INDIA

KEY DATA

NO APMBC ARTICLE 5 DEADLINE:

State not party to the APMBC

AP MINE CONTAMINATION:

Unknown

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of AP mined area	Release in 2025 (m^2)	Release in 2024 (m^2)
Clearance	Unknown	Unknown
Technical Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Non-Technical Survey	Unknown	Unknown

Destruction of AP mines during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2025	2024
AP Mines destroyed	Unknown	Unknown

MAIN AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2025:

- None

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Little information is available on anti-personnel (AP) mine contamination, survey, and clearance in India, and there is no civilian mine action programme. India appears to be using AP mines on the line of control (LoC) with Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir, and there is some evidence that landmines remain on or close to India's border with China. Non-State armed groups (NSAGs) are reported to have used improvised explosive devices (IEDs) that meet the definition of an AP mine in various Indian states, such as Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Manipur, and Telangana. Although India declared it had overcome the Maoist/Naxal insurgency on 31 March 2026, the threat from IEDs planted by NSAGs involved persists. Details of survey and clearance of AP mines are not available, but media sources continue to indicate some clearance has occurred.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- **India should accede to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) as a matter of priority.**
- **India should clear AP mines in areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, consonant with its obligations under international human rights law.**
- **India should report publicly on the extent and location of AP mines and prepare a plan for their clearance and destruction.**

AP MINE SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Director-General of Military Operations

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- Army Corps of Engineers
- Indian Police Service

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- None

OTHER ACTORS

- None

UNDERSTANDING OF AP MINE CONTAMINATION

The extent of AP mine contamination in India is not known. India used mines in three wars with Pakistan in 1947, 1965, and 1971, and in its war with China in 1962.[1] Large-scale mine-laying was conducted by government forces on and near the LoC separating India and Pakistan during the 1971 war and the 2001–02 stand-off between the two states. Both AP and anti-vehicle (AV) mines were laid on cultivated land and pasture, as well as around infrastructure and a number of villages.

In 2002, media sources reported that India was laying mines along virtually the entire length of its 2,897km border with Pakistan. One army commander said the mined area extended roughly two kilometres deep.[2] The Landmine Monitor asserts that this was India's last significant use of AP mines when, in Operation Parakram between December 2001 and July 2002, the Indian army emplaced an estimated two million mines along the northern and western borders with Pakistan.[3] It appears that some areas were subsequently cleared. In June 2016, India's NDTV news network, for example, reported that the Indian army was demining areas of the LoC in Rajouri district, Kashmir, in order to return land to communities for agricultural use as it vacated fields near the border that were reportedly taken over and mined during the Kargil Conflict in 1999 and Operation Parakram in 2001.[4]

Indian officials have in the past stated that "there is no minefield or mined area in any part of India's interiors", but acknowledged that "minefields are laid, if required, along the border areas as part of military operations".[5] India has also said that, "Mines that are used for defensive military operations are laid within fenced perimeters and marked, in accordance with the requirements specified in AP [Amended Protocol] II [to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons – CCW]. Post operations, these mines are cleared by trained troops".[6]

India has said it would only completely stop using mines when alternative technologies can perform their defensive role, though it has reported having ended production of "non-detectable" AP mines in accordance with the Amended Protocol II to CCW[7]. In January 2021, a former Director-General of India's Defence Intelligence Agency was quoted as saying that India only emplaces mines when there is "a threat from an enemy state or possibility of an imminent war",[8] while a 2023 media source reported that the Indian army continues to use AP mines as part of its counter-infiltration strategy, to seal possible infiltration routes into Jammu and Kashmir across the LoC.[9] For more information on use, please see the country profile on India on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[10] See also section below on "Land Release Outputs and Progress towards Completion" for further details of India's position on the use of AP mines.

LANDMINE CONTAMINATION ALONG OR NEAR INDIA'S BORDERS

Reports of mine contamination, detonations, and casualties persist in Jammu and Kashmir. Mines previously laid along the LoC by India cause casualties among Indian military personnel every year,[11] and regularly cause civilian casualties. Multiple reports of landmine explosions in Poonch district in Jammu and Kashmir were reported throughout 2025 and into 2026, with explosions often triggered by forest fires.[12] There were also reports of mine explosions in other districts bordering the LoC, including Rajouri and Kupwara districts in Jammu and Kashmir.[13]

The majority of casualties reported in 2025 and the first seven months of 2026 continued to involve military personnel (footnotes 10 and 11 refer). Civilian and alleged "terrorist" casualties were also reported in 2025, including five "Pakistani terrorists" killed in a landmine blast in Poonch

1 Human Rights Watch, Recent Landmine Use by India and Pakistan, Backgrounder, May 2002, http://bit.ly/3srXtQz, p. 3.

2 "India's Minefields Mean Bitter Harvest for Farmers", *The New York Times*, 4 January 2002, http://nyti.ms/3mTiBhp.

3 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 22 September 2024, accessed 19 August 2025, https://tinyurl.com/mryezh2e.

4 "Farmers Hope to Return to Fields as Army Clears Landmines on Line of Control", *NDTV*, 27 June 2016, http://bit.ly/2Z1AJIl.

5 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 22 September 2024.

6 Statement of India, Fourth APMBC Review Conference, Oslo, 26 November 2019.

7 "'A Ghost that haunts': Living with landmines in Kashmir", *Al Jazeera*, 27 January 2021, https://tinyurl.com/t3xcsns7.

8 "'A Ghost that haunts': Living with landmines in Kashmir", *Al Jazeera*, 27 January 2021.

9 "Army soldier injured in landmine explosion in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district", *The Indian Express*, 15 October 2023, https://tinyurl.com/49w7w72j.

10 https://the-monitor.org.

11 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 27 March 2026, https://bit.ly/3UhhYTo.

12 See, e.g., "Indian soldier injured in Poonch landmine blast" *Kashmir Media Service*, 21 January 2025, https://bit.ly/3HEFCDo; "Forest fire triggers landmine blasts along LoC; no one hurt", *The Print*, 26 January 2025, https://bit.ly/4171nT1; "IIOJK: Forest fire triggers landmine blasts in Poonch", *Kashmir Media Service*, 1 February 2025, https://bit.ly/3V3Pn0W; "Forest fire triggers landmine explosions in Poonch", *Kashmir Reader*, 10 February 2025, https://bit.ly/41KZ5ZZ; "Army soldier injured in landmine blast along LoC in J-K's Poonch", *The Indian Express*, 20 February 2025, https://bit.ly/4mMKQMg; "Soldier injured in landmine blast near J&K's Poonch", *Deccan Herald*, 17 May 2025, https://bit.ly/4fGDmYM; "Forest fire trigger landmine blasts along LoC in Poonch", *The Indian Express*, 23 May 2025, https://bit.ly/45Trrnb; "J&K: Four landmines, one mortar shell explode near LoC in Poonch; no casualties", *Press Trust of India*, 9 October 2025, https://bit.ly/4cF4yH4; "Forest fire triggers landmine blasts along LoC in J&K's Poonch", *Hans India,* 7 December 2025, https://bit.ly/4wpVMUo; "Forest fire along LoC triggers land mine explosions in Rajouri, *Greater Kashmir,* 11 June 2026, https://bit.ly/4wYL7Bc.

13 See, e.g., "J&K: Two soldiers including captain killed in landmine explosion in Akhnoor sector", *Hans India*, 11 February 2025, https://bit.ly/45TzHUh; "Forest fire triggers landmine blasts along LoC in J-K's Rajour", *Press Trust of India*, 11 June 2025, https://bit.ly/41L06kL; "Soldier dies in landmine blast", *State Times*, December 2026 https://bit.ly/3TUqbwN; "Close Calls at the LoC: Landmine Explosion Injures Soldier", *Devdiscourse*, 18 April 2026, https://bit.ly/3TXlJgJ; "Forest fire along LoC triggers land mine explosions in Rajouri", *Greater Kashmir,* 11 June 2026, https://bit.ly/4wYL7Bc; "Jammu and Kashmir: JCO, 3 soldiers injured in accidental landmine explosion along LoC", *The Statesman*, 16 June 2026, https://bit.ly/4xDCWKH; "JCO injured in landmine blast in J&K's Rajouri", *The Times of India*, 3 July 2026, https://bit.ly/4zjsREa; and "'Accidental' landmine blast injures two Jawans of Army patrol in Jammu&Kashmir", *The New Indian Express*, 29 July 2026, https://bit.ly/3TNVAB5.

in February 2025,[14] and a boy who died in a landmine blast in Anantnag district in Kashmir.[15] In 2026, reports of civilian casualties on or near the LoC included a teenager injured by a suspected mine that washed into a stream, and a porter injured in a mine blast near the LoC. Both incidents occurred in Poonch district in February 2026.[16]

There have also been reports of landmine casualties in recent years on the border with China. In August 2020, it was reported that conflict over disputed territory in Kashmir between India and China resulted in at least one death and one injury due to mines laid in the past along the Line of Actual Contact (LAC).[17] In addition, a Chinese media article claimed in August 2023 that India had emplaced mines in an area that China claims as its own, to the north-west of Lake Panglong on the Tibetan plateau. Two Indian labourers working on a new road in the area were reportedly killed in a landmine explosion on 16 August 2023.[18] More recently, in January 2026, a fire thought to be caused by old anti-infiltration mines detonated in intense heat causing a fire close to the India-China border in Kupup village in East Sikkim.[19]

For more information on casualties, please see the country profile on India on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[20]

India is one of only a handful of countries still believed to be actively producing mines which until recently were produced exclusively through the State-owned Munitions India Ltd (and its precursor, Indian Ordnance Factories, until 2021).[21] In 2019, according to an online media report, the Indian Army was planning to procure one million AP mines over a five-year period to be used along the LoC,[22] and in August 2020, India said it planned to increase domestic production and end AP mine imports.[23] In 2021, the Indian Army's Corps of Engineers received delivery of the first of 700,000 domestically manufactured Nipun AP mines (since replaced by the M-14 and M-16 AP mines[24]) and were conducting trials on new AV mines which it planned to deploy along the LoC.[25]

Several private sector companies are now also involved in the production of completed AP mines.[26] At least two mines have been reported as under development since 2020 as part of a "New Family of Munitions", including "Ulka," a bounding fragmentation AP mine; and "Parth," a directional AP landmine. In May 2022, a publicly listed company, Premier Explosives Ltd, received a two-year contract from the Indian Ministry of Defence to produce these mines. According to the Landmine Monitor, Premier Explosives has been supplying Nipun AP mines to the Indian Army since April 2024. India has also developed a submunition warhead containing AP mines for Pinaka 214mm artillery rockets; as at March 2026, publicly-listed Solar Industries India Limited was still advertising Pinaka ADM-3 rockets on its website.[27]

India said in November 2025 that it continues to observe the moratorium on the export and transfer of AP mines, which has been in place since May 1996. For more information on production, please see the country profile on India on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[28]

LANDMINE AND IED CONTAMINATION IN NORTHERN AND EASTERN STATES

India maintains that the Indian Armed Forces have never used landmines in internal armed conflicts in its northern and north-eastern states.[29] The security forces have, however, reported extensive use of mines and IEDs by Maoist fighters in the north-eastern states of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand causing civilian and military casualties,[30] and there are reports of their use in other states in the north-east of the country. Landmine Monitor has reported sporadic new use of IEDs by NSAGs affiliated with the Maoist insurgency since 2017.[31] A 2026 media source outlined how the insurgency had widely involved the use of rudimentary but highly effective pressure-operated IEDs (comprising gelatine, ball bearings, and metal fragments packed into a steel lunch box) across vast swathes of India's forests.[32]

Analysis by the National Security Guard suggested a sharp increase in the use of victim-operated IEDs used by extremist groups across India during 2024. According to the report, 47% of all IED incidents in 2024 (49 out of 104) involved unknown mechanisms, while 41% (43 out of 104) were victim-operated, and only 11% were command-operated, and one per cent involved delay mechanisms. The report observed that the, "recent trend highlights a constant use of sophisticated IEDs, designed to be triggered by the victim, used for anonymity and safety reasons".[33] In March 2026 India

14 "5 Pakistani terrorists killed in landmine blast during infiltration bid at LoC in Poonch", *Sambad English Bureau*, 7 February 2025, https://bit.ly/46WfTAJ.

15 "Boy injured in landmine blast in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district dies", *Deccan Herald*, 15 September 2025, https://bit.ly/4wphEPN.

16 "Teenager Injured In Suspected Landmine Blast In J&K's Poonch", *Daily Excelsior*, 11 February 2026; "Porter Injured in Landmine Blast Near LoC", 7 February 2026; *Kashmir Life*; https://bit.ly/4bRWrGV.

17 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 22 September 2024.

18 Ibid.

19 "Fire Near Indo-China Border Triggers Mine Blasts in East Sikkim", *G Plus News*, 21 January 2026, https://bit.ly/4x25I7X.

20 https://the-monitor.org.

21 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 22 September 2024; and "India", Last updated 27 March 2026.

22 "Army wants 1 million mines from private sector", *The Economic Times*, 3 October 2019, https://bit.ly/3L22UiQ.

23 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 22 September 2024.

24 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 27 March 2026.

25 "Nipun anti-personnel mines: Army gets weapons boost for Pakistan, China borders", *Hindustan Times*, 21 December 2021, https://bit.ly/3P6SnaJ.

26 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 27 March 2026.

27 Ibid.

28 https://the-monitor.org.

29 Human Rights Watch, "Recent Landmine Use by India and Pakistan", Backgrounder, May 2002, p. 3.

30 *Landmine Monitor Report 2024*, pp. 23–24.

31 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 27 March 2026.

32 "Maoist landmine legacy haunts India", *France 24*, 22 April 2026, https://bit.ly/4xJW8GM.

33 "'Victim-Operated IEDs On The Rise': NSG Warns Of Shift In Terror Tactics | Exclusive", *News18*, 15 October 2025: https://bit.ly/46alphp.

declared the country free of the "Maoist insurgency", which had lasted for decades. The risks from the explosive devices, however, were said to endure.[34]

The Landmine Monitor has attributed civilian casualties to improvised mines used by the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-M) every year since 2009, and continued to report their use by CPI-M and its People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA) in 2024 through until the middle of 2025, with most casualties reported in Chhattisgarh. Casualties attributed to CPI-M improvised AP mine use were reported by The Monitor in late 2024 and early 2025 in Jharkhand, Telangana, and Odisha.[35] Media reports continue to support these findings, with mine explosions, including from "pressure-activated" IEDs, recorded as causing civilian, security force, and wildlife casualties in 2025.[36] In October 2025, a media source reported that the security forces had unearthed a Maoist arms-manufacturing unit on the Odisha-Andhra Pradesh border, which produced landmines as well as other weapons.[37]

Between May and July 2024, there was a surge in use of landmines, which was attributed to Burmese insurgents, laid on the India-Myanmar border in Manipur State causing casualties.[38] In July 2024, an officer of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isak-Muivah (IM) faction) was killed and two others injured by an improvised AP mine near the India-Myanmar new border pillars 89, 90, and 91, allegedly laid by the Kuki National Army (Burma), an NSAG in the Sagaing Region of Myanmar.[39] In January 2026, a media source reported that the army neutralised IEDs in an area along Tamil Mandir Road leading to the Indo-Myanmar border Friendship Gate.[40]

For more information on use and casualties, please see the country profile on India on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.[41]

International databases also indicate the use of AP mines in India,[42] including IEDs that may meet the definition of an AP mine, in the states outlined above.[43] Furthermore, the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) database indicates the possibility that remote explosives, landmines, or IEDs have been used by NSAGs in several other Indian states.[44]

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

India has no civilian mine action programme. The Director-General of Military Operations decides on mine clearance after receiving assessment reports from the command headquarters of the respective districts where clearance is needed. The Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for clearing mines placed by NSAGs. According to media reports in 2023, the Army's bomb disposal squad is responsible for destroying mines near the LoC that have drifted due to seasonal rainfall and been reported during Army patrols.[45]

Available details about demining undertaken by the Indian military are scant. In its most recent Article 13 report under the CCW Amended Protocol II (covering 2025), India stated at Form B (covering mine clearance), "No update since 2025", even though the summary sheet to the report indicated mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes had changed since its report the previous year (covering 2024), which had left Form B blank.[46] Form E did, however, include a list of six short (lasting a few days only) bilateral exercises which are said to have included demining, counter-IED (C-IED), and unexploded ordnance (UXO) disposal, plus two short exchange programmes, and a national seminar covering C-IED and UXO disposal.[47]

Innovation in demining technology continues to be reported in India. In May 2026, the Ministry of Defence issued a tender for the procurement of 386 next-generation mine detectors designed to identify metallic and non-metallic explosives, marking a significant upgrade in the Indian Army's counter-mine and route-clearance capability. A media source reported that the "dual technology mine detectors" should address a limitation with existing systems that are unable to reliably detect low-metal or non-metallic mines and IEDs.[48]

34 "Maoist landmine legacy haunts India", *France 24*, 22 April 2026.

35 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 27 March 2026.

36 "Chhattisgarh Cop Dies, Two Officers Injured In Landmine Blast In Sukma", *NDTV*, 9 June 2025, https://tinyurl.com/ykmpkatv; "Commandos critically injured in maoist landmine blasts in Jharkhand", *DY365Live*, 18 December 2025, https://bit.ly/4wUwbUM; and "Wild Elephant Injured After Stepping On A Suspected Maoists' IED in Jharkhand's Saranda forest", *Jharkhand State News*, 5 May 2026, https://bit.ly/3SAPJ1w, "Maoist landmine claims life of young elephant in Jharkhand's Chaibasa", *Social News XYZ*, 6 July 2025, https://tinyurl.com/55x9useh; "Tribal injured in Maoist landmine blast in forest", *The Times of India*, 7 January 2025, https://bit.ly/3UT6l2l; "Three Greyhounds commandos killed in landmine blast in Telangana", *Social News XYZ*, 8 May 2025, https://bit.ly/4fD9Jrq; and "Landmine blast kills railway staff, injures another in Odisha", *The Times Of India*, 3 August 2026, https://bit.ly/4ilfBc9.

37 "Security personnel unearth Maoist arms-manufacturing unit on Odisha-Andhra Pradesh border", *The Times of India,* 16 October 2026, https://bit.ly/4wIXosO.

38 "Landmines kill, maim many on Indo-Myanmar border", *The Sangai Express*, 2 August 2024, https://tinyurl.com/ymzjas6c; and "India-Myanmar border saw surge in landmine blasts, MLA tells House", *The Times of India*, 3 August 2024, https://bit.ly/3XbzsQk.

39 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 27 March 2026.

40 "Manipur: Assam Rifles neutralise unexploded bombs along Indo-Myanmar border", *North East Now*, 26 January 2026, https://tinyurl.com/mer8nsnw.

41 https://the-monitor.org.

42 Fenix Insight database, https://fenix-insight.online/.

43 ACLED, "Filters: 01/01/2025-20/08/2026, Remote explosive/landmine/IED, India", accessed 20 August 2026 www.acleddata.com.

44 Ibid.

45 "Six land mines destroyed along LoC in Balakote", *Northlines,* 5 May 2023, https://bit.ly/3qQG6hj; and "Rusted landmine found in J-K's Poonch; destroyed", *The Print,* 31 July 2023, https://bit.ly/44jlhrC.

46 CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Reports (covering 2025 and 2024), Form B.

47 CCW Amended Protocol II Article 13 Report (covering 2025), Form E.

48 "Defence Ministry Issues Tender for Advanced Mine Detectors", *Bharat Shakti*, 20 May 2026, https://bit.ly/4gdB7gg.

In April 2026, the Ministry of Defence finalised contracts for specialised mine-clearing systems for the Indian Army aimed at strengthening battlefield mobility and enhancing operational capability for anti-vehicle mines.[49] In 2025, it was reported that scientists at DRDO's Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment had developed specialised boots to protect soldiers in landmine-prone areas and Naxal-affected forests.[50]

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

It is not known whether India takes into consideration gender and diversity during planning and tasking of survey and clearance of mines.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

It is not known how, if at all, the environment is taken into consideration during planning and tasking of survey and clearance of mines in India in order to minimise potential harm from clearance.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

India has not provided information on land release in any of its recent Article 13 reports under Amended Protocol II of the CCW for several years. It provided no survey or clearance information in its reports covering 2025, 2024, 2023, or 2021, and did not submit a report covering 2022.[51]

Although little information is publicly available on AP mine clearance in India, various media reports have attested to recent landmine clearance. These include a report in January 2025 that security personnel were undertaking a demining exercise in Bijapur district in Chhattisgarh after eight soldiers and a civilian driver were killed in an IED attack, reportedly orchestrated by "Maoists". The demining exercise was said to focus on removing landmines that put the military and civilians at risk.[52] There have also been occasional reports of spot tasks to clear IEDs in Chhattisgarh.[53]

In May 2026, a media report indicated that demining operations undertaken by the security forces in Chhattisgarh had accelerated following the Government's declaration of a "Naxal-free India" earlier in the year. The operation was said to cover national highways, state roads, and interior routes formerly considered high-risk zones. The operation was using mine detection dogs (MDDs), new equipment – including compact detection devices – and drones to scan areas before initiating operations.[54] Another media source quoted the police, who said they had "recovered" nearly 900 IEDs in 2025, and another 300 in the first three months of 2026 in the Bastar forests of Chhattisgarh.[55]

In Manipur, the former Chief Minister of Manipur established a committee in 2025, made up of Assam rifle personnel, Manipur police and intelligence, and tasked them with identifying, removing and defusing landmines on the Indo-Myanmar border, where a surge in blasts had been reported.[56]

Since 2004, India has given similar statements regarding its position on the APMBC. In November 2025, it reiterated its position at the United Nations General Assembly First Committee meeting, saying that it "supports the vision of a world free of antipersonnel landmines and is committed to their eventual elimination."[57] At the same meeting, India said that "the availability of militarily effective alternative technologies that can perform cost-effectively the legitimate defensive role of antipersonnel landmines will considerably facilitate the goal of the complete elimination of antipersonnel mines".[58] It had made a similar point at the APMBC Twentieth Meeting of States Parties in 2022, when it confirmed its commitment to the "eventual elimination" of AP mines, but noted that the achievement of this objective hinges on the "availability of militarily effective technologies that can perform cost effectively the legitimate defensive role of anti-personnel landmines."[59]

At the General Assembly First Committee meeting in November 2025, India set out its view that the CCW "enshrines the approach of taking into account the legitimate defense requirements of states, especially those with long borders."[60] At the Human Rights Council in June 2026,

49 "MoD Signs Rs 975 Cr TRAWL Tank Mine-clearing Deal", *BW BusinessWorld*, 21 April 2026, https://bit.ly/4qx4Eqi.

50 "Kanpur's DMSRDE unveils boots that shield soldiers from landmine explosions & sharp spikes!", *Knocksense*, 25 March 2026, https://bit.ly/4qugq4G.

51 Amended Protocol II Article 13 Reports (covering 2025, 2024, 2023, and 2021), Form B.

52 "Chhattisgarh: Security personnel undertake demining exercise after nine killed in IED blast", *Ani*, 7 January 2025, https://bit.ly/3Jj8Vfm.

53 "Security forces neutralise 10-kg IED planted by Maoists in Chhattisgarh", *Hans India,* 29 December 2025, https://bit.ly/4gaClKK; and "Major attack foiled as forces recover live IEDs on road in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh", *The Assam Tribune,* January 2026, https://tinyurl.com/46ecst4m.

54 "Demining operations intensify in Chhattisgarh following Naxal-free India declaration", *The News Mill*, 21 May 2026, https://bit.ly/4xMlCDd.

55 "Maoist landmine legacy haunts India", *France24*, 22 April 2024.

56 "Living under the shadow of Land mines", *Daily Excelsior*, 30 March 2025.

57 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 27 March 2026.

58 Ibid.

59 Statement of India, Twentieth Meeting of States Parties to the APMBC, Geneva, 21 November 2022.

60 Landmine Monitor, "India", Last updated 27 March 2026.

India's representative was more explicit about its position vis-à-vis the APMBC stating, "my delegation is of the view that anti-personnel mines serve a legitimate defensive role for states with long borders. India considers that Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons balances humanitarian concerns with these defence needs. India produces no non-detectable mines, has rendered its mines detectable and observes a complete moratorium on their export and transfer. As a point of legal clarity, we wish to reiterate that the Ottawa Convention binds only its state parties. India is not a party to this convention and does not support a blanket immediate ban given its national security imperatives."[61]

Given India's position as set out above, no target date has been set for the completion of mine clearance in India.

DEMINER SAFETY

Several media sources have highlighted landmine and IED clearance in the context of accidents during demining operations, including a spot task, in 2026. In February 2026, a member of security personnel was reported injured during a clearance operation to allow for the construction of a road in Pamunuru village, Venkatapur mandal, in Mulugu, Telangana. Eleven mines had been "deactivated" when the twelfth exploded.[62] In May 2026, three army personnel were killed by an IED explosion during mine clearance in Chhattisgarh.[63] In August 2026, two soldiers, members of a bomb disposal squad, were injured while trying to defuse an AP mine in Poonch district, Jammu and Kashmir.[64] It is not known what follow-up investigations were taken after the accidents.

61 United Nations, 62nd Session of the Human Rights Council, 26 June 2026, https://bit.ly/4zjDYgz.

62 "Jawan Hurt In Landmine Blast During Demining In Mulugu", *Deccan Chronicle*, 21 February 2026, https://tinyurl.com/2zmbt5az.

63 "Three Jawans Killed in IED Blast During Mine Clearing in Kanker", *Hans India*, 2 May 2026, https://tinyurl.com/2bxnwbht.

64 "Landmine Explosion injures two Army personnel in Poonch, J&K", *The Assam Tribune*, 6 August 2026, https://tinyurl.com/yc7x545c; and "Landmine blast injures Army duo in Poonch's Mendhar, 2 rusty shells destroyed in Mankote sector", *The Times of India*, 7 August 20626, https://tinyurl.com/mr4xtk5k.