



## **CPI (Maoist) Information Bulletin - 15**

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**In this issue.....**

<b>News from the Battle field</b>	
<b>Silda camp in Paschim Mednipur wiped out by Maoist guerillas</b>	<b>.... 2</b>
<b>International campaign against war</b>	<b>.... 9</b>
<b>Voices against war</b>	<b>.... 12</b>
<b>News from Counter-revolutionary camp</b>	<b>.... 26</b>
<b>How the state is waging war</b>	<b>.... 31</b>
<b>From Newspapers</b>	<b>.... 38</b>
<b>Sonia-Manmohan fiddle as Telangana burns</b>	<b>.... 42</b>
<b>Statements</b>	<b>.... 45</b>
<b>Chidambaram's Great 72-Hour Fraud Exposed after the Maoist Proposal for 72-Day Cease-Fire</b>	<b>... 52</b>

## News from the battlefield

### Silda's EFR camp in Paschim Mednipur wiped out by Maoist guerillas, 24 enemy troops annihilated

An operation to bring PEACE to a region disturbed by the lawless goons deployed by bandits Chidambaram and Buddhadeb



In late afternoon of February 15, Maoist guerrillas of the PLGA carried out a daring raid on a camp of Eastern Frontier Rifles at Silda in West Midnapore district of West Bengal and annihilated at least 24 mercenary troops. The entire camp was run over by the heroic PLGA guerrillas accompanied by scores of people's militia members. A huge cache of sophisticated arms—12 AK-47 rifles, 17 INSAS rifles, 16 Self Loading Rifles and two 9mm pistols, along with several thousand rounds of ammunition, were seized from the enemy forces. The camp was burnt down after the operation by triggering a series of explosions. Several mercenary troops were injured, some of them grievously. In fact, so terrified were the police forces of the state and centre, who usually show off their bravery on unarmed innocent people by carrying out murders and rapes, that nobody dared to visit the site of the raid until 9am the next day i.e. a full 16 hours. Some of the jawans were said to have been bled to death as no medical assistance was available.

Five Maoist guerrillas became martyrs in the course of the daring day-light raid when they were advancing into the building thinking that the enemy troops had been subdued after the assault. However, some of the EFR jawans suddenly opened fire on the advancing guerrillas leading to five casualties. Those who became martyrs were comrades Susen, Surya, Bijoy, Chandan and Sujit. All the dead bodies of these comrades were taken away by the guerrillas.



The attack came on the heels of the Kolkata meeting of the four states of Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa convened by the sadist Union Home Minister Chidambaram on February 9. Claiming responsibility for the raid, CPI(Maoist) Politbureau member comrade Kishanji said it was an answer to Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram's Operation Green Hunt. "In the last two months, several persons were killed in various states in the name of 'Operation Green Hunt'. This was a counter-offensive in response to the Centre's offensive," he told a local news channel. He also described the attack as part of the "Peace Hunt" operations of the Maoists. The state's Director-General of Police Bhupinder Singh said that the Maoists triggered several blasts before firing on the security personnel. The Maoist guerrillas arrived at the police camp in vans and motorcycles in the afternoon and stormed into the building after setting off several explosions. Before leaving they planted landmines in the entire stretch of road leading to the camp.

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The daring raid by the brave guerrillas of the PLGA has shaken the reactionary Congress-led UPA government in Delhi and the social-fascist CPI(M)-led "Left" Front government in Kolkata. Both these reactionary regimes have created a virtual reign of terror in the entire Jangalmahal region since June last—murdering, abducting, torturing adivasi youth; raping adivasi women; destroying houses and property of the people; burning foodgrains and stealing chicken, goats, pigs etc; occupying schools thereby preventing the students from pursuing their studies; harassing petty traders, teachers, doctors, and other employees; blocking the entry of civil rights activists and impartial observers to prevent the truth from flowing out; spreading canards and malicious slander against Maoist leaders and those belonging to the democratic organization called Police Santrash Birodhi Jansaadharaner Committee; and countless atrocities on the common people of Lalgarh and entire Jangalmahal.

The police had begun their brutal persecution of the indigenous people of Lalgarh and the surrounding areas particularly since November 2008 following the unsuccessful land-mine attack by Maoist guerrillas on Chief Minister of West Bengal, Buddhadeb Bhattacharya, and his convoy of VVIPs on November 2. Scared to confront the Maoists, the uniformed mercenaries swooped on unarmed innocent adivasis not sparing old men and women as well as school boys. This reign of terror gave birth to one of the fiercest and most sustained mass resistance movements in post-1947 India. Led by the PSBJC, the people of the region placed as their main demand, inter alia, that the Superintendent of Police of West Midnapore responsible for the indiscriminate brutal attack on women and children should come before the people and apologise publicly. But the police mercenaries who are only used to oppress and suppress the people could never imagine apologising to the people who are victimized by their brutality.



Even as the protests snowballed into a major militant mass agitation, the vultures in Delhi led by Chidambaram came to the aid of social fascist Buddhadeb. 6000 central troops were rushed to Lalgarh in June 2009 to "snuff out" the mass movement. Chidambaram dreamt that he would be able to crush the Lalgarh rebellion by brute force. He began his Operation Green Hunt with the attack on Lalgarh thinking that it would be an easy task since the armed Maoists there were relatively fewer in number. He nurtured the fond hope that Lalgarh would serve as a laboratory for his bigger operations in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa and elsewhere where the Maoists are a formidable force. Chidambaram, like every other fascist dictator in history, believed that brute force could extinguish the fire of revolution. He relied excessively, rather solely, on the numerical strength and capabilities of his mercenary soldiers. The poor fellow underestimated the strength of the people's movement. For reactionary rulers people do not count. What counts is the armed strength of its counter-revolutionary mercenary force.

For the Maoists who are waging a just war, on the other hand, what matters is the people and with a correct political-organisational-military line they can grow from a handful of armed guerrillas to a few million-strong regular people's armed force. In West Bengal the Maoist presence was not much significant until the start of the state's armed operations last year. However, the repressive policies pursued by the reactionary rulers and their indiscriminate use of brute force against the population had led to a massive growth in the Maoist forces. Thanks to Buddhadeb and later Chidambaram, the people of Lalgarh and entire Jangalmahal understood the nature of the Indian state more clearly than the university-educated intelligentsia. They grasped what comrade Lenin had written in his State and Revolution without reading it, from their everyday life. Buddhadeb and Chidambaram had helped them understand the need for overthrowing the repressive state apparatus by means of an armed revolution. It is in this process that Maoists became strong enough to carry out a massive raid like the one in Sildha. In November four EFR troops were wiped out by Maoist guerrillas near Gidhni in the same district. The Maoist resistance is growing from strength to strength in the midst of the most brutal repression unleashed by the Indian state.



The successful heroic raid at Silda by Maoist guerrillas points to the massive ground swell of support for the Maoists in Jangalmahal region. The angry adivasi masses of the region have no option left but to hit back at the mercenary enemy forces who are devastating their houses, property and lives. It is a fitting answer to the unprecedented brutal armed offensive by the Indian state on the oppressed and exploited people of our country. It is a counter-offensive aimed at establishing peace in a region disturbed by the uniformed mercenaries sent by Chidambaram and Buddhadeb. People are increasingly realising that peace can be established in the region not by mere appeals, peaceful protests, petitions against human rights violations in so-called courts of law, but through armed resistance by the masses themselves. The peace in the region is disturbed by the so-called security forces which are in fact the source of insecurity among the people at large. The armed camps set up in the region have become objects of intense hatred and symbols of brutal oppression and suppression of the masses. It is only by wiping out the armed camps of these so-called security forces that peace can be established in the region and a sense of security can develop among the people. The people are fully convinced that there is no short-cut to confront the brutal offensive by the state

than to put up armed resistance. The political leaders, the bureaucracy, the judiciary have no eyes, ears or mouths when it comes to atrocities on the people. Hence it is the people, and people alone, who have to put up fierce resistance to every police atrocity perpetrated on them. When the state which is supposed to be their protector becomes their greatest oppressor they have no other option. The people's resistance should grow to the extent that no policeman should dare to venture into the villages to disturb the peace. And if the police venture the people should punish them. This is the only real answer to the Operation Green Hunt that is intended to pave the way for the Greed Hunt of the MNCs and comprador big capital.

Today the biggest threats to peace in the country are the reactionary rulers whose policies have led the country into darkness. The anti-people policies of the rulers have created extreme insecurity, misery, starvation, mass suicides, price-rise, unemployment, disease, and what not for the vast majority of the people. But the rulers are bulging forever becoming billionaires and stashing away their filthy black money sucked from the poor into Swiss banks and benami holdings. It is in service of these unscrupulous exploiters and filthy rich that fascists like Chidambaram unleash the worst kinds of atrocities on the poor unarmed people.

The attack on Silda points to the transformation of the unarmed unconscious adivasi masses into politically conscious, armed force waging guerrilla war against a superior highly modernized well-trained regular forces of the state. It is the counter-revolutionary terrorist policies pursued by Buddhadeb in West Bengal and Chidambaram at Delhi that had led to a massive increase in the ranks of the Maoists in West Bengal. If these reactionaries pursue the same policies it is only a matter of time for the Maoists to reach Sealdah from Silda.





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The Silda raid had also created deep schisms among the reactionary ruling classes, their representative parliamentary parties, and within the various wings of the police forces in West Bengal. The West Bengal government blamed the Jharkhand government for its failure to check the Maoists from operating across the borders of the two states and not cooperating with West Bengal's police forces to contain the Maoists. The Buddhadeb regime is trying to create the impression that the Maoist "problem" is actually something external for West Bengal and that Jharkhand is the source for the problems faced by the state. The absence of the Jharkhand chief minister Shibu Soren at the meeting of the chief ministers of the four eastern states convened by Chidambaram in Kolkata on February 9 had also increased the contradictions between the two governments.



The, Special IG of EFR, Binoy Krishna Chakraborty, held a press conference with his face masked and accused the state administration and the SP of West Midnapore for the Silda incident. News reports of the suspension of the Special IG, which were later denied by the state's DGP, sparked off protest rallies by the relatives and friends of the EFR personnel who died in the Silda raid. The EFR headquarters at Salua in West Midnapore witnessed continuous protests ever since the Silda incident. At a rally on February 20, demonstrators demanded that the government should categorically state within 48 hours that no action would be initiated against the IG or else face a prolonged agitation by the EFR jawans, their families and friends.

As the people's war intensifies and expands further, the contradictions and dog-fights among the reactionary ruling classes and the police forces will deepen further and assume acute proportions.

### **Prisoners arrested on false charges set free in exchange for a BDO in Jharkhand**

Maoist guerrillas took away a Block Development Officer, Prashant Kumar Layak, from his office in Dhalbhumgarh block in East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand on February 13 and kept him as their captive for almost a week. The BDO was released only after the Jharkhand government accepted most of the legitimate demands placed by the Maoists for his release. The major demand was the release of 14 people who were arrested by the notorious anti-Naxal police force on false charges and were thrown into jails. Two of them—Jasmi Mardi (26) and her father Bahadur Mardi—were released from jail simultaneously with the release of the BDO by Maoists while the process for the release of the rest is said to be under way.



The, Rezi Dungdung, explained: "*After we found that they were implicated in a false case, we filed a petition seeking their bail. The court provided the relief.*" Dungdung had ordered reinvestigation of their cases and prevailed upon the public prosecutors to file petitions in the concerned court seeking their bail. With the IG himself accepting the fact that the two had been implicated in a false case shows for the umpteenth time how it is the innocents who are being persecuted and punished and how the police is nothing but an anti-people criminal force that is used to provide security and protect the interests of the rich. One has already

heard of the magnitude of the problem of foisting false cases against the tribals in Jharkhand when the Home Ministry decided to withdraw one lakh cases last year. How many more lakhs of cases are still in existence one never knows. Every day hundreds of tribals are becoming victims of the 'rule of law' enforced by the governments both in the state and Centre.

The plight of these tribals would not have been known to the world had not the Maoists detained the BDO and placed the demand for their release. They would most probably have spent the best part of their lives behind prison walls. That these poor innocent villagers have been languishing in the jail for several months on flimsy grounds was admitted by even the Chief Minister of Jharkhand and repeated by Union Home Minister Chidambaram. But this sudden realization that innocent people were thrown into jails had dawned upon these "rule of law" democrats not through any of the so-called democratic methods but through illegal "undemocratic" method of capturing one of their officers and bargaining for the release of the innocent prisoners. It took full six days of negotiations between the Maoists and the state representatives and intense all-round pressure on the government to secure their release.



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The episode has established two things beyond a shadow of doubt once again: innocent, voiceless people continue to be picked up by the police, implicated in cooked up cases and thrown into jails on flimsy grounds; no peaceful protests, submission of petitions, appeals to courts would bring justice to the people and that only through acts such as capturing bureaucrats, police officials, political leaders one can get the innocent released.

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## **72-hour bandh in Central India against Indian state's war on the indigenous people led by CPI(Maoist)**

A 72-hour bandh was observed in the southern districts of Chhattisgarh, Gadchiroli and Chandrapur districts of Maharashtra, parts of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa from 25th to 27th of January in protest against the brutal campaign of suppression unleashed by the reactionary Indian ruling classes with the aid and assistance of imperialism and American imperialism in particular. The bandh call was issued by the central regional bureau of the CPI(Maoist).

In its statement calling for the 72-hour bandh the secretary of the CRB comrade Pratap recounted the continuing inhuman atrocities committed by the joint forces on the adivasis of the four states. At least 100 innocent adivasis were murdered in cold blood in the districts of Dantewda, Bijapur and other districts of Chhattisgarh in the past four months. In Orissa, two adivasis were shot dead when a group of adivasis were demonstrating in front of a police station in Narayanpatna tehsil in Orissa. Hundreds of people were arrested or abducted, subjected to cruel torture, scores of women were raped, and property of the adivasis was destroyed.



Not satisfied with this gory blood-bath of unarmed innocent adivasis, Union Home Minister Chidambaram has called for stepping up joint operations by the three states (unofficially four states including Andhra Pradesh whose notorious Greyhounds have a free hand in carrying out terrorist acts on the adivasis in Chhattisgarh and Orissa) to create more blood-bath. Two days prior to the bandh, this Hitler's offspring convened a meeting of the chief ministers and top police and administrative officials of the three states of Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Orissa at Raipur and drew up a plan to step up the mass murderous campaign in the adivasi-inhabited regions. The immediate goal of this paid agent of the imperialists and the comprador bureaucratic bourgeoisie of India is to crush the people's war raging in these areas, evacuate the adivasi population, and hand over the mineral-rich regions to his masters. In accordance with this dirty objective, Chidambaram goaded on the state governments to carry out the plan of taking control of the entire mineral-rich territory by conducting joint police operations and creating a blood-bath. The reactionary rulers are prepared to go to any extent, turn the region into a graveyard, and extract the minerals over the corpses of the adivasis. Accordingly, he drew up the plan to create more Gompads, Gacchanpallis, Palachalams, Singanamadugus, Dogpadus, Palods, Kachularams, Tetemadugus and several such massacres. While unleashing such atrocities, which bring to one's mind pages from the blood-stained history of military dictatorships in Latin American countries during the 1960s-80s, this 'khadi-clad democratic dictator' and a liar par excellence shamelessly calls on the Maoists to abjure violence. The 72-hour bandh is a protest by the people of these states to the brutal war waged by Chidambaram and his armed goons. The bandh was voluntarily observed by the people in many parts of these states. Roads were dug up, trees were felled and placed on the roads, banners and posters were put up along the roads, forest and in the villages.

## **CPI(Maoist) organizes a 72-hour bandh successfully against joint police operations in Eastern India**

Within a fortnight after the successful 72-hour bandh in Central India against joint operations by the police and paramilitary forces in Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Orissa, a 72-hour bandh was observed in Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa from February 7-9. The bandh was in protest against the joint operations launched by the police forces of the four states along with the central paramilitary forces against the Maoists and the adivasi people of the forest region. The bandh call was issued ahead of the chief ministers' meeting called by the Union Home Minister Chidambaram at Kolkata on February 9 to launch a joint offensive against the Maoists.

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The bandh was observed with enthusiasm by the people in most parts of the four states. The road and rail traffic came to a standstill. Railway tracks were blown up at several places. The government admitted that it lost several hundred crores of rupees due to paralysis of transport and



mining operations coal. There were protests by PSBJC, Association for the Protection of Democratic Rights (APDR), and several other organizations and individuals against the chief ministers meeting convened by Chidambaram to carry out operations against the adivasis of the region. Black flag processions were taken out at several places of the three districts of Purulia, Bankura and West Midnapore districts by the supporters of PSBJC. Asit Mahato, the convenor of the PSBJC, warned the government of "people's spontaneous reaction using traditional weapons in case the Operation Green Hunt is not wound up in the state. A rally was organized in Kolkata by the APDR, Lalgarh Mancha and other organizations. Magsaysay award-winning author Mahasweta Devi and several democratic forces and eminent intellectuals were in the forefront of the rallies. The demonstrators shouted slogans against the joint ops and burnt the effigies of Union Home Minister Chidambaram and state chief minister Buddhadeb. "KILLER CHIDAMBARAM GO BACK!" became a central slogan at all the rallies organized to protest against the meeting called by the Indian avatar of Hitler, Chidambaram, in Kolkata to carry out genocide in the adivasi regions. It is these protests by intellectuals and democratic forces against the lawlessness of the central and state police forces and their criticism of the brutal war waged by Chidambaram in defence of the interests of the corporations that has earned them the wrath of Manmohan, Chidambaram, BJP leaders and some media houses that are owned or funded by these corporations.

### **8 SOG commandos injured in Maoist ambush in Orissa**

On the morning of January 23, Maoists blew up a Commander trekker carrying anti-Naxal commandos of the Special Operations Group and some civilians in Jogipalur area of Narayanpatna block of Koraput. The land-mine ripped the trekker apart killing four civilians and grievously injuring 8 commandos. The ambush took place when a batch of 10 SOG commandos was returning to their barracks in a passenger trekker after carrying out combing operations at Narayanpatna. The owner and driver of the trekker along with two others died on the spot. The police have been using civilian vehicles while going in and out of the areas dominated by Maoists in a bid to evade the attention of the Maoist guerrillas. The standing instruction by the Maoists to all private vehicle owners was not to carry policemen and if the policemen forcibly board these vehicles all civilians should alight from the vehicles. In this instance since a few civilians were also traveling with the commandos, the unfortunate loss of civilian lives had occurred.

### **Maoists heroically resist attack by Grey Hounds in Andhra Pradesh**

A huge force of Grey Hounds of Andhra Pradesh carried out an attack on a Maoist camp near Killamkota in G. Madugula mandal in the Vishakha Agency on January 23. The enemy forces commenced firing at around 11am and the exchange of fire continued for about an hour. The Maoists immediately retaliated injuring a Reserve Sub-Inspector and a constable. Again in the evening there was long-range firing for over an hour. The encounter place is situated near the border with Orissa. The injured policemen were airlifted by a naval helicopter and admitted in a corporate hospital in Vishakhapatnam city.

### **Police Camp in Bankura raided and arms seized by Maoist guerrillas**

Maoist guerrillas raided a police camp at Satnala in Barikul region of West Bengal on the night of January 25 and carried away some arms and ammunition from the camp. Two policemen were captured and taken away. While one of them, Sanjay Ghosh, was annihilated the next day and his body was left in the forest near the camp, the other policeman, Ajay Pande, was set free. Four other policemen were injured. The police camp is located near the border of Belpahari region of Paschim Mednipur district. On the same day, a s CPI(M) cadre named Bapi Rana, who was acting as a police agent, was taken away from his village of Deulkunda and annihilated in the Salboni region of Paschim Mednipur district.

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## Contingent of Joint Forces attacked in Purulia

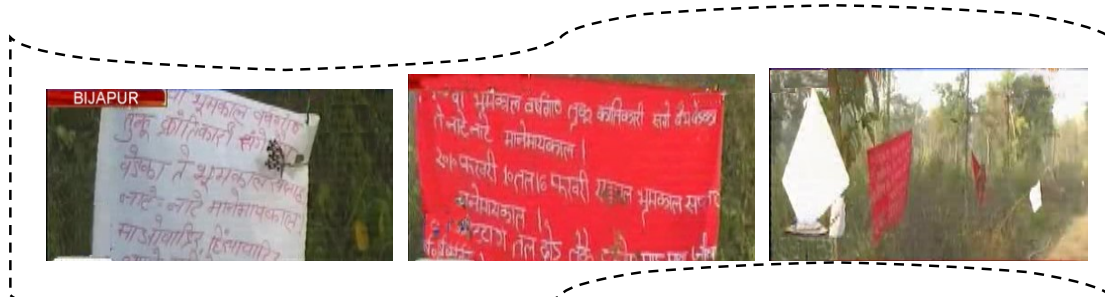
A contingent of police consisting of central paramilitary forces and state police was attacked by Maoist guerrillas at around 11.30 am on January 31 injuring 10 policemen, including a Dy Superintendent of Police. The policemen were conducting combing operations in forests near Kumbra village in Bandwan police station area in Purulia district of West Bengal when the Maoist guerrillas carried out the ambush. In the daring day-light attack on the well-equipped, well-trained anti-Naxal forces, the Maoist guerrillas were accompanied by several members of the people's militia. The joint forces were so much shaken by the attack that several of them expressed the desire to be transferred out to other areas in the state. The top police brasses in the state as well as the chiefs of the central forces have been desperately trying to boost up the morale of their forces by announcing further incentives.

Home Minister Chidambaram, who went on record saying he was depressed by the turn of events in Lalgarh and other areas in West Bengal, and that despite all assistance by the Centre to the government of West Bengal, the "Left front" government had failed in controlling the Maoists, must be even more depressed by the series of attacks in Bankura, Purulia and Paschim Midnapur districts in the past one month.

## Mandal Vice-President annihilated in Andhra Pradesh

Sagina Somalingam, the vice president of the Gudem Kothaveedhi mandal in Vishakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh, was annihilated by Maoist guerrillas on the night of February 12. The Maoist guerrillas, accompanied by 40 members of people's militia, went to Ebulam village and took away Somalingam. Later he was shot dead. Somalingam was a local leader of the CPI and has been campaigning for bauxite mining in the district. He was actively organizing committees in favour of bauxite mining to counter the people's movement against bauxite mining by Jindal in the district which would lead to the destruction of Araku valley and cause ecological damage. Somalingam was also acting as an informer to the police. The reasons for punishing Somalingam were given in a note left at the spot by the secretary of East Division, comrade Ganesh.

## Posters in commemoration of the centenary of BHOOMKAL DIVAS



### A Note to the MIB from the Special Zonal Committee, CPI(Maoist), Dandakaranya

Dear Editor,

***This is to inform you of a factual mistake that had appeared in issue no 13 of the Maoist Information Bulletin regarding a deputy forest ranger, Mike Tandi, in Devbhog station area. It is not true that he was punished by Maoists for his anti-people activities. Initially the papers had reported it wrongly as an act committed by Maoists. Actually he was killed by mafia and we have no relation with the incident.***

***MIB: We deeply regret for the serious lapse. The MIB report was based on the initial reports that appeared in the media.***



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# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## **New People's Army Launches 92 Tactical Offensives in 2009 A Report from the Battle-Fields of the Philippines**

**Ka Oris, National Democratic Front spokesperson in southern Mindanao**

This article was published in the December 21, 2009 issue of Ang Bayan

Even during the first half of the year, it was clear that the US-Arroyo regime's grandiose Oplan Bantay Laya (OBL) campaign was a failure. AFP Chief Gen. Victor Ibrado himself admitted that they failed to meet Gloria Arroyo's target of crushing the revolutionary movement before the end of her term in 2010. He knew that it would not be that easy to conquer the four-decade armed revolutionary movement in the country led by the Party. He also knew that while the military and police concentrate their forces on a few limited areas for a set amount of time, the NPA is able to exercise full initiative in other areas to launch tactical offensives like raids, ambushes, acts of sabotage, sniping and arrest operations.



Based on partial reports, the NPA launched at least 92 tactical offensives nationwide from December 2008 to November 2009, the majority of which were ambushes (49) and raids (20). These numbers would be much higher if arrest operations, punitive measures and sabotage operations were included. On the other hand, during encounters and defensive battles, the NPA was able to seize the initiative from the enemy and confiscate weapons. The NPA was able to confiscate at least 213 firearms, including machine guns like the FM Minimi and M60 light machine gun, M203 grenade launchers, rounds of ammunition as well as other military equipment such as communication radios and GPS (Global Positioning System).

The enemy sustained at least 231 dead and 176 wounded, and nine were captured as prisoners of war. On the other hand, four Red fighters heroically sacrificed their lives in these battles.

### **Following are some of the most prominent tactical offensives of the NPA from December 2008 to November 2009:**

December 22, 2008. Red fighters of Front 21 of Northeastern Mindanao Region (NEMR) carted away 18 firearms in a simultaneous attack on the police headquarters in the town of Tubay, Agusan del Sur and San Roque Metal Inc. (SRMI). The arms haul consisted of 10 M16 rifles, three shotguns, three .38 caliber revolvers, two 9 mm pistols, a cal .45 pistol and a cal. 22 revolver. The guerrillas also seized two VHF radios. A policeman was killed and another one wounded when they resisted. Meanwhile, six pieces of heavy equipment owned by SRMI worth millions of pesos were torched by the NPA as punishment for the company's destruction of the environment and the livelihoods of the Lumad, workers and people due to its mining operations.

January 3, 2009. In Southern Tagalog, the enemy was stunned when guerrillas of the Narciso Antazo Aramil Command of the NPA-Rizal ambushed troops of the 418th Provincial Police Mobile Group (PPMG) near the national capital. One policeman was killed and another one wounded when the patrol car they were riding was hit by command-detonated explosives (CDEX) in Sitio Calumpit, Barangay Macabud, Rodriguez, Rizal. The guerrillas administered first aid to a wounded police before he was brought to a hospital.

The Red fighters confiscated 12 firearms from the police consisting of six M16s, three 9 mm pistols and three cal .45 pistols. Three policemen were taken prisoner and after 83 days were freed by the people's court and transferred by an NPA custodial unit on March 27 to representatives of the

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International Committee of the Red Cross, Sen. Jamby Madrigal and Bishop Gabriel Reyes of the Diocese of Rizal.

January 22. In Bicol, the enemy incurred 16 casualties (eight dead and eight wounded) in a raid carried out by fighters of the Nerissa San Juan Command on the Philippine Army and CAFGU detachment in Barangay Poot, Pandan town, Catanduanes.

January 31. Twenty troops of the 53rd IB were killed in an ambush launched in Sitio Laknapan, Barangay Gibo, Siason, Zamboanga del Norte by the Front Feliciano of the NPA in Western Mindanao Region.

February 15. A platoon of Scout Rangers accompanied by four American soldiers were conducting "clearing operations" when they were ambushed by Red fighters of the Celso Minguez Command in Barangay Batang, Irosin town, Sorsogon. The Scout Rangers incurred 12 killed and eight wounded when a CDEX was exploded. The AFP and the American troops were then preparing for the 2009 US-RP Balikatan Exercises in Bicol.

March 1. In North Central Mindanao Region (NCOMR), six soldiers were killed and three more were wounded in an ambush launched by the NPA in Sitio Tinopongan, Barangay Sta.Cruz, Quezon town, Bukidnon. Among those killed was 1Lt. Ricardo Naguiat, 29th IB commander. The NPA seized four M16s.

May 19. Again, in Bicol, eleven (11) firearms consisting of five carbines, four Garands, an M14 and two cal .45 pistols were confiscated by Red fighters when they attacked the 22nd IB detachment in Barangay Lubigan, Jr., Sipocot town, Camarines Sur. They overran the enemy's camp when elements of the Philippine Army and CAFGU ran in the heat of battle.

May 29. In Eastern Visayas, eight high-powered firearms were added to the NPA arsenal in Northern Samar when six M16s, an M14, an M203 grenade launcher and rounds of ammunition were seized in a raid on an AFP detachment by Red fighters of the Rodante Urtal Command in Barangay Polangi, Catarman town, Northern Samar.

August 9. In Southern Mindanao Region (SMR), members of the Armando Dumandan Command of the BHB confiscated 15 rifles in a five-minute raid on the 72nd IB detachment in Barangay Napungas, Asuncion, Davao del Norte without firing a single shot. Six M14s, eight Garands, an M16 and the patrol base's communication radio were taken. It became easy to enter the detachment when a sergeant of the Philippine Army, who is also the commander of the detachment at the neighboring village was taken prisoner at a checkpoint set up by the Red fighters. No soldier or paramilitary element was hurt because they offered no resistance. The sergeant was released after a few weeks.

August 30. In Eastern Visayas, ten automatic rifles—four M14s, four M16s and two carbines—were carried off by Red fighters of the Arnulfo Ortiz Command when they attacked the CAFGU detachment in Sitio Cambabang, Barangay Cogon, Basey town, Samar.

November 2. Also in SMR, despite the enemy's taunts, the NPA Red fighters were able to play a ruse on them when they were able to enter the patrol base of the 72nd IB in Sitio New Kapatagan, Barangay Casoon, Monkayo, Compostela Valley. The NPA guerrillas were able to go near the detachment by wearing Special Forces uniforms. It was too late when the enemy realized that they were outwitted by the 4th Pulang Bagani Company of the Merardo Arce Command of the NPA. The detachment commander, Cpl. Dominador Alegre was quickly arrested and the CAFGU elements disarmed. The NPA took 18 firearms consisting of 10 Garands, five carbines, two M16s and an M14. An ICOM radio, ammunition and uniforms were also confiscated. Corporal Alegre was taken prisoner and released after a few weeks.

November 11. People's guerrillas in NEMR once again carted off 18 firearms when they raided the compound of the Surigao Development Corporation (SUDECOR) and disarmed elements of the Special Civilian Armed Auxiliary (SCAA) who were guarding the big logging company. Military, police and paramilitary forces attempted a rescue but were ambushed by the NPA on their way to SUDECOR. As many as 20 enemy forces were killed and five were wounded in this firefight.

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## Tactical offensives in December 2009

A military officer was among 14 soldiers killed while at least 15 were wounded in firefights reported this December. The New People's Army (NPA) also seized 17 weapons and other military equipment. Thirteen firearms, including four high-powered rifles were seized by Red fighters without firing a single shot in a raid on the Philippine National Police station in San Narciso, Quezon on December 20. The police fell for it when NPA guerrillas disguised themselves as soldiers of the Philippine Army. The AFP had just finished declaring San Narciso "NPA-free".

In Davao Oriental, two elements of the Citizen Armed Force Geographical Unit (CAFGU) were killed and three others were wounded when they were attacked by Red fighters of Front 15 in Barangay Sibajay, Boston on December 18. The military forces were having lunch when they were besieged by guerrillas riding two dump trucks. In Bicol, 2Lt. Michael Angelo Quibuyen, commander of the Casay Detachment of the Philippine Army 49th IB and another soldier were killed when they clashed with guerrillas of the Celso Minguez Command in Barangay Tigkiw, Gubat, Sorsogon on the morning of December 14.

The NPA unit was maneuvering to avoid a large military operation when it clashed with fascist troops. The Red fighters were the first to fire. Due to the military's great embarrassment, they covered their casualties with tarpaulin and spread word that these were Red fighters. Even so, the villagers still came to know the identities of the casualties.

In Samar, two elements of the Philippine Army were killed when they encountered NPA Red fighters in Barangay Binangaran, Calbiga on December 10. That same day, a radio operator of the 82nd IB Alpha Coy was killed when his military unit attempted to besiege an NPA platoon under the Napoleon Tumagtang Command of the NPA in Sitio Bayong, Barangay Manampunay, Leon, Iloilo.

Meanwhile, according to the latest correspondence reports from the field, seven and not three soldiers were killed when Red fighters of the Conrado Heredia Command of the NPA ambushed elements of the 25th IB Alpha Coy in Sitio Paraiso, Diwalwal, Monkayo, Compostela Valley on December 3. In a statement, command spokesperson Ka Roel Agustin II reported the seizure once again of an FM Minimi light machine gun as well as two M16s, a .45 caliber pistol and other military equipment. At least 12 soldiers were wounded. AB had previously reported that four military troopers were wounded.

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## CPP Exposes Claims of NPA Mass Surrenders

Posted by Ka Frank on January 5, 2010

**This statement appeared on Philippine Revolution on January 2, 2010.**

The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) today dismissed claims of Arroyo government officials that at least 2,500 New People's Army (NPA) members surrendered to the government last year. According to the CPP, these claims of NPA surrenders are "just recycled psywar spins of the fascist officials of the US-Arroyo regime in an effort to downplay the strength of the revolutionary movement."

"The fact is, military and security officials of the Arroyo government have nothing to show to support its claim that it has succeeded in reducing the strength of the revolutionary armed movement," said the CPP. "Arroyo's military and security officials have resorted to making false claims to make up for their failure to achieve their declared target of defeating or reducing the NPA to inconsequentiality as early as last year."

"Through the past years, military officials have routinely organized assemblies showing off supposed surrenderees who are invariably local residents forced to pose for the AFP's publicity stunts," added the CPP. "We anticipate the AFP to continue with more of these gimmicks as the Oplan Bantay Laya ends as Arroyo's term officially ends this year."

"These publicity gimmicks also aim to justify the release of funds for supposed rebel-returnee livelihood programs which are actually pocketed by top defense, armed forces and security officials." According to Malacanang, as much as P65.62 million was released last year for the government's Social Integration Program (SIP).

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# Voices against war

## Stop War Against the People

November 18, 2009

### What the State Wants to Destroy is the Alternate Development Model

#### An Appeal to Thinkers, Intellectuals, Artistes, and Writers

Dear Friends,

The Indian state has amassed troops in central India on an unprecedented scale, to swoop down on the people. It is the latest of the wars launched by it against the people living in this country. The government says that it has to move against these areas as Maoists hold sway over it and it is not under the control of central or state authority.

In fact the natives of these jungles have been living there for thousands of years and have protected these forests as they ensure life to them and is their only source of livelihood for survival. These tribals are the most poor and wretched in our land. Popularly called adivasis, they are the oldest inhabitants of our country, still living in an ancient age. For thousands of years they have lived an archaic life. In all these years, no one has been able to subjugate them. The British Empire tried to do this in 1910 but their marauding armies were repulsed and forced to beat a retreat. The resistance of the tribal people against the British forces was led by the great warrior Gundadhur. This is popularly known as the Bhoomkal Baghawat. Earlier, they had fought the British under the leadership of Birsa Munda in the famous Munda Rebellion in the nineteenth century.

Since then, no regime has dared to attack and attempt to subjugate them, whether they were the British or the post-British rulers sitting at Delhi. They have remained a free people all along, with their own culture, customs and a unique way of life. The central and state governments have been exploiting their forests and mineral and metal resources at an unbridled pace but have never done anything to provide them with basic requirements like drinking water, education, medical facilities etc. The loot of their resources has been enormous, to the tune of billions of rupees every year, with all the money going to the industrialists, bureaucrats, politicians, contractors and the police. All this was going on smoothly, till the the tribals awakened to their rampant exploitation and inhuman oppression and took to the path of resistance. This resistance has been characteristic of their traditions and in accordance with their nature as an independent people. Their struggle is to put an end to this onslaught which has made their life, hell like. That is why they identified with the ideology of revolutionary Marxism which promises a world free of loot, exploitation and oppression. That is why they found common cause with the revolutionary Maoist rebels, who want to put a stop to every kind of exploitation and tyranny and build an egalitarian, humane society, free of any kind of discrimination.

Of course, as is well known by now, they are living on lands which are blessed with the richest minerals, metals and other natural resources like iron, coal, bauxite, manganese, corandum, gold, diamonds, uranium etc. The Indian state has never considered that tribals have a right to their land and jungles, and have constantly tried to usurp them in various ways. The State wants to further intensify this exploitation now, and has invited the foreign imperialist companies and Indian big industrial houses and their collaborations, to set up new projects on these lands. The Indian government has signed Memorandums of Understanding to the tune of lakhs of crores of rupees with the foreign and Indian industrial houses for this purpose. The contents of these MOU's are secret and confidential and people have no access to them! The current offensive of the Indian state is to wrest back these areas from the control of these people and hand it over to these Companies. All this is being done in the name of development. But this development in fact is in no way the development of the material conditions of the life of the tribals and the people living around these areas. This is amply demonstrated in the earlier projects like Bailladilla, Balco, Bokaro, Bhilai, Jaduguda and numerous others.



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Quite recently we have seen the people of Nandigram, Singur, Kashipur, Kalinga Nagar, Lalgah, Pullavaram, Tehri and Narmada Project areas resisting the setting up of car factories, dams, huge mining pit centers, SEZ's and other projects which have nothing to do with the development and well-being of the masses of ordinary toiling and poor in these areas or in the country elsewhere. It is meant to enrich the handful of already rich, who live a parasitic life, or to fill the coffers of foreign imperialist capitalists whose only religion is to loot, plunder and exploit. The people here have struggled and fought against the state for their rights over their lands and against the capitalist sharks on whose bidding the government acts.

The government has deployed lakhs of armed forces to destroy the resistance of the people, especially at places where it is strong and formidable and hampers the capitalists from acquiring resource rich lands. When government says it wants to take back the areas controlled by Maoists in fact, it wants to smash the resistance of the people and snatch their lands to offer these to the mining giants, industrialists and super rich businessmen. Maoism is nothing but the rebellion of the people against injustice, notwithstanding whether the government calls them terrorists or whatever. Millions of people in these regions identify themselves with the cause of the Maoists and when millions become a movement for a just cause, they can't be called terrorists.

The state admits that there are 223 districts out of a total of 600 where Maoists are active. This means that there are 223 districts where the people espouse this ideology and want an end to exploitation. That lakhs support this resistance or are up in arms. That it has become a people's movement. And what of the people in the remaining districts? Are they not workers, peasants, students, employees, petty shopkeepers and toiling masses who have no stake in this system, want a change for the better, and have the same dreams? If the 223 are up against injustice and the rest have the same aspirations then the state loses the right to use the invective of terrorism.

What the Indian state wants to destroy is not just the Maoists, but the aspirations of millions upon millions in this country, the dreams of every oppressed Indian.

It is using the media and all the propaganda machinery available, to denigrate and destroy this. To destroy the resistance of the down-trodden, their movement for change, which is the only thing that can bring them real happiness, in this wretched land of ours called Hindustan. This land, of the hungry. Of the exploited. Of the peasant who commits suicide. Of the youth facing a bleak future. Of the worker who is being laid off and kicked out of the factories. Of the employees of the organized sector who are losing all the rights gained over the years when their jobs are being contractualised. Of the government employees who have been booted out with a few crumbs in the name of VRS or Golden Handshake. Of the petty shop keepers and traders, whose enterprises are being gobbled up by the malls and the SEZs. This is the land crying for justice.

If Maoists are branded by the Prime Minister as the biggest internal threat to the country, then the rulers must think about what they have given to the people in the last 62 years of independence. Why have things come to such a pass? They have been ruling and organizing society and have utterly failed in the six long decades that they have been at the helm. The present state of affairs is their doing. Not that of the Maoists. Their development strategies have backfired and that can't be blamed on the resisting people and the Maoists. The Maoists have come into the picture only recently, but what has the state been doing about the promises it made to the people at the time of independence? Where has the promise of a Tryst with Destiny vanished? The promise sworn by Jawaharlal Nehru from the ramparts of Lal Quila on the midnight of 14-15 August 1947? People are not to be blamed for that promise not being kept, nor are the Maoists.

So now, Operation Green Hunt is not being executed just because the government wants to wipe out the Maoists in an all out war, in the name of fighting terrorism. It is their attempt to annihilate the yearning of the people, their struggles, their resistance, their resolve for a better life, whether they are led by the Maoists or not. And when the tribal heartland refuses to cow down before such an attack, it deserves admiration. The state intends to bring in the might of the Air Force against its own people. This is the result of the 60 years of misrule and the anti-people policies, they have been imposing. The people have never given them a mandate to carry out these policies. Over these years they have only opposed these policies through petitions, protests, strikes, sit-ins, struggles, resistance and also through hunger strikes and work to rule agitations. And god knows how many times the so-called

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people's democratic state has fired on the protesters. How many times they have killed people. How many millions they have cane-charged and how many millions they have put into jails, not to speak of the thousands of custodial deaths and mass scale encounter killings. They never stopped the repression. All these decades, rather than listen to the grievances of the people, this state, which swears by the non-violence of MK Gandhi, has been resorting to never-ending violence. Like a mafia. Yet, the resistance continued and revolts grew.

And now it has created the borders within, against its own countrymen.

The current attack on the poor in central India is nothing but an enhanced and more deadly version of the same state violence that has continued since 1947. It is meant to break the fight back of the people there, the fight of the poorest of the poor, of the tribal peasants, and workers working in the mines. It is meant to tell others everywhere in the country, not to stand up for their rights, not to oppose the policies of the state though they go against the interests of the people and the country.

The centre of resistance is being encircled not just to break it, but also to destroy the new things which the people have created during the course of their struggles and which they have toiled hard to build. The government has started a vilification campaign against those who refuse to budge, who refuse to kowtow and who refuse to be further misled by the never ending empty promises of development and progress. They know that this development is not for them. For a government which has discarded the ideal of a welfare state can't genuinely embark on a thing which it has abandoned at the behest of imperialist capital, the World Bank and the WTO.

The people under attack have built their own local government, the Jantana Sarkar, at various levels, taking their future into their own hands, for a real tryst with destiny.

Let us have a look in brief, at what the people have built through their Development Committees in the villages in Dandakarnya, and what the State wants to destroy. It will give us a glimpse of what the Maoists hold as a vision for the progress and development of our country – development which is indigenously and self reliantly built, one which is people oriented and is constructed in the course of the people's democratic participation, and one which cares for this land and its resources. Such development which will free us from the stranglehold of imperialist capital and its dictates. A course of action which can only be executed by the truly patriotic.

\* The biggest reform undertaken is that of land. They have distributed lakhs of acres of land among every peasant household. And no one is allowed to keep more land than one can till. Thus doing away with unnecessary hiring of labour in agriculture. Even the Patels who used to oppress people and fleece them through unpaid labour have been allowed to retain land they can manage with their family's labour. No non-tribals are allowed to own land there.

\* Women are also given property rights over land.

\* They have developed agriculture from the primitive form of shifting every one or two years, to systematic settled farming. They were taught to sow, weed and harvest the crops. They cultivate both their own private lands as well as co-operative fields for community use. The development of agriculture is being done without using chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

\* They have introduced a wide range of vegetables like carrot, radish, brinjal, bitter gourd, okra, tomato etc., which the tribals of remote areas had never seen or tasted.

\* They have planted orchards of bananas, citrus fruits, mangoes, guavas etc.

\* They have built dams, ponds, and water channels for breeding fish and for the purpose of irrigation. All this has been done through collective labour and the produce is distributed free to every household.

\* They have dug wells for safe drinking water.

The industrial projects have destroyed underground water sources, and streams have been polluted to such an extent, that the fish and water life have died as also the vegetation around it. Many fruit trees have stopped flowering around these water resources.

\* They have set up rice mills in a number of villages. These mills have freed women from the daily pounding of paddy for extracting grain. Many of these mills have been destroyed by Salwa Judum which was launched by the government, which talks so much about development in these areas.

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\* They have built a health care system which reaches every tribal peasant in every village. Each village has a Medicine Unit which has been trained to identify diseases and distribute medicines to the villagers. The health of the tribals rates only second in priority to the fight against exploitation and oppression.

\* The women participate equally in these developmental activities. Special attention is paid to the issue of patriarchy and that is why they come forward equally to defend their rights and lands.

\* They run schools.

The schools built by the government are completely non-functional and are usually used by the police and paramilitary forces when they raid villages. That is one reason the people pull down these pucca structures which have become symbols of repression.

\* They have published books and magazines in the Gondi language. As a result, it is for the first time that this language has found a place in the written world. Songs, articles and anecdotes written by the Gond people are published in the magazines brought out by the movement. These are the initial steps to develop this ancient language which has been neglected, just as the people have been. Though there is no existing script in Gondi, they use devnagri script.

\* The remunerative prices for Tendu leaf collection and wages for the cutting of bamboo and timber is fixed by the Maoist movement taking into consideration the interests of the tribals.

\* Trade in the movement area goes on without hindrance. The traders are not allowed to cheat the tribals in haat bazaars. The movement announces remunerative prices for the jungle produce and paddy which the traders agree to. The presence of guerrillas ensures fair trade practices. On the other hand, the traders feel happy that there is no danger of theft or robberies in the movement controlled areas and they can move about there, freely.

\* They have their own justice system. People's Courts are held to settle various disputes among the people, as well as with the oppressors.

\* Theft, robbery, cheatings, murders for property and personal gains have vanished.

\* Sexual harassment and rape by the forest department, the contractors and the police has become a thing of the past. Now the women walk freely in the jungle whether it is day or night.

\* Democratic functioning has been introduced at the village level onwards. The Gram Rajya Committees (now called Revolutionary Peoples Committees) function at the head of various committees like Development Committees which look after agriculture, fish farming, education, village development, Medicine Units etc.

\* The women and children have their own organizations in almost every village. The tribal peasants have their separate organization, with units in every village.

\* Almost every village has units of People's Militia which take up the responsibility of defense of the village.

\* Cultural organizations thrive in these jungles as the tribals have great affinity for cultural activities. These organizations propagate through songs, dances, plays and other art forms, on all the issues whether local, national or international.

\* The movement has been able to prevent starvation deaths in its areas.

## **Salwa Judum – the Privatization of State Violence**

Salwa Judum was a terror campaign launched by the government, where the police recruited tribal youth at Rs.1500 per month as Special Police Officers (SPOs). The SPOs were given arms and let loose on the villagers in the movement areas. They burned, killed, raped and forced people to flee their homes, with the help of paramilitary forces and specially trained Naga Battalions standing guard.

Salwa Judum restricted and destroyed trade in these areas by closing down the haat bazaars and trying to demolish their economy to force the tribals into submission. From 2005-07, this went on for two years They destroyed standing and harvested crops, burned or poisoned the grain and other jungle produce kept by the tribals for exchange in the haat bazaars to procure other essentials of life. Even all this could not force the tribals to submit. Rather than surrender, they lived on bamboo seeds.

The bloody campaign of Salwa Judum killed hundreds of tribals, burned hundreds of villages, raped hundreds of women, forcing about 50,000 tribals to live in enclosures called relief camps, set up by the police, which the tribals ultimately fled. This campaign forced about 30,000 people to flee their villages for other provinces. Lakhs of people were forced to leave their homes and to roam in the interiors of the jungles. In fact the government tried to destroy their whole economy and sources of livelihood even threatening to poison open water sources in the forests.

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But the resistance continued. It could not be broken. **And Now**

Bitter with its failure to make the people yield to them, the government has now embarked upon Operation Green Hunt, a military campaign with nearly one lakh personnel. Under various pretexts, the Indian Air Force is weighing its wings to swoop down on the forests, in spite of promises to the contrary by the Prime Minister.

We have been told that Maoists are the biggest internal threat to the country. Who are these Maoists? They are just the people themselves who have taken to the path of resistance, to struggle against the various Indian governments, who one after the other, do not allow them a life of dignity or one of peace. The state is attacking its own people threatening to wipe them out, if they don't vacate the lands they have lived on for centuries. And we know about the term collateral damage – the killing of the civilian population in a war. Salwa Judum killed the people without a declared war, now they intend to kill on a much huger scale. They want to break the back of resistance by killing people. They want to hand over the resource rich lands of the tribals to the greedy foreign capitalist lords. They want to destroy the alternate development what the people have created with their enormous toil and persistent struggles.

**Let us think. Let us awake. Let us spread the word. Let us awaken the people everywhere else. Let us raise our voice against injustice. Let us tell the government that it must stop this war against its own people and instead listen to them, respect their aspirations and attend to their demands.**

**This is an unjust war which the government has declared on its own people. It must stop.**

**Here are the names who have so far consented to the paper and signed The list continues:**

**Supporters:**

1. Gursharan Singh, Dramatist-Activist, Punjab 2. Prof. Bawa Singh, Guru Sar Sudhar College, Sudhar, Ludhiana
3. Jaswant Kailvi, Ghazalگو, Writer, Ferozepur 4. Baru Satwarg, Novelist-Activist, Rampuraphul, Bathinda
5. Dr. Baldev Singh, Deptt. of Economics, Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Khalsa College, Delhi
6. Jaspal Singh Sidhu, Veteran Journalist (Presently Media Consultant with Punjabi University, Patiala)
7. Samual John, Director Peoples' Theatre, Lehra Gaga, Sangrur 8. Jatinder Mauhar, Film Director, Mohali
9. Megh Raj Mitter (Shiromani Lekhak), Barnala, Punjab 10. Dr. Mohan Tyagi, Poet, B.N. Khalsa Senior Sec. School, Patiala
11. Master Des Raj Chhajli, Lok Kala Manch Chhajli, Lehra Gaga, Sangrur 12. Jagdish Papra, Writer, Lehra Gaga, Sangrur 13. Narinder Nath Sharma, Advocate, Patiala 14. Dr. Tejwant Mann, Literary Critic, Sangrur 15. Prof. Harbhajan Singh, Writer, USA
16. Yadwinder Kurfew, TV Journalist, Delhi 17. Harbans Heon, Writer, Banga, Nawanshahr 18. Ajmer Sidhu, Writer, Nawanshahr 19. Gurmit Jui, Poet, Singer, Krantikari Sabhayachar Kendar, Punjab 20. Balbir Chohla, Activist-Journalist, Taran
21. Prof. Bhupinder Singh (retd), Sociology, Punjabi University, Patiala 22. Satnam, Writer-Freelance Journalist, Patiala
23. Buta Singh, Publisher, Baba Bujha Singh Prakashan, Banga, Nawanshahr 24. Jasdeep, Software Engineer, Delhi 25. Harpreet Rathore, TV Journalist, Delhi
26. Veer Singh, Research Scholar, JNU 27. Narbhinder, Activist-Writer, Sirsa 28. Karam Barsat, Columnist, Sangrur
29. Sukirat, Journalist-Writer, Jalandhar 30. Makhan Singh Namol, Advocate, Sangrur 31. Davinderpal, TV Journalist, Delhi 32. Partap Virk, TV Journalist, Delhi 33. Dr. Bhim Inder Singh, Lecturer, Punjabi University, Patiala 34. Jasvir Deep, Journalist and Social Activist, Nawanshahr 35. Paramjit Dehal, Poet & Literary Activist, Nawanshehar
36. Prof. Jagmohan Singh, Democratic Rights Activist, Ludhiana 37. Dr. Gurjant Singh, Punjabi University, Patiala.
38. Iqbal Kaur Udaasi, Progressive Singer-Activist, Barnala 39. Balvir Parwana, Editor Sunday Magazine, Nawa Zamana, Jalandhar 40. Jugraj Dhaura, Poet-Singer, Barnala 41. Dr. Ajit Pal, Writer-Activist, Bathinda
42. Rajinder Rahi, Writer, Barnala 43. Bhupinder Waraich, State President, Democratic Teachers' Front, Punjab
44. Didar Shetra, Poet, Nawanshahr 45. Baldev Balli, Poet, Nawanshahr 46. Jagsir Jeeda, Lyricist-Singer, Giderbaha, Bathinda
47. Hakem Singh Noor, Poet-Activist, Barnala 48. Charanjeet Singh Teja, Freelance Journalist, Amritsar 49. Attarjit, Short Story Writer, Bathinda 50. Rajeev Lohatbaddi, Advocate, Patiala
51. Harvinder Deewana, Chetna Kala Kendar, Barnala 52. Balwinder Kotbhara, Writer-Journalist, Bathinda
53. B.R.P. Bhaskar, Journalist, Thiruvananthapuram 54. S.S. Azaad, Writer, Mansa
55. Sadhu Binning, Writer, Vancouver, BC, Canada 56. Hiren Gandhi, Ahmedabad
57. Vijay Bombeli, Feature writer, Hoshiarpur 58. Paramjeet Singh Khatra, Advocate, Nawan Shehar
59. Daljeet Singh, Advocate, Nawan Shehar 60. Baldev Singh, Advocate, District Courts Patiala
61. Paramjit Kahma, Doaba Sahit Ate Sabhiachar Sabha, Jejon (Hoshiarpur) 62. Dr. Ramesh Bali, Nawanshehar, Activist 63. Puneet Sehgal, programme executive, DoorDarshan, Jalandhar
64. Harkesh Chaudhry & Other Artists, Lok Kala Manch, Mandi MulanPur, (Ldh) 65. Prof. Ajmer Singh Aulakh. Dramatist, Mansa 66. Dr. Maninder Kang, Writer, Jalandhar 67. Charanjit Bhullar, Journalist, Bathinda
68. Dr. Anand Teltumbde, Human Rights Activist and wriiter, Mumbai 69. Dr. Puneet, Patiala 70. Taskeen, Critic, Kapurthala 71. Chanda Asani, social researcher and activist, Mumbai 72. Sanjay Joshi, convener, THE GROUP, film group of Jan Sanskriti Manch 73. Alok Kaushik, Photographer, Delhi 74. Nisha Biswas, Kolkata 75. Ravinder Goel, Associate Professor, Delhi University 76. Saroop Dhruv, Poet, Ahmedabad 77. Shamsul Islam & Neelima Sharma (Nishant Natya Manch), Delhi 78. Manu Kant, Journalist, Online Media, Chandigarh
79. Dr. Pyare Mohan Sharma, Retd. Professor, Medical College, Patiala
80. N K Jeet, Advocate, Bathinda



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## PRESS RELEASE

Swapan Dasgupta, becomes the first fatal victim of UAPA in West Bengal even before any trial, as he succumbs today (2nd February 2010) at about 5am to growing illness at SSKM Hospital, Kolkata. He was arrested under this Act on 06th October 2009 for publishing 'Peoples March' (in Bengali version), though the publication is still not banned. He was denied bail and detained under jail custody in appalling conditions. As he was a chronic asthma patient, distressing treatment at custody aggravated his illness. UAPA undoubtedly proves it's cruel futurity.

As we informed that the inquest was done by Mr. Swapan Kumar Ghosh, Additional Commissioner of Police (4), South Division, Kolkata Police under Bhowanipur Police Station Inquest number 141. This very act was a gross violation of criminal procedure code of India. The government of West Bengal purposefully violated the section 176 (1A) of Cr. P.C. where it is mandatory that in case of any custodial death, the inquiry should be made only by a judicial (Metropolitan) Magistrate.

If India proclaims --to be a democratic state, it is supposed to ensure the 'right to oppose' and curbing the voice of opposition defies the basic premise of democracy. Application of Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) on Maoists and some other political persons in recent past in West Bengal manifests the tendency of defying democratic principles.

To be very precise, UAPA is nothing but the latest legal weapon by the state for arresting and detaining the people with dissent voices even before a fair trial and project it as preventive detention. The draconian law includes the provisions of repealed TADA and POTA, and surpasses all erstwhile criminal laws in ruthlessness.

During the debate of UAPA at Indian parliament, some of the parliamentarians opposed the law, especially those of CPI(M). However, contrary to their stance, West Bengal government, mainly ruled by the same party has been one of the frontrunners in implementing this draconian and anti-people law. Consequently, many persons who are otherwise 'innocent' have been arrested under this law. It clearly shows that though the parties differ on ideological plain, they are just different sides of same coin on the question of power structure.

MASUM (Banglar Manabdhikar Suraksha Mancha) always stands against the violent politics, whether it is practiced by Maoists or any other political party. We understand that, if any political or non-political citizen involves in any violent action viz. murder, rape, destroying properties etc., the existing criminal laws are sufficient to penalize them to the highest degree. UAPA is completely uncalled for in this direction. If one observes all social and political violence during previous 25-30 years in West Bengal, it would be evident that CPI(M), the leading party in the government, has been most instrumental behind them. It needs to be mentioned that most of the perpetrators are roaming scot-free with administrative patronage.

Following the tradition of procedural violation is adding 'feather to the flock'. Swapan Dasgupta, a detainee under UAPA has expired today due to extreme inhuman treatment at jail and hospital as well. We reckon his untimely death as judicial killing with utmost disregard towards law of the land. The unfortunate incident is only an indication to the prevailing heinous criminal justice system which underlies UAPA also. Hence, we condemn the draconian law and demand repudiation of the same immediately

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Kirity Roy  
Secretary  
Banglar Manabdhikar Suraksha Mancha

&

(MASUM)  
National Convenor (PACTI)  
Programme Against Custodial Torture & Impunity  
26 Guitendal Lane  
Howrah 711101

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## The International Campaign Against War on the People of India (ICAWPI) [info@icawpi.org](mailto:info@icawpi.org)

Dear friends,

The International Campaign Against War on the People of India (ICAWPI) is now ready to be launched to work as a coordinating centre seeking international support for the resistance of the people of India against the all out military offensive of the Indian state against its own citizens.

ICAWPI is an international extension of widespread opposition and initiatives against this genocidal war to forcefully crush the heroic resistance of the tribal peoples in the heartlands of India and hand over these lands rich in minerals and raw materials to international corporations such as Vedanta.

This overt war serving to facilitate the looting of the land by Indian and international corporations for fabulous profits and the destruction of the livelihood of the countless numbers of the poorest of the poor in India is branded "Operation Green Hunt". While in different regions of the country the same operation may be named differently, the Indian state shamelessly tries to hide this banditry against the people of India and utter open servitude to the imperialism as "war against the Naxalites"--imposing a severe reign of terror and repression on progressive and democratic forces and individuals everywhere across the country.

Countless intellectuals, authors, film makers, academics, and other professionals such as lawyers and doctors who abhor the Indian state's total lies and open disregard for civil and human rights have joined mass gatherings and rallies and various forums in India in order to raise their own voices and join forces to oppose the State and to defend the just cause of the oppressed tribal people in India.

In the course of this gathering movement countless people have been arrested and imprisoned. Untold suffering and restrictions have been imposed on the people.

Yet, international public opinion is kept grossly in the dark about these issues while the mainstream media continue to follow and repeat the Indian State's claims that "India is the largest democracy in the world" and that the Maoists, as the biggest security threat to this "democracy" must be wiped out at all costs. Thus they justify their silence and bless the Indian State in perpetrating these crimes in the name of a "war on terror".

The ICAWPI aims to reach out to all democratic and freedom loving people across the world concerned about the plight of the people in India to unite and take initiative to break this silence internationally and to rally much needed support and solidarity to the just struggles of the people of India.

Further information on Operation Green Hunt and the struggles of the people are available through [www.icawpi.org](http://www.icawpi.org) - a website designed to carry material related to this issue and the campaign.

We request all democratic and progressive formations to take initiative and coordinate their efforts with ICAWPI. All reports of actions, meetings and letters of solidarity and concern will be published at this site. In order to launch this campaign and rally the support and solidarity of the progressive forces abroad, ICAWPI calls on everyone to join demonstrations and protest actions in front of Indian embassies and consulates on February 5, 2010 where ever possible. A list of organized events will be published on the website as they become available. Further actions, events and meetings are being planned and will be announced soon after.

The website will also publish a list of clubs, associations and meeting places in Europe and elsewhere, for contact and discussion about the issue and to find ways of raising local awareness and take common joint action.

Please contact the ICAWPI through [info@icawpi.org](mailto:info@icawpi.org) to inform us of your proposals to bring the campaign to your area.

**ICAWPI**  
**Feb 03, 2010**

\*\* In order to receive regular updates on developments and campaign news, please join the public mailing list of the campaign by sending a blank email to [info-request@lists.icawpi.org](mailto:info-request@lists.icawpi.org) with a subject line: subscribe or simply contact [info@icawpi.org](mailto:info@icawpi.org)

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## Statement on India's Operation Green Hunt from the Philippines

We, in the various youth and student groups in the Philippines express our condemnation at the intensifying attacks of the Indian government, starting from the Central government down to the state governments in pursuing the so-called Operation Green Hunt, its counter-insurgency operations purportedly directed primarily against the Communist Party of India (Maoist).

From the start of the Operation it has become clear that the real targets are not the Maoists alone but the resistance of the people of India against the wanton and profit-driven operations of big multinational companies backed by government and its military and police.

It has been reported that intensified militarization in the regions of Orissa, Jharkand, Andra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and in the heroic Lalgarh had further resulted to wider human rights violations. Illegal and unjust arrests, forceful evacuation, torture, rape, and extra-judicial killings are being committed by military, police and paramilitary without hesitation, in full public view and with so much impunity.

The Operation Green Hunt is against the adivasis, farmers, ordinary people especially in the remotest and poorest villages of India. The only crime they have committed is to stand and prevent the profit-driven mining and corporations in its operations which will destroy their livelihood and plunder the environ and India's natural resources.

We condemn the use of the Operation to flush out the adivasis and farmers from their land and government's building of concentration camps of the displaced in order to pursue its Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) with various mining corporations. We demand that these camps be immediately closed. We demand that the Indian government withdraw heightened military deployment in the countryside and halt its Operation Green Hunt, and balked at pursuing anti-people projects which will only trample upon the basic rights of Indian people.

We support the Indian youth and people in their legitimate resistance against the systematic loot of India's resources which deprive its own people their life and livelihood, and their future.

ANAKBAYAN (Sons and Daughters of the People)  
Student Christian Movement of the Philippines  
League of Filipino Students (LFS)

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### STATEMENT OF SUPPORT TO THE INDIAN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE AND AGAINST OPERATION GREEN HUNT OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT

We, peasants from the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP, Peasant Movement of the Philippines) strongly support the Indian people's struggle against the Operation Green Hunt being implemented by the Indian government.

We strongly condemn the inhuman abuses of Indian military backed by US imperialism, the killings of Indian people, particularly peasants, the torture and rape, dislocation of 20 million peasants and hamletting and other forms of human rights violations. We hold the Indian government and US military and government for the violence imposed upon the Indian people.

We support and uphold the Indian people's struggle for genuine land reform, primarily advanced by the Naxalites and Indian peasants who serve as main protectors of their native lands against foreign landgrabbing, mining and industrial exploitation and environmental destruction. We recognize the Indian peasants' sovereign right to land and abhor the imperialist hunger of the United States and other capitalist countries for profit, as well as the Indian government.

We can relate to the suffering of the Indian peasants as we, Filipino farmers are also victims of the Arroyo government's counter-insurgency program Oplan Bantay Laya (Oplan Guard Freedom), that is composed mainly of extra-judicial killings (EJK), enforced disappearances and accusations of fabricated charges. Arroyo's Oplan Bantay Laya resulted 561 peasant victims of extra-judicial killings, where 119 were KMP leaders, 129 peasant victims of enforced disappearances and scores are being held for crimes they did not commit.

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We from the Filipino peasant movement pledge to carry out all we can to expose the brutality of the Indian government. We will hold protest actions at the Indian embassy anytime possible and convey our message of dissent to the measures of their government. We will include in our fundamental calls the immediate end to Operation Green Hunt, massive militarization and human rights abuses on Indian peasants and people.

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**END OPERATION GREEN HUNT IN INDIA!  
JUSTICE TO VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN INDIA!**

**STRUGGLE FOR GENUINE LAND REFORM IN INDIA!  
DOWN WITH U.S. IMPERIALISM AND PUPPETRY OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT!**

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February 5th, 2010

### **Protest action in front of the Indian Embassy in Frankfurt**

Today with the initiative of ATIK (Confederation of Workers from Turkey in various cities in Europe Den Haag, London, Vienna, Bern and Frankfurt protest actions in front of the India Embassy' were held. The protest's were against the "Operation Green Hunt" which was first initiated in November 2009 by the Indian state, especially in very poor areas. Until now, there are reports in the international media reporting about the violation of the most fundamental human rights. In the statement it says:

"With the military operation "Green Hunt", the Indian government has launched a broad repressive and brutal "annihilation offensive" against the people. In the poorest regions in India, with the military operation "Green Hunt", the Indian government has launched a broad repressive and brutal "annihilation offensive" against the people. In the poorest regions in India the legitimate people uprising with the support of the ethnic minorities against this adversity, gains more and more sympathy worldwide. In those areas in where the peoples' movement is the strongest, valuable resources were found, resources that the Indian government wants to sell to the multinational cooperations- and even if only partly- has sold some of it, between the closure of the contracts and the big money are the poor, isolated tribes and revolutionaries "Naxalites", who wage an organized, successful uprising against this situation. Or as the Indian progressive writer Arundhati Roy says "the government doesn't give the people anything else then violence and disrespect. And now they want to take away from them the last thing that they have, their land".

For this reason we oppose the operation "Green Hunt" and the repression policies of the India government. We demand an immediate end of the operations, banishing, torture and release of all political prisoners in India. We are in solidarity with the just rebellion of the Indian people for social liberation and self determination of the indigenous people like the Adivasis." These protests and solidarity actions were supported by different democratic migrant organizations and political parties. The primal supporters of this call are:

**Platform Of Democratic Mass Organizations-Europe (DEKÖP-A),  
ATIK (Confederation of Workers from Turkey in Europe), info@atik-online.net  
ADHK (Confederation For Democratic Rights in Europe), info@adhk.de  
Magazine YASANACAK DÜNYA, yasanacakdunya@yahoo.com  
AVEG-Kon (Confederation Of The Oppressed Migrants In Europe), aveg-kon@hotmail.com  
YEK-KOM (Föderation der kurdischen Vereine in Deutschland) yekkom@gmx.de  
And MLPD Rhein-Main region (rhs@mlpd.de), BIR-KAR Frankfurt (birkar@msn.com)**

These organizations declare their unlimited solidarity with the Naxalite Liberation Movement and the Adivasi people and that the protests will continue until this repression in India will finally come to an end.

**Long Live International Solidarity!**

**ATIK New Agency**

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## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Public Statement  
AI Index: ASA 20/021/2009  
2 December 2009

### **India: Probe killing of two adivasi leaders and release detained activist in Orissa**

Authorities in the eastern Indian state of Orissa must ensure independent, credible and impartial investigation into the killings of two adivasi (indigenous community) leaders by police and paramilitary personnel in Narayanpatna on 20 November 2009, Amnesty International said today.

The deceased – Singanna and Andrew Nachika – were peacefully protesting outside the Narayanpatna police station in Koraput district along with 80-100 other members of an indigenous people's movement – Chasi Mulia Adivasi Sangh (CMAS). The protestors demanded that the police stop harassing the adivasi communities who have been campaigning for an end to illegal mining in the area. Eyewitnesses have informed Amnesty International that the police firing began when one of the leaders, Singanna, entered the police station premises to talk with officials. Another leader, Andrew Nachika, was also shot dead and at least eight other protestors sustained bullet injuries as police and paramilitary forces continued their unprovoked firing at the unarmed and fleeing protestors.

The unnecessary use of force on adivasi protestors resulted in at least two deaths. The State authorities are obligated, under international treaties to which India is party, to respect and protect the right to life at all times. In an attempt to trace the wounded protestors, police raided a number of villages and arrested at least 50 other adivasi CMAS supporters. Amnesty International understands that those arrested are accused of several offences including those under Section 121 (waging war against the State) and Section 124A (sedition) as the police have claimed that the CMAS has links with the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist).

A seven-member fact-finding team of social and political activists subsequently visited Narayanpatna to inquire into the killings and related arrests. Their report released at a press conference in Orissa's capital Bhubaneswar on 27 November rejects the police claim of a CMAS-Maoist link and accuses the police officials of unnecessary use of force and arbitrary arrests. On 29 November, the police arrested one of the members of the fact-finding team, Tapan Mishra claiming that he provided arms training to the banned Maoists.

Tapan Mishra is a known activist of the Communist Party of India (Maoist-Leninist) (Kanu Sanyal group) – a recognised political party. Amnesty International understands that Tapan Mishra has no links with any armed groups and that his arrest may be politically motivated. Following this arrest, other members of the fact-finding team have expressed fears of travelling to Narayanpatna. Amnesty International is concerned that the arrest of Tapan Mishra appears to be an attempt by the State authorities to intimidate and harass those inquiring into the lethal use of force by the police at Narayanpatna.

#### **Amnesty International urges the Government of Orissa to:**

- \* immediately order an independent, impartial and thorough investigation into the use of force by the police and ensure that any officer suspected of using force unnecessarily or excessively, including those who ordered the shooting or were otherwise responsible, is prosecuted in proceedings which meet international standards of fairness;
- \* provide reparations to the families of those killed, and to those who suffered injuries or other harm as a result of unnecessary use of force by police;
- \* ensure that police officials as far as possible apply non-violent means before resorting to the use of force and firearms which should be used only if other means remain ineffective, and then only to the minimum extent required, and that firearms may be used only in self-defence or the defence of others against the imminent threat of death or serious injury, and only when less extreme means are insufficient;
- \* ensure that the right to peaceful assembly is respected and protected and that police, when fulfilling their public order duties, respect human rights as provided in international treaties to which India is a state party, and
- \* Stop harassing, intimidating and bringing politically motivated charges against protestors and those engaged in defending human rights in Orissa.

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## Background

The CMAS is a social movement of Adivasi communities in south-western Orissa which has been campaigning, over the last year, against illegal mining in their lands and habitats by non-Adivasis and production and consumption of illegal liquor in the region. Since May last, the CMAS has intensified its campaign, leading to some non-Adivasi families fleeing their villages and attacks against CMAS supporters.

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### **ILPS-Canada demands an end to Operation Green Hunt and the massive displacement of people in India Indian government threatens to eradicate popular resistance by March 2010**

In late 2009 the Indian government unleashed massive war against its own people under the code name "Operation Green Hunt" involving the deployment of 70,000 military and paramilitary troops in the so-called "Red Corridor" that runs through parts of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal states.

It's the latest in a series of efforts by the Indian government, labeled the "biggest democracy in the world" by Canada and other western powers, to impose "military solutions" on deep-seated social, political and economic problems, and to clear the way for local and trans-national corporations to plunder this region's resources. Most of the riches sit on or under land occupied by the poorest populations in India, including the adivasis -- the indigenous or tribal peoples.

Hundreds of agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) that allow free plunder of people's resources have already been concluded by mining and other corporations with the central and state government and Special Economic Zones for multinational corporations have been established. The only barrier that now stands between the local and trans-national corporations and their prize is people's resistance, both unarmed and in some instances, armed.

During this military-economic offensive, Indian government is actively ignoring its own Constitution and laws such as PESA and the Forest Rights Act and targeting anyone who dares to speak out against this state repression as a "potential terrorist".

However, from Nandigram to Niyamgiri, Lalgarh to Dandakaranya, Koraput to Kalinganagar, Dadri to Narayanpatna, people have refused to be mere victims of state-sponsored politics of liberalism, privatization and imperialist globalization (LPG) in the name of "development".

As a result of Operation Green Hunt and renewed aggressions in Lalgarh, hundreds of thousands have been displaced, and the number of burnt villages, persons displaced, injured, arrested or "disappeared" has skyrocketed. Many have been placed in so-called "security camps" similar to the practice in Sri-Lanka, where the government in Colombo, with the backing of Washington and other western powers, bloodily attacked the Tamil population in early 2009.

In a letter to Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, dated October 12, 2009, Indian and foreign intellectuals, including Booker Prize-winning author Arundhati Roy and American political activist Noam Chomsky, charged that the government's offensive was "an attempt to crush democratic and popular resistance against dispossession and impoverishment" and a move that seemed to be geared towards facilitating the entry and operation of "large corporations and paving the way for unbridled exploitation of the natural resources and people in the affected regions".

Arundhati Roy said, "This is a war waged by the army and paramilitary forces for the super rich corporations against the super poor of India, who have been driven to rebel and resist by years of injustice and mistreatment." Roy continued: "The Government doesn't give the people anything else than violence and disrespect. And now they want to take away from them the last thing they have, their land".

The purported aim of the Indian government is to clear this heavily forested area of resistance forces, including Maoists and other Naxalite organizations. Maoists -- also known as Naxalites after Naxalbari district in West Bengal state where they first led a peasant uprising against landlords in 1967 -- have a strong presence in this region. The members of the Communist Party of India (CPI - Maoist) the political wing of the Maoists, are now estimated by mainstream Indian media to be 20,000 strong. The focus of Operation Green Hunt is the Maoist or "Red Corridor" which stretches from West Bengal in India's northeast through the states of Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and

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Maharashtra in the west. It includes many forest areas including the Dandakaranya forest. Its millions of adivasis were pushed into forest regions by waves of invaders and generally excluded from mainstream Hindu society. They have a long history of rebellion and militant uprisings against British colonial rule starting in the 19th Century and have been a major base for communist organizing.

The forests where the adivasis are concentrated have abundant mineral wealth (iron, coal, bauxite, manganese, corundum, gold, diamonds and uranium). Over the last years foreign and Indian corporations, with the protection of the Indian state apparatus, have been exploiting these resources and violently suppressing the local people in the process.

The Communist Party of India (Maoist) has been active in this area since the 1970s, following the Naxalbari rebellion. The Maoists have helped lead the tribals in their struggles for just demands for land and opposition to police and military repression. The Maoists have support among the Muslim population and the Dalits (often referred to as "untouchables"). They have helped organize the people to improve subsistence agricultural methods, build wells and schools and struggle against backward feudal practices.

For years the Indian elite left this area in dire poverty and profited from the cheap labour which migrated all over India searching for work. Now, realizing the vast riches that lay in and beneath the vast forests of this region, the Indian ruling elite, with backing from the U.S. and other forces, is trying to clear the way for a new wave of foreign investment to plunder the regions' resources.

The Indian government claims that by March 2010 they hope to have eradicated the Maoists and anyone who dares to support them and resists the government's armed presence. According to the Indian state, tens of thousands of government "security personnel" will combat "against 6,000-7,000 armed Maoist cadres". The military offensive has been accompanied by illegal arrests and detainment of progressive leaders in the area, such as Raja Sarkhel and Prasun Chatterjee, by the reactionary forces, under the CPI (Marxist), an organization apparently Communist in name only, and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Activists have been heavily tortured to try to force them to give false testimonies against fellow activists.

Progressive Indian political leader Kobad Ghandy was also abducted, illegally detained and tortured for three days and nights while deprived of medicine and medical treatment for life-threatening health problems. The Committee for the Release of Political Prisoners (CRPP) has been actively campaigning for the immediate release of Ghandy and an immediate end to all illegal arrests and detentions and human rights abuses.

Operation Green Hunt follows on the heels of the vast offensive against the people of Lalgarh-Jangalmahal in West Bengal starting June 2009. An All-India Fact Finding Team which was organized by progressive forces to look into the atrocities being committed by the West Bengal government was prevented from reaching Lalgarh. The members of the fact-finding team were arrested, maltreated and detained. An international team of Amnesty International was also prevented from entering Lalgarh.

The International League of Peoples Struggle Canada chapter (ILPS-Canada), and its member organizations and allies, support the call of the Indian people to demand that their government immediately and unconditionally withdraw its armed forces engaged in the military-paramilitary offensive against the oppressed adivasi people of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Maharashtra, Bengal, Karnataka and other regions.

Furthermore, we support the Indian people who are demanding that their government take concrete measures to stop the plunder of the people's land, forests, hills and rivers by Indian and multinational corporations. This requires the scrapping of hundreds of MoUs signed by the central and state governments with various corporations who plan exploit natural resources at the expense of the poor and marginalized citizens of India.

We also extend our solidarity and support to the struggle of the tribal people in Lalgarh-Jangalmahal.  
**We join the people of India in demanding:**

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- an immediate end to Operation Green Hunt and the withdrawal of all military and paramilitary forces;
  - an immediate end to the "Lalgarh Operation" against the tribal people of Lalgarh-Jangal mahal and the withdrawal of all military and police-paramilitary forces from Lalgarh and nearby areas;
  - the closing of all "internment" camps;
  - the immediate release of all political prisoners;
  - the Indian government provide due compensation to the people displaced and impacted by Operation Green Hunt and Operation Lalgarh, and punish those military, para-military and police officials responsible for violence, rape, loot and other crimes;
  - the repeal of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), 2008
  - free access to affected areas for fact-finding and solidarity teams and journalists;
  - that the Central and State governments in India should initiate a dialogue with the people's movements and accept their just demands.

**Resist imperialist globalization and plunder!**  
**Long live the courageous resistance of the people of India!**

ILPS-Canada  
February 1, 2010  
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## **Press Release**

Bayan/ILPS Phil. Chapter Urge Indian Govt to Stop its Operation Green Hunt

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan and the ILPS Phil.Chapter today, Feb. 05, 2010, picketed near the Indian Embassy in Makati City to demand that "the Indian government immediately and unconditionally withdraw its armed forces engaged in the military-paramilitary offensive called Operation Green Hunt, against the adivasi ( indigenous ) people of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Maharashtra, Bengal, Karnataka and other regions of this populous country."

Alarmed by the growing resistance movement of the adivasi in many parts of India, the government has unleashed Operation Green Hunt that has seen the burning of houses of adivasi, the targetting and killings of unarmed civilians, the torture-detention-killings of mass leaders of progressive organizations. Last year, Bayan and the ILPS Phil. Chapter, picketed near the Indian Embassy to protest the militarization and violations of human rights of the adivasi in Orissa where a large tract of land would be cleared for a sprawling factory for the cheap locally-made Indian car called Tata.

"Bayan and the ILPS Phil. Chapter demand that the Indian government immediately stop the plunder of vast tracts of land and forested areas for large scale mining and industrial projects in special economic zones. Vast areas within India, both rich agricultural fields and areas rich with minerals like Jharkand, Orissa, Andra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and West Bengal, are being exploited by the MNCs in collaboration with India's top industrialists" Rita Baua, Intl Solidarity Officer of Bayan and Vice-Chairperson of the ILPS Phil. Chapter, said.

"Bayan and the ILPS Phil. Chapter likewise condemn the impunity of the Indian government towards the adivasi who are resisting their plunderous activities. Already, 3 million of the adivasi have been displaced by Operation Green Hunt. The adivasi people are the rightful owners of the land and the fruits of their hardship, not the Indian government which is pro-foreign investors," Baua said. Bayan and the ILPS Phil. Chapter also called on the Indian government for the immediate surfacing of two progressive and militant leaders, namely, Mr. Ravi Sharma and Ms. Anuradha, who were forcibly taken from their workplace and home, respectively. "We fear that both leaders might have suffered tremendously from torture and intimidation. We hope they have not yet been killed considering that Mr. Sharma was arrested last October 10, 2009," Baua noted. "Bayan and the ILPS Phil.Chapter likewise condemn the Obama govt for providing not only logistical support such as munitions and other war materiel, latest military technology, but also US\$18 billion; providing military advise on mapping the deployment of revolutionary forces on the ground, and holding of joint US-India-Israel



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military exercises. Obama who got a Nobel Peace Prize for Peace is a contradiction in terms as far as the genuine peace in India is concerned" Baua said.

"We therefore demand that the Obama government stop its war of terror against the adivasi and the people of India. The latter will not be cowed by your weapons and political/military tactics meant to suppress them," Baua concluded.###





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## News from the counter-revolutionary camp

### Chief Ministers Meet in Delhi: Chidambaram wants massive increase in the police forces of the states

On February 6 & 7, Chief Ministers of all the states in India congregated in the country's capital city to address the twin issues of price-rise and "Left-wing extremism" in the country. On the first day, the meeting of the pack of wolves that prey on the sweat and blood of the toiling millions of our country went off without any concrete decision worth the name on how to check price-rise even as rising prices of essential goods is leading to extreme misery and starvation deaths. Price-rise is a problem affecting the common masses and not the ruling classes. Then why bother?

But what needs to be tackled on a war-footing is the fall-out of the price-rise. As people are increasingly drawn into violent demonstrations and street battles with the state due to the anti-people policies of a government held captive by hoarders, speculators of foodgrains and the stock market mafia, the strengthening of security for a handful of the parasitic haves (and this is what is meant by internal security) assumes a sense of urgency. Hence, on the second day, Chidambaram dutifully played his role as the manager of the tiny parasitic elites ruling our country by goading on the chief ministers to gear up for the biggest internal security threat facing our country (read the parasitic ruling class). Hence the day-long discussion on internal security mainly revolved around the issue of so-called left-wing extremism that is said to have spread across 160, 180, 200, 220 or an ever-changing number of districts depending on which researcher or expert analyst or political party is dishing out the figures and their respective needs. Two days prior to the meeting, a meeting of the chief secretaries of the four states of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar and Orissa met in Kolkata to devise ways and means of suppressing the Maoist movement, described as the country's greatest internal security threat, in these states. And a fortnight prior to that, on January 22/23, chief ministers of the three states of Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Orissa met in Raipur under the leadership of the Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram to tackle the same issue in the three states. Obviously, the Maoist movement has become a nightmare for the reactionary rulers who are unable to plunder the natural resources of the regions witnessing intense armed struggle and are desperately trying to muster all their forces, coordinate among the various states and carry out a joint offensive against the Maoists and the people they lead.

The entire thrust of the Union Home Minister Chidambaram was on increasing the police forces in the states, training them and modernizing the weaponry. He tried to impress upon the chief ministers the urgent need to recruit policemen on a massive scale to deal with internal security and not to depend on the central paramilitary forces. He goaded on the states to rise the budget allocations for the police forces. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who inaugurated the day-long meeting of the chief ministers on internal security, stressed on the same point. He lamented that the states have not made much progress in recruiting more policemen and equipping themselves with a well-trained police force to ensure internal security. Chidambaram stated that 1.1 lakh have been or will be, recruited by this March but another 1.5 lakh vacancies remain.

Chidambaram blamed inadequate allocation of funds by states under the head 'Police' as responsible for the slow pace of growth in police recruitment and modernization. He pointed out that Rs. 44,354 crores was earmarked for police in 2009-2010, an increase of 21.7 %. But he lamented that 75-80 % of these funds are spent on salaries, leaving very little for training, weapons and modernization. He also deplored the sluggish increase in the number of police stations saying that only 175 new police stations were added in the first nine months of 2009 and that some of the police stations are poorly manned.

Clearly, Chidambaram is making all-out preparations for fascising the state as never before in order to deal with the revolutionary-democratic movements, national liberation struggles and other

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militant mass struggles. No matter if the vast majority of the people of our land die like flies due to lack of drinking water, lack of adequate food, disease, and extreme poverty. What the rulers need is a massive police force to confront the hungry and angry masses and the Maoists who lead them.

## **Chidambaram organizes the meeting of four states for joint ops against Maoists but fails to achieve consensus**

After convening the meeting of the Chief Ministers, Chief Secretaries, DGPs, Intelligence chiefs of three states of Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Orissa on January 22 in Raipur to step up the joint armed onslaught against the adivasis and Maoists of these states, Home Minister Chidambaram organized the meeting of the four states of Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa on February 9 to achieve closer co-ordination and carry out joint offensive by the four states against the Maoists and the struggling adivasi masses of these states.

The haste and desperation with which the Home Minister is striving to push the various states to step up their war on the Maoists and seeking to what he calls "reclaim the territory held by the Naxals and establish the authority of the civilian government" is understandable. As a slave of the imperialist MNCs and corporate big business houses he has to please them by clearing all hurdles for their unbridled plunder of the natural resources of the adivasi-inhabited regions of central and eastern India. No matter if the way is paved with the blood of innumerable innocent adivasi men, women and children. Like the American White colonialists who had decimated millions of indigenous people to plunder the resources right from the "discovery" of America in the 15th century, our corporate colonialists too never think it immoral to decimate the indigenous people of the country to achieve the development of the capitalist class. And Chidambaram had openly pledged to fight till the last drop of his blood to protect the interests of this class from attacks by the vast majority of the have-nots led by the Maoists.

Interestingly, it is the social-fascist CPI(M) that is in the fore-front of this war against the Naxalites in Eastern India. While the ideologues of this social-fascist party, Karats and Yechuris, claim that their fight against Maoists is mainly ideological, political and administrative and desist from using the term military to just project themselves as democrats, the reality is that it is this party which accuses the Central government as being soft towards the Maoists and goads it to brutally suppress the Maoists. And it has unleashed its private vigilante gangs along with the state police force on the democratic resistance movement of the people. No wonder, the meeting of the chief ministers and top officials of the four states was held in the Writer's Buildings—the State Secretariat—of West Bengal in Kolkata. Significantly, the "Left front" government in West Bengal was pleased to have the National Security Advisor MK Narayanan as the state Governor and its hopes Narayanan, with his wealth of experience in security matters would be of great help in containing the Maoists in the state.

The chief minister of Bihar, Nitish Kumar, did not attend the meeting saying the Home Minister had fixed the meeting without enquiring his availability and that he had pre-fixed engagements. Jharkhand chief minister Shibu Soren too skipped the meeting saying he was ill and had to be hospitalized.

The differences in the approach among the various factions of the reactionary rulers could also be seen from the stands expressed by them at various meetings. For instance, a few days prior to the chief ministers meeting, a meeting of the Eastern Zonal council was held on February 5 attended by West Bengal's chief secretary Ashok Mohan Chakraborty and Home Secretary Ardhendu Sen, Orissa chief secretary Tarun Kanti Mishra, Bihar's Anup Kumar Mukherjee, and the principal secretary (home) of the Jharkhand government, JB Tubid. At tis meeting Jharkhand's principal secretary JB Tubid said: *"You cannot hold a gun to somebody's head and solve the (Naxalite) problem. It is not that easy. What I mean to say is that the problem cannot be solved by mere induction of force. There should be a holistic approach (to the problem) at the root of which lie development of the areas and the people who have been downtrodden for ages."* The situation in West Bengal would have been better had the so-called Marxists of West Bengal learnt a bit from a non-Marxist government bureaucrat like Tubid.

Tubid also raised doubts about the joint operations: *"How can there be a joint force? Law and order is a state subject. If the Naxalites strike in West Bengal, the Bengal police cannot come to*

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*Jharkhand. Similarly, we also cannot go to Orissa. If there is a joint force, someone from the central government should head it."*

Chidambaram, however, did not give up his moves to rope in the two chief ministers in the joint ops. He sent letters to the two chief ministers asking them to let him know their convenient dates for another meeting of the states for tackling Naxalites. The Maoist raid in Silda, the BDO episode in Jharkhand and an attack on a village in Jamui all of which had taken place within a week of the Kolkata meeting had obviously rattled the Home Minister. With his meticulous planning for joint ops against the Maoists drawn up at the Kolkata meeting of February 9 having been reduced to a mere joke, a "depressed" yet fuming Chidambaram is desperately trying to rework his conspiratorial plans by calling the joint operations meeting at the earliest. He also wants to test the commitment of the two states of Bihar and Jharkhand in co-operating with the Centre and the social fascist government in West Bengal in waging the war against the Maoists. Buddhadeb too has been pressing the Union Home Minister to convince the chief ministers of Bihar and Jharkhand to coordinate with West Bengal in the offensive against the Maoists as both the states share a long border with West Bengal.

## **Chidambaram admits it is impossible to fix a time-frame for suppressing the Maoists**

### **'No time-frame for war against Naxals'**

Admitting that the government had "lived in a state of denial for too long" on the threat posed by naxalism, Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram on Monday (February 1) said no time-frame could be fixed to check the "menace". He said it was a "long-drawn struggle" which would take time. "We have lived in a state of denial for too long and, therefore, when I candidly state the position, it might appear surprising to you. I think it is necessary that the authority of the civilian government is established in districts where in large tracts of land the authority is not with civilian government," the union Home Minister said. Stating that there were 33 districts which were seriously affected by naxalites and another 50-odd districts where there was a Naxal presence, Chidambaram said, "...the effort is to send security forces and establish the authority of the civilian government... Once the civilian government's authority is established, development measures will be taken in these areas."



## **Now, Bengal to raise anti-Naxal force**

Sabyasachi Bandopadhyay  
Kolkata, February 4  
The Indian Express.

Just four days ahead of the crucial meeting at Writers' Building in Kolkata to chalk out a strategy to combat the Naxalite menace that will be chaired by Union Home Minister P Chidambaram and attended by Chief Ministers of four states, the state government has decided to raise a special force, on the pattern of Greyhounds of Andhra Pradesh And Special Task Force of Bihar, to fight the Maoists.

What prompted the government to rise a special force for the Naxalites was the paucity of trained personnel to fight the Maoists, "Once we have our own force, our dependence on the central paramilitary forces (CPMFs), for which we have been entreating the central government day in and day out, will be lessened," said Home Secretary Ardhendu Sen.

While the initial cost of setting up the force, which is yet to get a name, will be around Rs. 2 crore, the recurring cost of maintaining it will be Rs 25 crore, which will be borne by the state government, "We will ask for more money and central assistance at the February 9 meeting with Chidambaram," Sen added. To be trained by the CRPF, BSF and Army, the force consisting of fresh recruits will be used to fight the Naxalites in the three districts of Bankuram Purulia and West Midnapore affected by Left-wing extremism (LWE). "Their training will be basically in anti-insurgency operations and it will be very tough. They will be deployed only in the LWE areas," Sen said.

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The Home Department officials said the recruitment process will start soon and in a year or so the first contingent will be operational. To be set up at Salboni in West Midnapore, the force numbering about 600-700 people will be headed by an officer of IG level. "At present, there is no plan to induct women but we can do so in the future," the Home Secretary added. The state government had 17 companies of CPMFs in the LWE areas, of which six companies were taken away for election duty in Jharkhand. Though the elections are over, the forces are not back. "In principle they have agreed to send the six companies but the contingent is yet to arrive," the official said.

The state government has asked for another 10 companies of CPMFs and the demand will be raised again at the February 9 meeting.

## **Vishwa Ranjan and his gang's psy-war on Maoist punishments**

On January 19, 2010 when two police informers—Mahanga Vodde (24) and Sonau Salam (20)—were annihilated in East Bastar, the police top brass and their media mouthpieces cried foul and described the Maoists as barbarians and inhuman beasts who do not spare even students. The facts, however, are totally different. Mahanga had been working as a police informer for the past one year. He belonged to Koranda village in Kondagaon block of Bastar. He was not even a student as claimed by the police and parroted by the docile media but had left his 8th class six years ago. Sonau was from Irpur village in Narayanpur district. This fellow was studying class XI at a school in Narayanpur. Both these fellows were lumpen elements having intimate links with the police. Both these fellows were sent to Bilaspur in a police van for recruitment into police/SPOs. The anti-Naxal police officials meet them regularly in weekly bazaars and collect information. These so-called students maintain regular contact with the police on phone. The police visit their villages twice a week and collect information about the Maoists. The deeds of these two police informers were thoroughly investigated by the Maoists and only after conducting interrogation and obtaining conclusive evidence of their involvement in anti-people activities and their regular links with the police a decision was taken to punish them.

After this action by the Maoists a hue and cry was raised by the police as they had lost two trusted informers. To divert the attention of the people from the actual facts, the police propagated that Maoists had killed two students. They organized student rallies in Narayanpur, Kondagaon, Dantewada, Bijapur and Bhanupratappur. Multi-colour photographs of the dead 'students' were published in papers as part of the psy-war by the ruling classes against the Maoists. The Chhattisgarh DGP and master liar Vishwa Ranjan repeated this lie at press conferences. Media channels such as ETV Chhattisgarh and Times Now sang in chorus with the police without bothering to verify the facts. The local divisional committee of CPI(Maoist) had issued a press release explaining the facts but the corporate media deliberately suppressed it while publishing the 'paid news' or multicolour advertisements sent by the government/police.

Contrary to the claims of the police and fascist rulers like Chidambaram and Raman Singh that Maoists kill students, adivasis, dalits indiscriminately, the CPI(Maoist) takes great precautions while serving punishments to police informers and anti-people lumpen elements. The culprits are tried in the people's courts or, where that is not possible due to heavy police presence, the local people are consulted and appropriate action is taken basing on the people's opinions.

They recruit students, adivasis, dalits and women as informers and use them against the Maoists. And whenever one or two of these are punished a hue and cry is raised that Maoists are anti-people. They do not bother whether anyone believes their propaganda trash or not.

It is the state-hired mercenaries—the anti-Naxal commandos, the CRPF, COBRAs, BSF, the SSB and other instruments of suppression—who indulge in the most brutal and sadistic acts, something unthinkable in any civilized society. Acts such as chopping off the fingers of a two-year-old as in Gompad village or chopping of the breasts of an old woman. Chhattisgarh DGP Vishwa Ranjan who defends these sadistic acts has no moral right to speak on the pro-people's justice system pursued by the Maoists that at least has the sanction of the people, whatever be its merits and demerits. But the brutal acts of the police are directed entirely and solely against the poor and oppressed people.

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## THE HITLERS WAGING WAR ON INDIAN PEOPLE



### CIVIL WAR IN INDIA

**ADIVASIS, DALITS AND ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE LED BY MAOISTS vs CORPORATE SHARKS AND MNCs LED BY KHADI-SAFFRON GANGS**

**300,000 ARMED TROOPS (ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND CENTRAL FORCES + TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND STATE FORCES) PLUS TWENTY THOUSAND SALWA JUDUM GOONS vs TEN THOUSAND ARMED GUERRILLAS + MILLIONS OF STARVING MASSES**

**TATAS, MITTALS, JINDALS, ESSAR, VEDANTA vs BUDRUS, DUDI MUYES, SODI SAMBHOS, IRUMAIS**

**WELL-FED WELL-EQUIPPED MERCENARY FORCES OF THE RICH vs ILL-FED, ILL-EQUIPPED ARMY OF THE POOR**

**BATTLE-GROUND: WEST MIDNAPUR-BANKURA-PURULIA TO NORTH ANDHRA AND NORTH TELANGANA**

**OVERALL COMMANDER: HERR P CHIDAMBARAM  
DEPUTIES: RAMAN SINGH, NAVEEN PATNAIK, BUDDHADEB, RR PATIL  
KILLERS IN THE FIELD: VISHWARANJAN, SRP KALLURI, RK VIJ, AMARESH MISHRA,..  
ACCOMPLICES: MEDIA MERCENARIES LIKE ARNAB GOSWAMY, CHANDAN MITRA,....**

**OBJECTIVE: CLEAR THE MINERAL-RICH REGION OF MAOISTS AND HAND OVER TO IMPERIALISTS AND COMPRADOR BUSINESS HOUSES**

**METHOD: KILL ALL! BURN ALL! DESTROY ALL! DRIVE THE INDIGENOUS POPULATION TO STRATEGIC HAMLETS**



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# How the State is waging War

The following heart-rending stories of state-sponsored terror by Congress-BJP's vigilante salwa judum gangs in the villages of Dantewada provide a glimpse of the brutal war waged by the Indian state under the direct supervision of the Union Home Minister P Chidambaram. These excerpts are taken from the *Tehelka magazine* dated February 06, 2010 filed by SANJANA who had traveled in the remote region for over a week.

According to the writer, she along with TEHELKA photographer, tracked Adivasis whose lives were destroyed by the Salwa Judum in the past four months. This period coincides with the start of Operation Green Hunt, an operation that the Central Government calls a 'media creation'.

In village after village, Adivasis recount tales of the Judum attacking anyone they could find — "if they found a woman, they raped her. If it was a man, he was killed." None of the witnesses were willing to walk to the police station to file complaints. In their eyes, the Judum and the police are complicit. Seeking justice from one against the other would be futile.

## Kunja Iрмаi, a resident of Palod village said:



Last man standing Kunja Iрмаi outside which the Judum burnt down

"We are battling drought on one hand and sickness on the other. The nearest hospital is 30 kilometres away and the only way to get there is on foot. On top of all this, we've to face the Judum. The Judum don't kill Naxalites but only poor people like us. Couldn't the government think of any other way to announce its presence in our village? Our only source of drinking water — three bore-wells — stopped working two years ago. All we get from the government is people who will kill us, without telling us why," stated by headman of Dogpadu village, Kalumu Bheema, who witnessed the cold-blooded murder of Vando Mangdu and Madkam Budra by Salwa Judum goondas in his village.

We went to the Kishtaram police station the next day with people from Dogpadu and Tetmadagu. The Judum had killed 6 people in these two neighbouring villages as well. We asked for the bodies of the people they killed. We were told that a helicopter took the bodies to Dantewada to conduct the post mortem. Who knows what happened to the bodies?

Everyday I think of the curses that the Judum heaped on us when they entered our village. They are angry that we refuse to join the Judum. If this is the way they behave with us, why would we even think of joining them? They killed Joga because they found him by the pond. They raped Irre because they found her grazing cattle in the forest. If they had found anyone else, they would have killed and raped them, too.



Man for all seasons Tunki Venkatesh with his widowed sister-in-law and niece

16-year-old Tunki Venkatesh of Palachelima village whose brother and brother-in-law were murdered by Salwa Judum, recounted:

The Judum made the three men walk for 10 hours to the nearest police station. My sister gathered 15 other women from the village and followed them back to the station. They saw the Judum take the three men into the station. For hours, they maintained a vigil outside. At some point in the night, the Judum slipped the men out of the station and took them to a clearing near the village bus stand. They were forced to strip and change into Naxal

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uniforms. The Judum tied them up to different trees and shot them dead. Enough villagers were around to see them conduct this exercise.

Later, the Judum loaded the bodies on a truck and buried them in a mass grave at a town 70 km away. Schoolchildren watched the Judum dig the grave and throw the bodies in. Why couldn't the Judum at least give our dead a decent burial? Why wouldn't they give us back the bodies? I had hoped to finish school and go to college in Dantewada. I wanted to work in an office. My brother and I would sit and talk for hours about this. I had to drop out of school after the killings to take care of the family. What choice do I have?

**MADIVI MOYEE, Resident of Gachampadu village said:**

In the morning, someone from a nearby village came and asked us to run for our lives. The Judum was headed our way, he said, and that they had killed a lot of people in the nearby villages. We left everything we had, picked up our children — my baby was four months old — and ran to the forests. We could see the village from where we were hiding. A lot of people — it was impossible to count how many — all armed with guns and sickles entered the village.

Within minutes of their arrival, we saw smoke. Our houses were being burnt. Then, screams rent the air. I realised then that there were some people who had been left behind in the village. After a long time, I saw the Judum bring out two men and five women from our village into the field behind the village. The men's hands were tied behind their backs and I could see blood on one of their faces. The Judum lined up the men and women in two rows facing each other - the Judum men were behind the women. They shot the men down even as the women looked on. At least two people fired at each person. One of the women screamed and looked away. She was hit brutally by the Judum for looking away.

**FACT FILE**

- **KILLED:** THREE PEOPLE INSIDE THEIR HOUSES
- **KILLED:** TWO PEOPLE SHOT DEAD IN THE FIELDS
- **RAPED:** FIVE WOMEN
- **BURNT:** 12 HOUSES

They left the bodies in the field and took the women away with them. After a long time, when we could no longer hear the Judum, we walked back to our village. I was shocked at what I saw in the village. An old woman who couldn't see properly had been hacked to death inside her house. Her head had been split open. Her stomach had been cut open and her intestines scattered. There was so much blood everywhere. Two other men were also killed just outside their houses — their arms had been chopped off and they had been shot. We heard later that the five women who were taken from our village were made to walk 10 kilometres. They were raped and beaten by the Judum before being allowed to go.

**VANJAM BUDRAI, Resident of Gattapadu village, gave her eye-witness account:**



Ready to flee Vanjam Budrai's family outside their house, emptied in anticipation of a Judum attack

They picked up three of them - Chodi Masa, Padam Deva and 15-year-old Dudhi Poja - and brought them back to the village. The Judum then forced the three men to round up all the goats and chicken they could find in the village and then dragged all of them out of the village. The men were forced to cook a meal and then watch as the Judum men feasted. Once lunch was done, they marched the three men out of the village. From our hiding spot, we could see everything that was happening in the village. The minute the Judum left the village, 10-12 people from the village followed them. We were worried about the three men they had taken away with them.

The Judum took them to the nearest police station, nearly 8 hours away. Once we reached the police station we realised that the Judum had taken three men from Palachalam as well - we met the women from Palachalam outside the station. At the station, when we asked the police for details about why the men had been taken away, the police told us that they had been detained by the Judum and that the police had

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nothing to do with this. How can the police wash their hands off the issue when our men were taken to the police station?

After several hours, we stepped out to get something to eat. When we returned, the people from Palachalam told us that all the six men had been slipped out of the station to an undisclosed location. Much later, we heard that the Judum had shot the men. Two days later, we heard that the police had announced that the three men captured from our village were Naxals. And that they had shot them dead in a shoot-out.

Even if the police and the Judum argue that Masa and Deva were adults and could have been Naxal sympathisers, how can they label Poja, a 15-year-old boy grazing his cattle, a naxal? I doubt Poja had ever seen a gun before he was arrested and shot dead.

From *Tehelka Magazine*, Vol 7, Issue 05, Dated February 06, 2010

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## **Grey Hounds gang-rape adivasi women in Vishakhapatnam**

The notorious anti-Naxal Grey Hounds force of Andhra Pradesh, lauded by the central government and several counter-insurgency experts as a model to be emulated by other states in tackling the Maoists, has once again come into limelight with their gang-rape of four adivasi women on January 22. These lawless goons hired by the state with the aim of creating terror among those supporting the revolutionary movement, have become a grave menace to society at large. There is no end to their atrocities on the innocent, unarmed people in the form of encounter murders, abductions, rapes and torture of adivasis and other oppressed sections.

The Balliguda atrocity in Vishakhapatnam district brings into one's mind memories of the Vakapalli atrocity in 2007 when 11 adivasi women were raped by these uniformed goondas. Vakapalli incident had then raised a furore in the entire state. The Balliguda incident brought forth protests by various organizations and individuals. Three of the victims were taken to KG Hospital on January 29 for medical examination. The tests could not be undertaken on the previous day on account of the threats and intimidation by the terrorist police force. The victims agreed to undergo tests only after some human rights organizations extended support to them.

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## **In Chhattisgarh, jail is the cost of filing a public interest litigation plea**

Aman Sethi

***Police detain three witnesses to killings in Gompad village, ban journalists from site  
Police decline comment on veracity of claims made in petition filed  
by Sodi Sambho and others***

***There is concern that the facts surrounding the Gompad killings might never be known***

**Konta:** The mystery surrounding the killing of nine Adivasis in Gompad village in Dantewada district in October last year is deepening, with the Chhattisgarh police detaining three more witnesses to the incident and restricting all access to the area on the pretext of Operation Green Hunt. Operation Green Hunt is a catch-all phrase, used by the police and media alike, for all major anti-naxal offensives since July 2009.

### **Total control**

As previously reported by The Hindu, the Chhattisgarh police have assumed total control over the movements of Sodi Sambho – one of several witnesses in a Supreme Court petition that alleges that the 9 civilians were killed by the security forces.

On Friday, armed policemen and Special Police Officers (SPO) lined the length of the highway from Dantewada town to Konta, the block headquarters closest to Gompad, stopping vehicles and questioning commuters. Travelling with local journalists Anil Mishra of Nayi Duniya and Yashwant Yadav of Navbharat, this correspondent was repeatedly detained along the route and told that Gompad village was out of bounds as a major anti-naxal operation was underway. Non-journalists were, however, let through.



Concerned that we might enter the village from Andhra Pradesh, we were detained by SPOs for about 45 minutes on the Chhattisgarh-A.P. border and allowed to proceed only after the intervention of Deputy Inspector-General, Dantewada, S.R.P. Kalluri.

At present, the police have refused to comment on the veracity of the claims made in the Supreme Court petition filed by Sodi and others. "The Superintendent of Police of Dantewada has been told to initiate an enquiry into the Gompad incident," said T.J. Longkumer, Inspector-General Police, Bastar.

However, witnesses to the killings insisted in interviews to *The Hindu* that the police were involved in the early morning 'sanitisation operation' and killed nine villagers (seven from Gompad and two from nearby villages), including three women and a 12-year-old girl. "The police also cut off the fingers of a two-year-old infant," said one witness speaking on condition of anonymity fearing police retribution. "The police stabbed Madavi Venka [a victim] and then shot him fatally," said another witness, "All those killed were innocent villagers with no involvement with the naxals."

The witnesses were interviewed, via a translator, at a weekly bazaar at Adralpalli on the Andhra Pradesh side of the border between the two States. Due to the police cordon around Gompad village, witness reports could not be verified independently.

The villagers also claimed that the police have detained Soyam Rama, Soyam Dulla and Kattam Dulla, three witnesses whose testimonies could prove crucial when the case comes up for hearing in the Supreme Court. "All three men have been held at the police station at Konta for the last one week," said a Gompad villager. The Adivasis were picked up by the police in the first week of January when they came to Dantewada town for a public airing of grievances, the villagers said, an assertion DIG Kalluri contests. "We have never detained these three men," he said. "They have never been taken into police custody."

However, police sources speaking to *The Hindu* on background confirmed that the three men were indeed held "for questioning" at the Konta police station till January 14 but could not confirm their current location. At present, their whereabouts are unknown.

#### **Yet to be addressed**

Police control over witnesses and restrictions on the movement of the press have raised concerns that the facts surrounding the Gompad killings might never be known. In another PIL petition pending before the Supreme Court for the past three years, allegations of large-scale killing of Adivasis and arson by the Salwa Judum and security forces have yet to be addressed.

#### **Chhattisgarh police abduct eye-witnesses to Gompad massacre carried out by CRPF-COBRA forces**



In a free state Shambo and Himanshu Kumar detained at Kanker police station on January 3

The sordid cynical drama that is being enacted right in front of the eyes of a hundred crore people for over four months since the Gompad massacre shows the fake nature of our democracy and the immense power wielded by the murderers and criminals in police uniform. On October 1, the CRPF and COBRA forces sent to Chhattisgarh by Chidambaram with the pretext of "recapturing" territory from the control of the Maoists, carried out a brutal massacre in Gompad village in Dantewada district killing 9 unarmed innocent adivasis. Then they attacked three more villages and murdered another three taking the toll on a single day to 12. Several people were eye-witnesses to these gory murders by Chidambaram's men. The story of Sodi Sambho is now quite well known. She received treatment in AIIMS, Delhi after the Court intervened and asked the Chhattisgarh government not to obstruct her. However, she was abducted from the hospital by getting her discharged before anyone could go to meet her.



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After several petitions by human rights activists in the SC that the eye-witnesses to the Gompad massacre were in illegal police custody, the court at last intervened and issued an order on February 8 to the state government to produce the 12 missing witnesses in the court by February 15. The 12 witnesses including Sodi Sambho were abducted by Chidambaram-Raman Singh's khaki goons soon after they deposed before the Supreme Court on February 5. They were illegally detained even earlier for almost 45 days in total.

In this context, the Supreme Court's remarks on the missing witnesses are worth citing. Justice Sudarshan Reddy told the government counsel: *"What is going on in this country? If citizens can't come to this court where will they go? There are no two classes of citizens. You cannot say those who do not subscribe to your philosophy have no right to live in this country. Don't try to overreach this court. If necessary, we will monitor this case."* On February 15, six of the 12 missing adivasis were produced before the Court while the other six still remain untraced. The reason why the other six were not produced was because the police thought they might utter the truth in the Court in spite of the intimidation and threats by the police. The six who were produced were tutored by the police to say that they saw the killings in their village of Gompad but are unable to identify who the murderers were. Actually the police tutored the witnesses to say that they saw the Maoists carrying out the Gompad massacre. This is what the Goebels of Chhattisgarh, Vishwa Ranjan, has been lying in public without any sense of shame whatsoever. This master liar squarely places blame on the Maoists for the massacre of adivasis committed by the police and SPOs!

It is also amusing to see how the sinister drama is being played by officials at the highest level. To impress upon the court how difficult it is to produce the witnesses the Attorney General Vahanvati openly lied to the Supreme Court that when a police party accompanied by around 300 SPOs went to the villages to fetch the witnesses they were ambushed by the Maoists at Gorkha village in Dantewada district injuring two SPOs. He even showed a fax message he had received from the state's DGP, Vishwa Ranjan, on February 9 informing of the serious situation after the land-mine blast. Whatever be the truth behind the land-mine blast, the indisputable fact is that the witnesses were actually under confinement in the office of Dantewada SP.

Like several such mass murders that have become a common feature in the police state under saffron terrorist Raman Singh, the Gompad massacre too would have gone unnoticed by the corporate media had it not been pursued consistently by some democratic and civil rights organizations and individuals despite their being branded as Maoist sympathisers.

**Union Home Minister Chidambaram thinks people are fools to believe his words when he asserts that he can do nothing at all when human right violations take place in states since law & order is a state subject and that the Centre cannot intervene. But this master liar rushes up to Raipur and Kolkata to organize meetings of the chief ministers of the Maoist-dominant states to conduct joint operations.** This fascist even compliments Raman Singh for the significant progress he achieved in the fight against the Maoists with the help of the central forces. He promises all assistance to the saffron terrorist in carrying out more blood-baths as in Gompad. For all his talk of the rule of law, this hypocrite does not even raise the "human rights violations" in Chhattisgarh. Evading responsibility for the murders of innocent adivasis by simply yelling that law & order is a state subject, Chidambaram provides complete legitimacy and immunity to the state governments for their lawless and unconstitutional acts, and gives them a blank cheque by assuring them that he would not interfere no matter what they do. Actually, it is not only the police forces of the states but also the central para-military forces that have been carrying out the worst possible crimes against the adivasis. In fact, almost all the recent atrocities carried out in Dantewada and Bijapur districts of Chhattisgarh after the commencement of Operation Green Hunt, have been the handiwork of the CRPF and COBRAs sent by Chidambaram himself. And it is with the help of these forces that the state's police and the salwa judum goons too are able to carry out their murderous campaign and inhuman atrocities against the adivasis. Hence there is not an iota of truth in what Chidambaram has been trying to say in public—that he cannot do anything regarding human right violations in states since law & order is a state subject.

Moreover, this hypocrite has gone on record for praising the saffron terrorist regime in Chhattisgarh for implementing the Centre's plan against the Maoists very well i.e Chidambaram has extended his all-out support to Raman Singh in carrying out the murder of almost one hundred unarmed innocent adivasis including women and children, raping adivasi women and chopping off the



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fingers of a two-year-old child. He is also exerting pressure on other state governments like Jharkhand and Bihar to follow Raman Singh's example and create a reign of terror.

So in the kidnapping of the 12 eye-witnesses of Gompad massacre Chidambaram is as much involved as Raman Singh for both the state and central forces had jointly perpetrated the massacre. Both the state and the Centre are in dire need to protect their mercenary forces at this critical juncture in their war against the Maoists. It is only massive outbursts of people's protests as in Kashmir that a trigger-happy policeman would be punished.

Even after the Supreme Court order only six were produced before the court on February 15. And the solicitor-general Gopal Subramanyam, who is paid by the state to defend its lawless policemen, had tried to hush up the criminal acts of the police and divert the issue of the missing witnesses by narrating how dangerous and risky were the lives of policemen working in Maoist areas. Appearing in the supreme court on February 15, Subramanyam told the court that police officers leave for duty everyday in Naxal-affected areas with a "death band" around their heads. To prove his point he produced tapes with intercepts of conversations between Maoists about their hit list of police officers.

Chidambaram pretends that nothing has happened even as his central forces accompany and extend total unconditional support to these salwa judum goons and play their own share in the murders and rapes of adivasis of this region. This trusted manager for imperialist capital in India and a loyal agent of the comprador capital lauds the significant achievements by his uniformed thugs in Chhattisgarh and the private vigilante gangs. This khadi terrorist and saffron terrorist Raman Singh hug and pat each other for their success in destroying the adivasi villages and evacuating the adivasis to pave the way for the take-over of the mineral-rich belt by their corporate masters. These thugs relentlessly squeal like chatter-boxes that Naxalites should abjure violence while they themselves carry out cold-blooded murder of poor unarmed innocent adivasis. And these hypocrites and liars par excellence abduct eye witnesses like Sodi Sambho right under public glare and get away with the crime. The judiciary assists these thugs and murderers to carry out blood-bath and get away unscathed. Anyone, even if it be a Gandhian, who sees the mayhem, arson and terror created by the gangs sent by Chidambaram and Raman Singh, would advise the Maoists to equip themselves with better arms, train up more fighters and hit back the armies of aggression and inhuman marauders.

What is needed now is more organized, more effective and more wide-spread revolutionary counter violence of the masses in defence of their land, forest, dignity and lives. And this revolutionary counter-violence should hit Chidambaram, Raman Singh and their band of rapacious inhuman exploiters and oppressors where it hurts them most. Led by the Maoist revolutionaries, the oppressed people, who constitute the overwhelming majority of the Indian population, will surely teach these neo-Nazi gangsters a fitting lesson.

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*Seema Azad, editor of the left-wing journal DASTAK published from Allahabad, was taken into custody by the police Saturday, 6th February, soon after she alighted from the train on her return from the Book Fair at Delhi. She, along with her husband and left-wing activist Vishwa Vijaya Azad, has been detained at the Khuldabad Police Station. Seema Azad just published a collection of articles criticizing the Indian government for its "Operation Greenhunt" -- the ongoing massive military attack by the government against the tribal inhabitants of central India. The booklet contains articles by noted authors and media-persons such as Arundhati Roy, Himanshu Kumar, Anil Chamaria, Punya Prasoon Vajpeyi, Sunita Narayan, and others. Although they were produced before a court in Allahabad, the details of the charges leveled against Seema Azad and Vishva Vijaya were not specified. Seema is the state secretary of the **People's Union for Civil Liberties** (PUCL) for Uttar Pradesh. The PUCL has released the following letter addressed to the Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission in New Delhi.*

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## **.Seema Is a Human Right Worker, Not a 'Naxali'**

**Letter to the National Human Right Commission, New Delhi  
by People's Union for Civil Liberties**



To,  
The Chairperson,  
National Human Right Commission  
New Delhi,  
sir,

We want to acknowledge you that Seema Azad ,journalist ,human right worker and executive member of peoples Union for civil liberties (PUCL), and her husband former student leader Vishwavijay and friend Asha, were detained by the police on Allahabad Railway Junction without any proper reason on Saturday(6th Feb 2010). Both of them were returning from World Book Fair, New Delhi by the Reewanchal Express. According to police they all are Naxalites.

Sir, the organization wants to highlight the background of detention. PUCL has continuously raised the voice against the atrocity done by the police-Bahubalies nexus in kachhari region of Allahabad and Kausambi district on the sand mining labours. Due to the pressure of politician and Bahubalies, DIG of Allahabad has framed many fraud cases against the labour movement leader. DIG had banned the 'Lal Salam' cited it as against the nationality. PUCL had condemned the ban saying that it was natural address of Communist party. According to PUCL 'Lal Salam' is a common address of labourer across the world. Raising the cause of fighting labour against the illegal collection and illegal mining of sand in Nanda ka Pura village of Kausambi, the minister Seema azad and advocate K. K. Roy of PUCL has issued a report on human right violation. In past one month the police and PAC jawans has unleashed the Lathicharge couple of times in Nanda ka Pura village. Police had torched the local office of CPI (ML) New Damocracy in Nanda village. And their leader were detained in the jail for several days in fraud cases. The voice against them, doesn't suit the mood of DIG of Allahabad and police. Police doesn't want that the voice should be raised by any organization against their working style. The arrest of Seema Azad, her husband Vishwavijay and friend Aasha is done by the police in the revenge. Seema Azad has no any connection with the Naxalite and she is working in the field of human right for past several years. She is also editor of a monthly magazine 'Dastak'. She has made report on serious issues like human right situation in eastern Utter Pradesh, labour movement, SEZ, situation of Mushar cast and Encephalitis disease. Vishwavijay, husband of Seema Azad, and his friend Aasha were active student leader of Central university of Allahabad for a long time. They have strongly raised the concerned problem of students under the banner of 'INQUALABI CHHATRA MORCHA'. The persons which are naxalite, according to the police, are working in between students and labour for a long time.

Sir, in past also UP Police has threatened the leader of PUCL working for the human right concern. PUCL has raised the questions against the encounter of Kamlesh Chaudhury in Chandauly dated 9th November. After that , in a press conference dated 11th November 2009, DGP Brijlal has articulated that "the action would be taken against the PUCL leader"(see Dainik Hindustan of November 12, 2009). The Allahabad arrest of Seema Azad is a chain of the same retaliation.

Hence, we appeal for the prompt action in the matter and also we appeal that police atrocity and human right violation should be stopped. We also demand that Seema Azad and her friend should be released as soon as possible.

- Sincerely

Vandana Mishra, General Secretary, PUCL, U.P.  
Chitranjan Singh, National Secretary, PUCL  
K.K. Roy, Advocate, state executive member, PUCL  
Ravikiran Jain, state executive member, PUCL  
Satendra Singh, Convener, People's Union for Human Rights(PUHR)  
Sandeep Pandey, winner of Magsaysay award and state executive member,PUCL  
S. R. Darapuri, former police director, state executive member,PUCL  
Anshu Malviya, Shehri Garib Sangharsh Morcha  
Shahnawaz Alam, Organization Secretary ,PUCL  
Rajeev Yadav, Organization Secretary,PUCL  
Vijay Pratap, Freelance journalist and human right worker

## The tribal 'Ruchikas' of Dantewada

Javed Iqbal, 08 Jan 2010

Operation Green Hunt to flush out the Maoist rebels from central India may have begun only last November, but the hapless tribals of Chhattisgarh's Bastar region have been at the receiving end of official hostility for years before that. It is not clear why they should attract official ire, but they do. The state machinery, of course, denies any such sentiment.

Take the case of four Muria tribal women from the village of Samsetti. The Muria say they don't know anything about rape; their word for it is closer to baalatkaar than anything else. On July 6, 2006, according to witnesses, government-appointed special police officers and Salwa Judum members gang-raped three young women, 19, 22 and 23, during a raid on Samsetti, which is in Dantewada district. Another girl was allegedly raped in January of that year. But the state wanted to know nothing about it.

When they went to file a complaint at the police station, the girls say they were threatened and chased away. It was discovered later that there were allegedly 24 cases of rape in the entire Konta block, but only six women would speak up. Four were from Samsetti, one from Arlampalli and another from Bandarpadar. The complaints, however, were not recorded.

Finally, on March 27, 2009, the women first wrote straight to the superintendent of police and the district collector. Nothing happened. Then a complaint case was jointly filed with the Judicial Magistrate First Class, Konta, on April 29.

Interestingly, while statements were being recorded at the court on June 16, the accused were said to be loitering around the corridors. On the next court date, July 17, when the testimonies of the victims were meant to be heard, the magistrate was absent, allegedly 'called away to headquarters'. The magistrate also magically disappeared on the next court date, August 12.

The magistrate, Amrit Karkate nervously rides his bicycle to court every day from his house in Konta – the bastion of the accused. A warrant for the 30 accused was finally issued in October to the police stations of Dornapal, Konta and Bhejji. Yet no arrests were made. The accused are said to be missing yet one of them is even giving speeches. The SPOs are on duty but for some reason they're missing, too.

What about the victims? Recently, these women were said to have been beaten by the same accused and forced to give their thumbprints on blank papers. They were detained for five days in Dornapal police station, where some of the accused too are stationed. Once the girls they released refused to talk to anyone. Samsetti villagers too apparently told the victims to forget about it. Throughout September last year, the sarpanch of Samsetti kept asking villagers to withdraw the cases and put their thumbprints on blank papers, otherwise the police and the SPOs would come to the village again. They did not heed the threats.

Harassment of the victims apparently continued as the women fled their village for the Gandhian NGO Vanvasi Chetna Ashram run by Himanshu Kumar. The ashram approached district collector Reena Babasaheb Kangale on August 11 to ensure the safety of the women. No assurance was forthcoming. They returned to their village. They'd be beaten.

They'd be dragged to jail, irrespective of the fact that once a warrant is issued, the accused cannot withdraw the case unless the accused are brought to court and the matter can proceed. What's the point of beating them now? Take the case of Madkam Madvi (name changed) of Bandarpadar, Konta block, who was allegedly gang-raped by SPOs at Konta police station in April 2008. According to her testimony, she was taken to the police station by the Salwa Judum, robbed of some Rs 25,000, then kept alone in a room. She was first raped by an SPO in an isolated room in the

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police station, then blindfolded and gang-raped over two days at the station by three more unidentified persons. Eventually, she was set free and after further harassment escaped to Andhra Pradesh. She had hoped to start over and had even married.

At this point, members of the Salwa Judum tracked her down in Andhra Pradesh and the harassment resumed. According to her husband, they had threatened him saying, 'We were going to sell this girl and earn some money but now that you married her, we have suffered a loss that you shall now have to pay back.' He said they stole Rs 3,500, one cow, three goats and two chickens to 'make up for their loss'. After further threats, they went back to Chhattisgarh, ensuring that Madvi would sleep in a different room in a different village every night.

Finally, through the Vanvasi Chetna Ashram, a complaint was written to the superintendent of police, Dantewada. There was no reply for months. The matter was taken to the court as a private complaint. There was a request to shift the case from Konta to the Dantewada Sessions Court on March 9 as the magistrate lived in Konta in the very neighbourhood of the accused.

Harassment began soon after. SPOs crossed the state border and searched for Madvi's house on April 10, 2009. And on December 2, Madvi's father and a boy who shared her husband's name were apprehended and taken to Chintur Police Station in Andhra Pradesh. There the father was threatened and the boy was beaten. They were told to bring Madvi to Konta police station. At this point, she had gone into hiding, knowing that her next appearance at court was to be held on December 10, when she had to depose. The deposition didn't take place. On the day of the hearing there was a rally against the Vanvasi Chetna Ashram, who used to support her emotionally and financially. As of January 6 the Vanvasi Chetna Ashram has ceased to exist, its workers arrested, its employees threatened. No one can predict how Madvi's story will end, but the omens are not encouraging.

## Compulsory voting, Chhattisgarh style

*Aman Sethi*  
**The Hindu** 14 Feb

BIJAPUR: In Lingagiri, it didn't take long to tally the results of the recently concluded panchayat elections. On January 31 this year, a sum total of four people voted in this remote village in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district. The polling booth opened on time, the polling officers were present, and then the force arrived.

Pujari Rajamma, 35, was combing her hair in her courtyard. "I was getting ready to walk down to the polling office, when the uniformed men stormed in," she said, "they checked my fingers for the voting mark." When they didn't find it, they beat her with sticks. The bruises are still visible on Rajamma's back; she can barely move her swollen left arm.

Pujari Chandeyya, 40, was sharpening a chisel, his brother, Pujari Lakshmaiah was lying in bed with a fever, when the force found them and assaulted them. "They wanted to see the vote mark." He said, "I hadn't voted yet." Gulla ganesh, 25, was waiting for his friends by a tamarind tree; Soyam Ramulu was stringing a rope when the force attacked them. In all, five villagers were assaulted by men in combat fatigues for not voting in the elections.

"The villagers have registered a complaint," said assistant sub-inspector Madan Pately. "As per their description, the CRPF or the CoBRA force could be responsible. An investigation is under way." Pately, who was present in the booth, said that the four votes were "probably" cast by those manning the booth.

### Abandoned in 2006

The attack occurred at about 10.30 a.m. after which the villagers decided to boycott the election. Had they voted, their votes would have made little difference to the outcome. The winning candidate was a foregone conclusion. Tokal Ramaiah stood unopposed for the post of sarpanch. He filed his papers in Avapalli (about two hour away by road) and has not visited the village for the last four years. The villagers found out he was contesting only after the results of the election were declared.

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Lingagiri and neighbouring Basagud were abandoned in 2006 when the state-sponsored Salwa Judum programme was in full sway. As the conflict between state forces, aided by the Salwa Judum, and the naxals intensified, villagers across Chhattisgarh fled to the relative safety of Andhra Pradesh or to camps set up by the government.

Lingagiri itself emptied out in 2006 after four villagers were killed and two raped, allegedly by the security forces and special police officers, according to testimony gathered by the National Human Rights Commission.

During hearings on an ongoing PIL, the Supreme Court in 2008 ordered the State government to rehabilitate villages destroyed in the Salwa Judum campaign. The government did nothing to implement this order but in March 2009, Lingagiri was resettled by villagers and the Van Chetna Ashram, an NGO. To date, about 2000 of Lingagiri's estimated 500 residents have returned; the rest are scattered across Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh. A successful election would have provided much needed legitimacy to state institutions in an area where naxals still exercise considerable control.

Toka Ramaiah, who will take the oath of office on February 15, is one of those who are yet to return to Lingagiri. "He hasn't set foot in the village since 2006," said a villager speaking on condition of anonymity. In Basaguda too, Bendke Kamala, another émigré sarpanch, won unopposed, both Tokal and Bendke currently reside in Bijapur – and administrative outpost about five hours by road from the villages they represent.

## **No let-up in Naxal strikes this year: Chidambaram**

### ***Minister warns trend of rising violence will continue***

Hindustan Times, February 02, 2010

The situation in the Maoist-affected states is a cause for "grave concern" and the spike in the incidents of Naxal violence will continue this year, Home Minister P. Chidambaram has warned.

More than 300 security personnel were killed in the Naxal belt in 2009, three times the number of troops killed in Jammu and Kashmir and the Northeastern states – areas where violence is at an all-time low – put together.

Nearly 600 civilians were also killed in the Naxal areas against 342 civilians killed in the other two theatres of insurgency.

Chidambaram, who will be travelling to Kolkata next week to fine-tune the coordinated offensive against the Maoists, attributed the increased violence to the decision of the states to deploy troops and engage the rebels in the districts dominated by them.

The authorities in Naxal-affected states had lived in a state of denial for too long, he said. "... I believe that it is necessary that the authority of the civilian government is established in these districts where in large tracts of land, the authority is not with the civilian government," he said at his briefing to present the ministry's monthly report.

## **When the IG jumped the Gun**

*The Indian Express, February 2, 2010*

Last week, Inspector General of Police in charge of anti-Maoist operations, Sanjiv Manik landed in soup when he called up journalists to announce that the abducted CPM leader in Sundargarh district has been killed by the Maoists. Anandmasi Horo, CPM leader, and two others were abducted by the Maoists during the two-day bandh on January 25 and 26. While the two others were released, Horo did not return home prompting the IG to predict that he has been killed by the rebels. The IG based his prediction on the 'breaking news' of some TV channels which proclaimed that Horo might have been killed. No sooner did the CPM politburo condemn the 'killing, Horo was released by the rebels. His family and party immediately slammed the IG for his 'announcement'.



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## From The Developmental Terrorism of the Indian State

*A document prepared by Sanhati Collective*

In almost all cases the affected people try to ventilate their grievances using peaceful means of protest; they take our processions, they sit on demonstrations, they submit petitions. The response of the State is remarkably consistent in all these cases: it cracks down on the peaceful protestors, sends in armed goons to attack the people, slaps false charges against the leaders and arrests them and often also resorts to police firing and violence to terrorize the people. We only need to remember Singur, Nandigram, Kalinganagar and countless other instances where peaceful and democratic forms of protest were crushed by the state with ruthless force. It is, thus, the action of the State that blocks off all forms of democratic protest and forces the poor and dispossessed to take up arms to defend their rights, as has been pointed out by social activists like Arundhati Roy. The Indian government's proposed military offensive will repeat that story all over again. Instead of addressing the source of the conflict, instead of addressing the genuine grievances of the marginalized people along the three dimensions that we have pointed to, the Indian state seems to have decided to opt for the extremely myopic option of launching a military offensive.

While the poor have seen their incomes and purchasing power tumble down precipitously in real terms, the rich have, by all accounts, prospered beyond their wildest dreams since the onset of the liberalization of the Indian economy. There is widespread evidence from recent research that the levels of income and wealth inequality in India has increased steadily and drastically since the mid 1980s. A rough overview of this growing inequality is found by juxtaposing two well known facts: (a) in 2004-05, 77 percent of the population spent less than Rs. 20 a day on consumption expenditure; and (b) according to the annual World Wealth Report released by Merrill Lynch and Capgemini in 2008, the millionaire population in India grew in 2007 by 22.6 per cent from the previous year, which is higher than in any other country in the world.

It is also worth remembering that the geographical terrain, where the government's military offensive is planned, is very well-endowed with natural resources like minerals, forest wealth, biodiversity and water resources, and has of late been the target of systematic usurpation by several large, both Indian and foreign, corporations. So far, the resistance of the local indigenous people against their displacement and dispossession has prevented the government-backed corporates from exploiting the natural resources for their own profits and without regard to ecological and social concerns. We fear that the government's offensive is also an attempt to crush such democratic and popular resistance against dispossession and impoverishment; the whole move seems to be geared towards facilitating the entry and operation of these large corporations and paving the way for unbridled exploitation of the natural resources and people of these regions.

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## Telangana Continues to Burn as Neros Sonia, Manmohan and Chidambaram fiddle

The attitude displayed by Sonia-Manmohan-Chidambaram gang towards the people of Telangana show for the umpteenth time how people's democratic aspirations have never been a



matter of concern for the reactionary rulers of our country. The ordinary Indian citizen, in the eyes of these plunderers, is worth no more than a vote and assumes importance only once in five years. They show to the world the poor emaciated Indian voter, deprived and alienated from all the so-called development that Manmohan & Co boast of, as a testimony for a "vibrant" democracy. The voter is promised a paradise on earth by the parliamentary leaches if they are elected to power. But the moment an election comes to an end, the voter is treated as dust and all the promises are consigned to the dust-bin.

Separate Telangana too is one such empty promise dished out by these traitors going by the name of mainstream democratic parties. Telangana issue had served as a vote-catcher for all the parliamentary parties which had included it in their election manifestos. But once the election season is over, these opportunistic, hypocritical, shameless, self-seeking, corrupt, power-hungry, anti-people parties have ditched the voters and have not hesitated a bit in resorting to the use of lathis and bullets to crush a just, legitimate, democratic mass agitation.

Chidambaram, the worst liar to have occupied the post of Home Minister till date, was not just indulging in flip-flop, as the media had put it mildly, but had taken his art of lying to a new record. He promised to the people of Telangana on December 9, 2010 that the political process for the formation of a separate state would commence soon. Within a fortnight, cringing before the money-power of the Andhra-Rayalaseema capitalists, he backtracked on the issue by stating that wide-ranging consultations are required and a consensus was necessary for resolving the issue. On February 1, he declared that a committee would be formed to look into the issue. Within a few days a committee headed by former Justice Sri Krishna was constituted with four other members; terms of reference were fixed and time was given until the end of 2010 for submission of report by the committee. It is significant to note that the people of Telangana have been opposing the setting up of any more committees and demanding that the government immediately declare a dead-line for the formation of a separate state. What has further infuriated the people of Telangana is the absence of the term Telangana in the terms of reference. Thus while Telangana is burning, the Neros in Delhi had only added fuel to the fire by callously skipping any reference to the issue of formation of Telangana. These hypocrites and opportunists of the highest order wanted to hunt with the hound and run with the hare by trying to balance mid-way between those who demanded Telangana and those who bitterly opposed the demand. In reality, they had kow-towed before the money power of the capitalist class hailing from the Andhra-Rayalaseema region.

It is also significant to note that the Prime Minister as well as the extra-constitutional power and the defacto head of state, Sonia Gandhi, had not opened their lips ever since the issue began to snowball into a major conflagration. Of course, the imperialist stooge Manmohan Singh did warn of the dangers of regionalism on the occasion of the Republic Day thereby hinting clearly that he was opposed to the democratic aspirations of the people of Telangana. It is clear that the comprador-feudal Congress party that has been serving the imperialists and the comprador-feudal classes of our country ever since its formation in 1885 can never dream of fulfilling the aspirations of Telangana people. Until and unless, of course, it is driven to the wall by a wave of mass resistance movement.

The great betrayal by the state and central governments has angered the people of the region as never before. The spineless, opportunist leaders of the state Congress party had tried to justify the constitution of the bogus committee interpreting it as an affirmation of the commitment of the Congress to the formation of Telangana state. But the very fact that the leaders of various parties of Andhra-Rayalaseema region had hailed the setting up of the Sri Krishna committee and had appealed to all parties in the Telangana region to abide by the recommendations of the committee showed beyond a shadow of doubt that the setting up of the committee is a conspiracy by the Centre in collusion with the feudal-capitalist comprador forces of Andhra-Rayalaseema region. It is clear that the

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committee would spare no effort to sabotage the demand for separate Telangana. At best, it might come up with a solution that is acceptable to the Andhra-Rayalaseema bourgeoisie and land mafia by excluding the city of Hyderabad from the new state of Telangana.

The tactic of the reactionary Congress leaders and the ever-lying Home Minister Chidambaram is to procrastinate on the issue with the fond hope that “emotions” of the people would die down in course of time. Thereby their dirty plan of continuing the plunder of Telangana in a united state of Andhra Pradesh could proceed unchecked. Most of the Congress legislators of Telangana region who had been yelling that they would submit their resignations if the political process for the formation of Telangana state is not initiated immediately went back on their promise without a sense of shame. They had even justified the setting up of the Sri Krishna committee by Chidambaram and began to fool the people once again by saying they would wait for six months and then resign from their posts if nothing comes out by that time. The TDP MLAs from Telangana submitted their resignation letters to the Joint Action Committee to outwit their Congress counterparts.



The social fascist CPI(M) showed its worst authoritarian and anti-people stance by bitterly opposing the demand for separate Telangana. Its greatest fear is that once Telangana demand is accepted it may have to give in to the legitimate demand for a separate Gorkhaland in the “Left Front” ruled state of West Bengal. It would not hesitate to unleash the most brutal blood-bath in Gorkhaland to retain it as the colony of the Bengali bourgeoisie and to loot the revenues of the region. Every Bengali-chauvinist party and leader is opposed to the democratic demand of the Gorkhas for a separate Gorkhaland.

The political JAC was split vertically with the betrayal by the Congress legislators of Telangana region and the dilly-dallying by the Telangana legislators from TDP and other parties. The student JAC had intensified its agitation as an answer to the Centre's regressive move of setting up the committee. Every section of society from Telangana region came out in protest resorting to many novel forms of protest. A student rally called POLIKEKA was held in the city of Warangal on February 7 attended by several lakhs of students. The police, as usual, used their strong-arm tactics and tried to disrupt the student meeting by all means at their disposal. Anyone not possessing a student ID card was barred from entering the venue of the meeting. And thousands were stopped in spite of having ID cards. Despite these heinous attempts by the police the student rally was a grand success like the *vidyarthi garjana* held in Osmania University campus in the month of January. Speaker after speaker lashed out at the Centre and the Congress party. There was unanimous demand from the students for the immediate resignation of the legislators from Telangana region of all parties.

The last fortnight witnessed peaceful as well as militant forms of struggle by the students, teachers and professors, lawyers, journalists, doctors, workers, and various sections of people. The police attacked the students in Osmania campus using lathis, teargas and rubber bullets injuring several students. The protests by students spread to other districts forcing the government to institute an enquiry into the incident. On February 19, students organized a *chalo assembly* rally to demonstrate before the Assembly which was to commence its budget session that day. The Roshaiah government mobilized over 25,000 policemen and blocked all roads leading to the Assembly. Section 144 was imposed throughout the city of Hyderabad and the entire traffic within a radius of 4km around the Assembly was brought to a halt by the overzealousness and paranoia of the police who became objects of ridicule by the common man. The OU campus resembled a battlefield with thousands of students trying to break the barricades and the police stopping them with lathis and teargas. A student committed suicide by immolating himself frustrated by the betrayals by the political parties by the cause of Telangana. This tragic incident infuriated the students and the situation turned more volatile. After the *chalo assembly* programme was disrupted by the police there were demonstrations throughout Telangana with demands for the resignation of the legislators going louder. Some legislators were gheraoed or attacked.



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The government and the police tried to cook up an excuse for using brute force against the students by saying that Maoists had entered the OU campus and the situation was going out of control. The Vice-Chancellor of the University denied that Maoists were in the hostels. The Andhra Pradesh High Court directed the government to withdraw the paramilitary forces from the Osmania campus. The Supreme Court stayed the High Court order but asked the state government to furnish proof of the entry of Maoists in the hostels. Now attempts are on by the notorious APSIB to plant Maoist literature and weapons in the rooms of some students to prove they belonged to banned CPI(Maoist). There is a deep conspiracy to suppress the student agitation in the name of a Maoist take-over. The students are prepared for any sacrifice and to forego an academic year to achieve their goal of a separate Telangana. The examinations have been already postponed six times this year. The stalemate continues with the state and central governments adamant in their stand of not conceding the demand for a separate Telangana on the one hand, and the students and other sections of people prepared to fight and die for their demand on the other. The reactionary rulers are amassing their special police forces and the central paramilitary forces to suppress the agitation in rivers of blood. The situation is indeed ripe for the growth of revolutionary forces and the emergence of a real alternative political force in the Telangana region. The intransigence of Sonia-Manmohan-Chidambaram gang at the Centre and the betrayal by the opportunist, hypocritical parties in the state on the other has created a situation for the growth of a massive militant anti-state movement. As it is, all the parliamentary parties have lost their relevance in Telangana. And these are certain to be swept away from the soil of Telangana as the mass movement transforms into a mighty tornado.



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## COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE



*Press Release:*

*February 11, 2010*

### **FASCIST CHIDAMBARAM! FIRST ADHERE TO THE CONSTITUTION BEFORE PROPOSING FOR TALKS!**

### **HALT STATE TERROR BEFORE ASKING MAOISTS TO ABJURE VIOLENCE!!**

Speaking to the media after concluding the Kolkata meeting of the four states of Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa, Union Home Minister Chidambaram has once again put forth his empty, meaningless and diversionary proposal for talks with the CPI(Maoist) with the rider that the Maoists should abjure violence. The docile media hasn't even the minimum ethics to question this man in charge of internal security whose Nazi acts have become the biggest threat to the security of the Indian people. If the media showed a sense of honesty and integrity it would have grilled Chidambaram for his endless lies about his brutal war and taken him to task for the cruel murders in dantewada and Bijapur in the most ghastly manner that are comparable to the bizarre stories under the military dictatorships in the Latin American countries during the 1960s-80s. The audacity with which Chidambaram is asking the Maoists to abjure violence while his own security forces under his direct supervision are committing the most inhuman crimes in the adivasi areas is most alarming. It shows how Hitlers can rise up easily when a large section of the society not directly related to the issue keeps silent, and the media, which knows the truth, behaves in a spineless, docile manner.

But who does Chidambaram want to fool with his peace chants? Chidambaram's chant for peace is like the wolf preaching peace to the sheep while devouring it. In the past fortnight or so, fascist Chidambaram has been holding hectic meetings with the chief ministers and the top police brass of the states in Raipur, Delhi and Kolkata in his desperation to show results to his masters abroad and the comprador business houses in the country. Tatas, Mittals, Jindals, Vedanata, Essar and others have been goading the Home Minister to speed up his suppression campaign of Green Hunt so that they can complete their own greed hunt. While the vast majority of the people of our country are suffering terrible starvation, poverty, destitution and disease; as thousands of farmers are committing suicides further swelling the two hundred thousand suicides already recorded in just 12 years; as a significant chunk of the country's population is denied safe drinking water after 62 years of so-called independence; as the entire population is groaning under the terrible burden of spiraling prices due to the greed and callousness of the hoarders and political leaders ruling our country; as people are dropping like flies due to lack of food, water, clothing, shelter, medicine; the reactionary rulers and fascists like Chidambaram allot thousands of crores for strengthening and modernizing their repressive state apparatus, setting up and arming private vigilante gangs, laying cement roads for the quick movement of troops, building airbases, helipads, buying UAVs, mine-proof vehicles, and so on for crushing people's resistance.

The wolves in khadi clothing ruling our country—Manmohan Singhs, Chidambarams, Raman Singhs, Naveen Patnaiks, Buddhadebs and the like—have no moral right to ask the Maoists to abjure violence. The Maoist violence is only the defensive violence of the oppressed; it is revolutionary counter-violence of the masses who are subjected to the worst unimaginable forms of state terror and violence.



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People of our country should demand the reactionary rulers to give up their reign of terror on the adivasi population. They should exert pressure on Chidambaram and other reactionary liars to abjure state terror and to publicly assure that they would adhere to the Indian Constitution by which they swear day in and day out. If the rulers are serious about talks with Maoists then they should first create a conducive atmosphere adhering at least to what is guaranteed by the Indian constitution such as not violating the fundamental rights of the citizens, arresting and punishing those police officials who had carried out murders and rapes of adivasis, immediately releasing sodi sambho and other key witnesses to the murders in Gompad who were kidnapped by the Chhattisgarh police, stop burning the houses and foodgrains of adivasis, stop looting their property, stop murders and rapes, and other atrocities; release all those arrested in the name of Maoists; repeal all draconian laws and Acts such as the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), Chhattisgarh Special Powers Act, etc.

The CC, CPI(Maoist) unequivocally asserts that the government's proposal for peace talks is only a diversionary tactic and a propaganda gimmick to appease the critical sections and to unleash a more cruel blood-bath. The minimum criteria for proposing talks or asking the Maoists to abjure violence is to adhere to the Constitution and stop murders, rapes, abductions,, tortures of adivasis and other oppressed people, release all those who are arrested and pushed into the jail on flimsy cooked up charges, ensure that the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution are not violated by the uniformed goondas, and punish those guilty of such atrocities on innocent people. We appeal to all democratic and peace-loving forces to bring pressure on die-hard reactionaries and paid agents of the imperialist forces like Manmohan, Chidambaram, Raman Singh, Naveen Patnaik, Buddhadeb and others to first adhere to the Indian Constitution and put an immediate halt to brutal, inhuman state terror. Chidambaram should publicly assure that his uniformed goons will give up their weapons of mass murders and rapes of adivasis and that all those responsible for the mayhem and arson in the adivasi-inhabited regions would be punished. Until then all his chatter about abjuring violence, talks etc would be empty, meaningless and sheer nonsense. Media should grill Chidambaram, Raman Singh and the concerned officials over the murders and rapes of adivasis and put them in the dock. Chidambaram will surely be tried for his crimes against humanity which are so glaringly exposed by Gandhians like Himanshu and others.

Azad,  
Spokesperson,  
Central Committee,  
CPI(Maoist)

## **COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE**



*Press Release:*

*February 13, 2010*

### **Release Maoist leaders comrades Balraj, Chintanji, Ashadi and others unconditionally! Condemn the brutal offensive by the Central and state governments against Maoist revolutionaries!**

On February 6, 2010 two CC members—comrades Balraj (also a member of the Politbureau) and Chintanji—were abducted along with some state committee members and supporters of revolution by the Uttar Pradesh police. The notorious Andhra Pradesh Special Intelligence Bureau and the central Intelligence Bureau played a key role in the abduction of the Maoist leaders who were kept in illegal custody for 4 days and cruelly tortured.

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Three of the abducted—revolutionary women’s organization leader comrade Asha, human rights activist and state secretary of PUCL Seema and her partner Vishwavijay Azad who were bringing out a progressive magazine called *Dastak*—were produced in the court on the 8<sup>th</sup> while the others were produced on the next day. The police claimed to have arrested comrade Asha in Gorakhpur and the other two in Allahabad. Asha and Seema were actually returning from the World Book Fair in Delhi and were arrested along with Vishwa Vijay Azad when he went to receive them in Allahabad railway station.

These arrests are part of the unprecedented brutal offensive unleashed by the central and state governments against the CPI(Maoist). The central focus of this joint offensive led by the central forces under the direct supervision of fascist Chidambaram is the Maoist leadership in the country. In the past one year, one CC member—comrade Patel Sudhakar—was abducted and murdered in cold blood by the APSIB, two Politbureau members—comrades Kobad Ghandy and Balraj—and two CC members—comrades Ashutosh and Chintanji—were arrested, besides several members of the state committees and other Party committees at various levels.

Besides the central and state leadership of CPI(Maoist), the central and various state governments have also targeted their attacks on those who extend moral support to the Indian revolution, civil liberties and human rights activists, and on the people who are resisting the brutal state offensive. Unarmed, innocent adivasis have become an easy prey for the sadistic mercenary police and paramilitary forces sent by the khadi and saffron terrorist rulers.

The arrest of comrade Balraj and Chintanji is a great loss to the Indian revolution particularly in the northern part of India. Comrade Balraj had taken charge as the secretary of the Northern Regional Bureau after the arrest of comrade Pramod Mishra (Janardhanji) in May 2008. He played a key role in building the revolutionary movement in North Bihar, UP, Uttarakhand and other parts of North India. He was elected to the Politbureau in the CC meeting soon after the 9<sup>th</sup> Congress-Unity Congress of the CPI(Maoist) in January-February 2007. Comrade Chintanji, a PhD from JNU, became a member of the CC, CPI(Maoist) in September 2004 following the merger of the erstwhile CPI(ML)[PW] and MCCI and was the secretary of 3U SAC and a member of NRB until his arrest in 2006. He was released from jail in December 2009 and went underground immediately. The arrest of the two senior leaders of the CPI(Maoist) took place with the close co-ordination of the intelligence agencies of the central government, the APSIB and the UP Intelligence.

Comrade Ashadi was an active organizer and leader of the revolutionary women’s movement in Bihar and UP and a member of the central mahila sub-committee of the CPI(Maoist). Seema Azad is an executive member of the UP state unit of the PUCL and has been active in exposing the corrupt practices of the sand mafia, politicians and the bureaucracy. She was actively involved in exposing human rights violations of the ordinary citizens. Quite naturally, the police, hand in glove with the mafia gangs and corrupt bureaucrat-politician nexus, have immense grouse against the civil rights activists like Seema. Vishwavijay was a student leader and actively involved in publishing and distributing revolutionary and progressive literature.

The CC, CPI(Maoist), demands the immediate and unconditional release of comrade Balraj, Chintanji, Ashadi, Vishwavijay, Seema, and others arrested in UP. It calls upon the revolutionary, democratic organizations, individuals, and the people of the entire country to build up mass resistance movement to force the reactionary rulers to release our leaders. It calls upon the entire rank and file of the Party to beware of the intrigues and machinations of the enemy and show greater vigilance to prevent further losses of leadership and cadre.

Let us train and develop able successors to the arrested leaders. Let us preserve our leadership and Party cadre. Let us build country-wide mass resistance movement and step up the armed tactical counter-offensives against the enemy. Let us achieve a qualitative leap in the ongoing people’s war by defeating the biggest country-wide armed offensive by the comprador-feudal ruling classes backed by the imperialists.

Azad,  
Spokesperson,  
Central Committee,  
CPI(Maoist)

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## COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE



*Press Release:*

*February 17, 2010*

### **Hail the heroic raid by PLGA on Silda camp in Paschim Mednipur! Armed counter-offensive is inevitable to defend the poor from the brutal Operation Green Hunt unleashed by bandits Chidambaram and Buddhadeb!!**

On February 15, Maoist guerrillas of the PLGA carried out a daring day-light raid on a camp consisting of 51 Eastern Frontier Rifles personnel at Silda in West Midnapore district of West Bengal and annihilated at least 24 mercenary troops. The entire camp was run over by the heroic PLGA guerrillas accompanied by scores of people's militia members. A huge cache of sophisticated arms like AK-47s, INSAS and SLRs along with several thousand rounds of ammunition were seized from the enemy forces. The attack came just six days after the Kolkata meeting of murderers from the four states of Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa convened by Union Home Minister Chidambaram on February 9 to step up joint operations against the Maoists and the adivasi people of the region.

The daring tactical counter-offensive by brave PLGA warriors is a fitting reply to Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram's countrywide counter-revolutionary armed onslaught against the Maoists in the name of Operation Green Hunt that had taken a heavy toll of innocent adivasi lives in recent months particularly in the states of Chhattisgarh, Orissa, West Bengal and Maharashtra. The khaki mercenaries sent by Chidambaram have created a reign of terror in the adivasi villages murdering, abducting and torturing adivasis; raping adivasi women; destroying their houses and property; burning the foodgrains and stealing hens, pigs, goats etc.; occupying the schools thereby preventing the children from pursuing their studies; harassing petty traders, teachers, doctors, and other employees; blocking the entry of civil rights activists and impartial observers to prevent the truth from flowing out; abducting eye-witnesses to police murders of adivasis; spreading canards and malicious slander against Maoist leaders and those belonging to the democratic and revolutionary mass organizations; and countless other atrocities on unarmed innocent adivasis. These mercenaries deployed by Chidambaram, Raman Singh, Buddhadeb, Naveen Patnaik and others have disturbed peace and created insecurity for the people of the vast adivasi-inhabited region—the so-called Red Corridor. To bring peace to the region there is no other way than to throw out the evil forces that are disrupting peace and creating brutal terror. **As long as these forces persist in their brutal attacks on innocent unarmed people, as long as they carry on their counter-revolutionary suppression campaigns such as Green Hunt, the Maoist guerrillas and the oppressed people have no other option but to retaliate as in Silda.** The sole responsibility for the death of the EFR jawans in Silda lies with Chidambaram and Buddhadeb who are using them as cannon-fodder in their dirty counter-revolutionary war for the mineral wealth of the adivasi regions. **The CC, CPI(Maoist) appeals to the jawans of the state and central paramilitary forces not to become cannon-fodder in this war waged by a tiny parasitic exploiting class against the poor and oppressed people of our country.**

Chidambaram began his Operation Green Hunt with the attack on the people's movement in Lalgah thinking that dominating the area would be a cake walk since the armed Maoists present there were very few in number. He nurtured the fond hope that Lalgah would serve as a laboratory for his bigger genocidal operations in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa and elsewhere. Chidambaram, like every other fascist dictator in history, believes that brute force can extinguish the fire of revolution.

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Relying excessively, rather solely, on the numerical strength and capabilities of his mercenary soldiers, the Sonia-Manmohan-Chidambaram gang is trying to crush a just people's rebellion. But what decides the ultimate outcome in the people's war is the role of the people, not weapons or elite anti-Naxal commando forces.

The successful heroic raid at Silda by Maoist guerrillas points to the massive ground swell of support for the Maoists in Jangalmahal region. Buddhadeb and Chidambaram had helped the adivasi masses of the region to grasp the need for overthrowing the repressive state apparatus by means of an armed revolution. Silda raid is a fitting answer to the unprecedented brutal armed offensive by the Indian state on the oppressed and exploited people of our country. It is a counter-offensive aimed at establishing peace in a region disturbed by the khaki mercenaries sent by Chidambaram and Buddhadeb. People are increasingly realising that peace can be established in the region not by mere appeals, peaceful protests, petitions against human rights violations in so-called courts of law, but through armed resistance by the masses themselves. **The armed camps set up in the region have become objects of intense hatred and symbols of brutal oppression and suppression of the masses. It is only by wiping out these armed camps of the people's enemies that peace can be established in the region and a sense of security can develop among the people. This is the only real answer to the Operation Green Hunt that is intended to pave the way for the Greed Hunt of the MNCs and comprador big capital.**

Today the biggest threats to peace in the country are the reactionary rulers whose policies have led the country into darkness. The anti-people policies of the rulers have created extreme insecurity, misery, starvation, mass suicides, price-rise, unemployment, disease, and what not for the vast majority of the people. But the rulers are bulging forever becoming billionaires and stashing away their filthy black money sucked from the poor into Swiss banks and benami holdings. It is in service of these unscrupulous exploiters and filthy rich that fascists like Chidambaram unleash the worst kinds of atrocities on poor unarmed people.

The horror-filled stories of Dantewada and Bijapur where the police gun down over a score of innocent adivasis every week, where even eye-witnesses to these cold-blooded murders are abducted and threatened by the police goons, where the police have become a law unto themselves, should open the eyes of those who shout against acts of revolutionary counter-violence carried out by Maoist guerrillas. It is time all democratic forces rally in support of the people's war waged by the Maoists for the liberation of our country from the rapacious clutches of the imperialists and a handful of corporate elites.

Azad,  
Spokesperson,  
Central committee, CPI(Maoist)

## COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST)

### CENTRAL COMMITTEE



*Press Release:*

*February 23, 2010*

### **72-DAY CEASE-FIRE OFFER BY CPI(MAOIST) EXPOSES CHIDAMBARAM'S 72-HOUR HUMBUG!**

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## PARASITIC RULERS CAN NEVER MUSTER COURAGE TO HOLD TALKS WITH MAOISTS ON PEOPLE'S ISSUES!

On February 22, a proposal for a cease-fire followed by talks was made to the government by CPI(Maoist) Polit Bureau member comrade Kishenji through a statement sent to the media. The statement assured that the Maoists would stop their revolutionary counter-violence if the state too halted its violence for 72 days from February 25 to May 7. The offer was immediately dubbed as a joke by the Home Ministry and declared that the government would consider the issue of talks without any pre-conditions. On February 23, Union Home Minister Chidambaram dictated to the Maoists what they should give in writing to the government i.e. "We will abjure violence and we are prepared for talks". Saying that he likes no ifs, no buts and no conditions, he provided a fax number to the Maoists through the media for sending a short, simple statement. By the very approach and attitude of this Indian avatar of Herr Hitler one can understand how serious he is in addressing the issues of the people. It also reflects upon his fascist, authoritarian and arrogant mind-set which thinks that brute force can end Naxalism. Any responsible, mature and sane person who is interested in bringing an end to violence and seriously concerned about addressing the people's issues would have welcomed the proposal of the CPI(Maoist) and spelt out what measures the government would initiate to create a conducive atmosphere for a dialogue. The CC, CPI(Maoist) condemns this cynical, hypocritical and non-serious attitude on the part of the Union Home Minister Chidambaram which also exposes his 72-hour-abjure-violence humbug.

What the Home Minister intends to say is that its uniformed goonda forces would continue their mayhem and their murderous campaign against the unarmed innocent adivasis while the Maoists should abjure their legitimate counter-violence in self-defence. Saffron terrorist BJP, lawless police officials and some media mercenaries maintained by the tiny corporate elite have reacted on expected lines: the Maoists have come up with the proposal of cease-fire at this juncture as they are unable to confront Operation Green Hunt and are in a losing situation; the Maoists want to use the period of cease-fire to regroup and recoup; Maoists are using this only as a ploy to win over the intellectuals who are perceived to be distancing themselves from the Maoists; and so on. These vultures want to step up state terror and crush people's resistance through brute force to achieve the peace of the graveyard.

The panicky reaction of Chidambaram, GK Pillai and other war-mongers to the proposal of CPI(Maoist) for a 72-day cease-fire on both sides reminds us of the amusing story of the prince and the dragon. A prince was dreaming all his life to see the dragon. But when he confronted the dragon in real life the prince collapsed due to heart-attack. The story of Chidambaram and his endless rhetoric of talks seem to be no different. For over three months, Chidambaram had been yelling from roof-tops that he is willing to talk with the Maoists and adopt a positive attitude to resolve the issues raised by the Maoists if they halted violence for 72 hours. But when the Maoists came out with a concrete proposal for a cease-fire for 72 days it became a virtual nightmare to this modern-day prince.

Chidambaram had never anticipated that Maoists would respond seriously to his 72-hour farcical drama. If he did, he would never have made such an offer in the first place. It was only meant to fool the people and win them over to his side by showing how generous and peace-loving he is and how it is the Maoists themselves who are intransigent and unwilling to give up violence. He also created a reign of terror in the Maoist-dominated areas to ensure that the Maoists would never think of a cease-fire or talks. When the ulterior motives behind Chidambaram's war against the Maoists is to plunder the invaluable mineral wealth lying beneath the soil of the so-called Red Corridor, it is not difficult to see why he would ever think of holding a dialogue on the issue of MOUs and SEZs, no matter what he might utter for public consumption. The tiny parasitic corporate elite—the Tatas, Mittals, Jindals, Essar, Vedanta, POSCO etc—that funds Manmohan, Chidambaram and their party, brought them to power, that controls the state policy, can never allow a Chidambaram (if at all he seriously thinks of holding a dialogue on MOUs) to dilute the MOUs or stop them from grabbing the mineral wealth of this vast region.

Moreover, the reactionary ruling classes of our country can never think of addressing the real issues of the people. Entering into talks with the Maoists would completely expose the Govt's stand on the basic issues of the people such as: land, SEZs and displacement, illegal mining, feudal oppression, rights of the workers, peasants, middle class employees, democratic rights, state brutalities, price rise, unemployment,



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corruption, sell-out to imperialists, etc. The rulers have simply no courage to confront the Maoists ideologically and politically. The sole aim of the rulers is to completely suppress the people's revolts in rivers of blood and take over the entire mineral-rich territory. That is why thousands of crores of rupees are spent on strengthening and modernizing the repressive state apparatus, constructing roads and other infrastructure needed for the movement of their troops, building airbases and helipads, acquiring UAVs, mine-proof vehicles, setting up armed vigilante gangs and an extensive intelligence network, and so on.

People of our country should exert pressure on Chidambaram and other liars to abjure state terror and create a conducive atmosphere by adhering at least to what is guaranteed by the Indian constitution. As our Party has pointed out repeatedly, the minimum criteria for talks is to adhere to the Constitution and stop murders, rapes, abductions, tortures of adivasis and other oppressed people, release all those who are arrested and pushed into the jail on flimsy cooked up charges, ensure that the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution are not violated by the state's goondas, and punish all those guilty of such atrocities on innocent people. We appeal to all democratic and peace-loving forces to bring pressure on the government to put an immediate halt to brutal, inhuman state terror. A cessation of hostilities by both sides for a specific time-period is the minimum requirement to proceed any further towards talks. Even a layman would not describe this as a pre-condition but as a minimum basis to create a conducive atmosphere. If the rulers think the Maoists are proposing cease-fire from a position of weakness they are gravely mistaken. It is because the CPI(Maoist) has great concern for the oppressed people that it has proposed a cease-fire that could be of some help to poor adivasis living in conditions of the worst famine of the decade and brutal state terror. If Chidambaram and his gang of war-mongers persist in waging war against people we can only say that the spiral of violence and counter-violence will escalate to an unprecedented, undesirable and unmanageable level causing loss of several innocent lives.

Azad,  
Spokesperson,  
Central Committee,  
CPI(Maoist)

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**Red Salutes to the Comrades killed  
in a fake encounter in the forest area between Palnar and  
Salnar in Gangalur on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010**



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## Chidambaram's Great 72-Hour Fraud Exposed after the Maoist Proposal for a 72-Day Cease-Fire

Union Home Minister Chidambaram, who has been waxing eloquently in the past three months that he would consider all issues if the CPI(Maoist) abjured violence for 72 hours, received a jolt when a Polit Bureau member of the CPI(Maoist) sent a proposal through the media on February 22 that the Maoists are ready to observe a 72-Day cease-fire if the government reciprocated accordingly. The Home Minister, who had least expected such a proposal from the Maoists, began to desperately find a way out of a situation he had never thought he would face even in his dreams. Neither he, nor the parasitic class of tiny corporate elites he represents, is prepared to go for a cease-fire, no matter what he or the representatives of his class have been continuously yelling for the sake of public consumption.

The hawks in the Home Ministry immediately dismissed the Maoist proposal as a joke. Later Chidambaram tried to dupe the people once again by stating that the Maoists were placing conditions and that they should abjure violence unconditionally. According to media reports of February 24, Chidambaram was said to have declared that he would respond promptly if the Maoists faxed him an authentic proposal in writing, agreeing to give up violence and with no pre-conditions for talks. What this great fraud means is that the Maoists should submit like meek sheep even as his uniformed goondas continue their murders, abductions and tortures of anyone suspected to be sympathetic to the Maoists, gang-rape adivasi women, destroy adivasi homes and property, and carry out inhuman, savage atrocities on people. Intoxicated by the massive brute force under his control, fascist Chidambaram thinks like every fascist dictator in history that he could crush the people's war with his mercenary force. What if the poor soldier dies in this war waged by the corporate elites for coveting the mineral wealth of the adivasi areas under Maoist domination! What if the poor emaciated adivasi is crushed under the fascist boots of the state! This man cannot think differently from a George Bush, a Tony Blair or a Barack Obama. For the lure of hidden wealth and the brute force at his disposal would not allow him to think rationally and in terms of loss to human lives.

The hawks in the Home Ministry had jumped to the conclusion that the CPI(Maoist) has made the proposal due to its weakness and that it wants to utilize the period of cease-fire for regrouping and recouping. Media mercenaries like Arnab Goswami of Times Now, Chandan Mitra of Pioneer and the like, who had been aggressively pushing for a relentless war on the adivasis who, they think, are not a specie fit to live alongside civilised people like themselves, had even concocted stories like a Maoist attack on a CRPF camp near Lalgarh soon after sending the proposal for a cease-fire.

It is clear that the war-mongering hawks in Delhi will concoct anything in order to unleash their bloody war on the people. They will even set fire to their own police stations and the Parliament just like a Hitler setting fire to the Reichstag in order to justify their war on the Maoists and the adivasi people they lead. It reflects poorly on the political maturity and intellectual wisdom of those who think that the proposal for cease-fire made by a representative of the CPI(Maoist) is a sign of the Party's weakness and is intended to buy time. The pathetic condition of the ordinary people, almost three lakhs of whom had fled from Chhattisgarh to the neighbouring states due to state terror and state-sponsored terror is of no concern for these war-hungry hawks. The irresponsible, arrogant, and callous attitude of Chidambaram and the Union Government will lead to an unprecedented escalation of state violence and revolutionary counter-violence. There is no alternative before the Maoist revolutionaries but to take the war to a higher level and to new fronts and areas if Chidambaram and the war-hungry hawks persist with the same attitude and repressive policies.

### **Fascist Chidambaram-Buddhadeb's mercenaries carry out cold-blooded murder of the PCAPA President Lalmohan Tudu**

*PCAPA leader Lalmohan Tudu was murdered in front of his house by the CRPF-state police-CPI(M) combine on February 22. The police floated a story that Tudu was killed along with two others when the Maoists attacked a CRPF camp in Katapahari, situated 5 km from Lalgarh town. Condemning the brutal killing, Kishanji said: "there has been no Maoist attack on the Katapahari camp on 22<sup>nd</sup> night. We will send the Buddhadeb government to the grave for this atrocity." Even a police official said that there was no sign of exchange of fire in the camp area and that the camp was like an impregnable fortress which a small group cannot dare to attack. A week-long bandh from February 24 is being observed by the PCAPA in the three districts and a 24-hour bandh by CPI(Maoist) on February 27 against this cowardly murder by Chidambaram-Buddhadeb's armed gangs. People shall certainly avenge the brutal murder of their leader and teach a fitting lesson to Chidambaram, Buddhadeb and their khaki-clad armed mercenary gangs.*