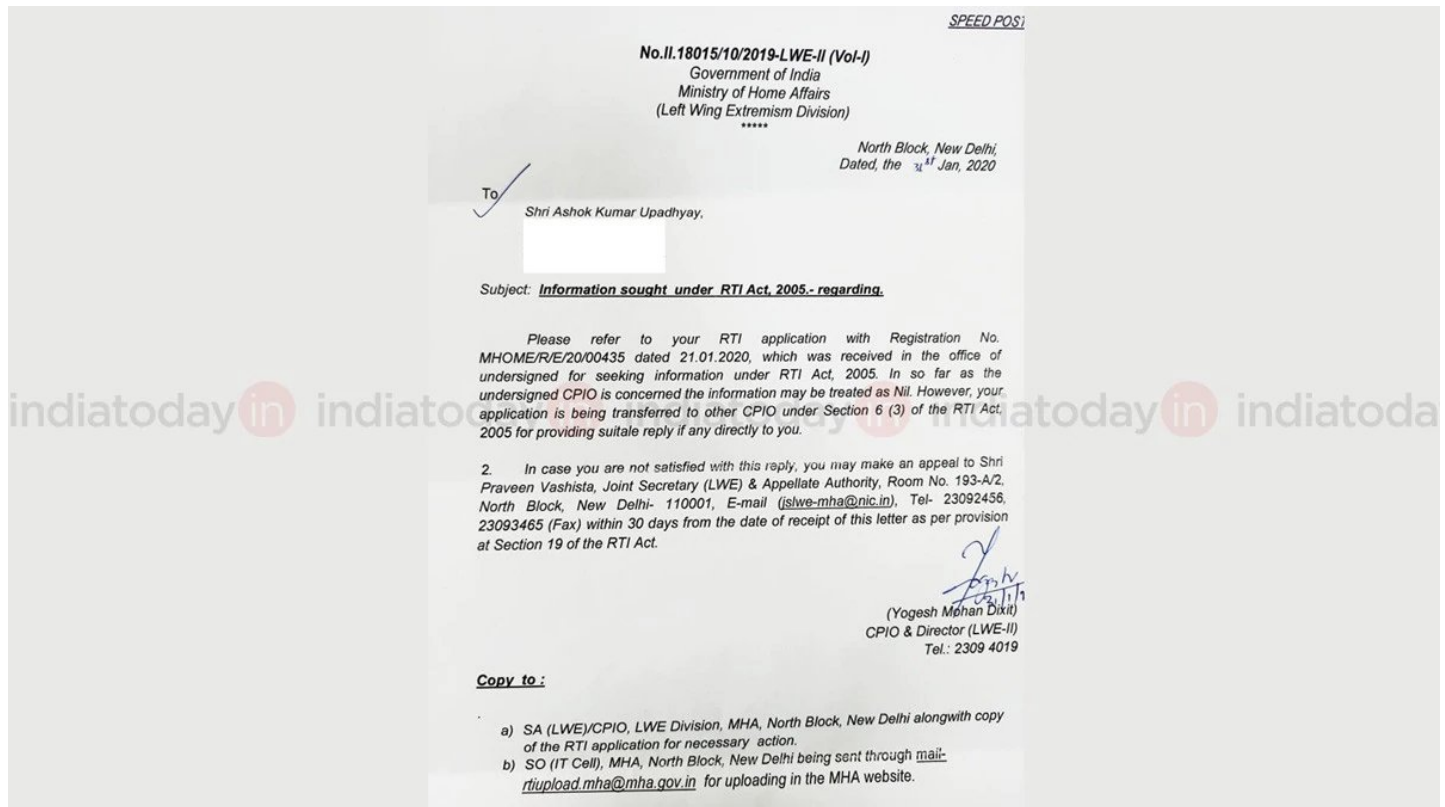
WHO ARE
URBAN
NAXALS?

The questions asked in the RTI application were as follows:

- Who are Urban Naxals? Where are they active?
- How many Urban Naxals have been arrested and how - many of them have been convicted?
- Has the government of India ever tried to ban Urban Naxals? If yes, when?

In response to the RTI query the Left Wing Extremism Division in the home ministry said:

"In so far as the undersigned CPIO is concerned, the information may be treated as Nil." The answer to the query was sent under the signature of Yogesh Mohan Dixit.



The term Urban Naxals is not clearly defined. The origin of the word can be traced to the book and a few essays by film-maker and social media opinion-maker [@vivekagnihotri](#) 's book, Urban Naxals: The Making of Buddha in a Traffic Jam.

The phrase of Urban Naxals is loosely attributed to the people with naxalite bent of mind residing in urban areas and working 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.

In 2018, Moists organized 'Elgaar Parishad' event to mark the 200th year of the Battle of Bhima Koregaon. The event was hit by violence and police recovered a letter that mentioned an alleged plan to assassinate Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Following the recovery of the letter, police initiated a probe into the Naxal link in the matter, which led to the arrest of 6 activists for 'Maoist links'. Opposition parties & civil right activists condemned the police action, as an attempt suppress those who criticise the govt



The Ekta Ugrahan of the Bharatiya Kisan Union represented group at Farmers protest. Almost 2/3 of those gathered were reportedly their members. It is same group calling for release of Urban Naxals involved in the Elgar Parishad case & Islamists arrested in the Delhi Riots case.



Recently Elgar Parishad was held in Pune in Jan 21 while the Farmers Protest was ongoing in Delhi. Trouble makers such as Sharjeel Usmani, Arundhati Roy and Prashant Kanojia made extremely controversial comments and crass Hinduphobic remarks.



New Age Urban Naxal

Greta Thunberg accidentally tweeted the 'toolkit' and feared that she might be booked under the stringent UAPA Act. This led to expose of "New Age Urban Naxals" like Disha Ravi, Nikita Jacob, Shantanu Muluk, Mo Dhaliwal and many others.



The Toolkit expose opened a Pandora box revealing deep-knitted nexus between international celebs, NGOs, Media Houses, & terr0rist org directly linked to Kh@listani movement.

Yet, why is GOI not recognizing these "Urban Naxals" officially ? [@PMOIndia](#) [@HMOIndia](#) [@NIA_India](#)

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