

# Maoist Information Bulletin - 14

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# BLOOD-THIRSTY CHIDAMBARAM, WHO GAVE YOU THE RIGHT TO WAGE THIS BLOODY INHUMAN WAR AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF INDIA?

The series of bloody attacks unleashed in recent months by the khaki and olive-clad troops all over the adivasi-inhabited areas, stretching from West Midnapore-Purulia-Bankura in West Bengal and cutting across Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa to the North Andhra and North Telangana region in Andhra Pradesh, had shocked the entire country. The hundred-odd deaths resulting from these murderous attacks in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and elsewhere are projected by the police top brass and their political masters in the concerned states as well as by the chief of all these gangsters, Home Minister Chidambaram, as the elimination of Maoist cadre. However, the most disturbing truth is that not a single death has taken place in the course of a real encounter between the police establishment. Then there are hundreds of arrests of innocent adivasis who are thrown into jails after third degree torture that is mastered as a special skill by the fascist police. These thugs, who are hired by the state at the cost of people's hard-earned money for the protection of the gangsters and bandits occupying the seats of power, have become cruel tormentors of the vast majority of the oppressed people.

The gory happenings in the entire adivasi-belt are really frightening and remind us of the dark days of internal Emergency. They seem like the horrific episodes from Pinochet's fascist regime in Chile or from the various military dictatorial regimes in the Latin American countries of the 1970s and 80s. And the most ironic part of this sordid drama is that all this is done in the name of democracy! Our democracy allows the reactionary rulers and their mercenary armed police gangs to perpetrate every type of horror on the people without the need to answer anyone. The police, paramilitary and the army have the licence to kill, abduct, torture, rape, and destroy property of the people. No questions will be asked, no cases will be filed. On the contrary, promotions, rewards and umpteen incentives await those who excel in such notoriety. Most of these roques even get gallantry awards for their bravery in murdering innocent, unarmed people in the name of Maoists!! It is only when there is a massive public outrage or intra-ruling class dog-fight that a Vanjara, a Rathore, a Daya Nayak, a Pradeep Sharma is formally punished. But for such an exception, the vast herds of these death squads going by the name of security forces remain unscathed and end up as millionaires and even billionaires. Until yesterday all this looked incredible to those who were brought up in a relatively secure atmosphere or had their ears dinned with the trash of our being the largest democracy. But even these sections and classes are feeling the heat as the case of Ruchika and others had revealed.

Today it has become extremely difficult for the reactionary rulers to convince the ordinary citizen that a policeman is not a murderer in uniform. So blatant have the misdeeds of the uniformed force become today. Yet, a rapist like SRP Kalluri is promoted to the post of DIG and is sent to Dantewada to let loose his campaign of murder and rape to the satisfaction of a Raman Singh and a Chidambaram. Vishwa Ranjan, RK Vij, Amaresh Mishra, Longkumar, Rahul Sharma and a host of notorious killers are specially selected to oversee Chidambaram's blood-bath in the name of Operation Green Hunt in Chhattisgarh.

Thus, notwithstanding the startling facts that stare at our faces, the reactionary rulers of our country continue to defend their mercenary forces and absolve them of all their crimes against humanity. For, without the protection provided by these forces the reactionary rulers cannot survive for a day. They would be lynched to death by the vast suffering, humiliated, deprived, persecuted, alienated masses. The huge wealth amassed by these oppressors, lakhs of crores of rupees stashed away in foreign banks, their palatial buildings and luxurious life-styles while three-quarters of the population are forced to survive on a mere 20 rupees a day, would hardly evoke sympathy if the members of this Club of tormentors are lynched by the dispossessed and the wretched of the earth.

The most repugnant part of this heinous military operation called Operation Green Hunt is the denial of its very existence by the neo-Nazi Home Minister of India. Even as this biggest liar goes on yelling that Green Hunt is a media invention and challenges the media to cite the name of one government official who spoke of the Operation, his saffron satraps Raman Singh and Nankiram Kanwar, chief minister and home minister of Chhattisgarh, as well as all the top police officials,

address press conferences and claim how they are achieving successes in the ongoing Operation Green Hunt. Last week, DIG of anti-Naxal operations of Dantewada range SRP Kalluri, who oversaw the murder of over 70 adivasis in the past four months in Dantewada and Bijapur districts, claimed that his men scored significant victories against the Maoists. So had the state's chief of the police thugs, Vishwa Ranjan, who seems to have obtained his doctorate degree in the subject of *"how to carry out murders, rapes and torture and get away with it."* 

The director of this entire war against the innocent people, Chidambaram himself, has proved to be a master weaver of white lies and an adept in managing the media. He tries paint the Maoists as mindless murderers who would have killed Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi had he been alive today. This man imagines that he had touched an emotional chord among the peace-loving people of the country by invoking the name of Gandhi and non-violence. But his mercenary forces abduct, torture and murder at will even Gandhian activists in Chhattisgarh. Veteran Gandhian leader in Chhattisgarh, Himanshu Kumar of vanvasi chethna ashram in Dantewada, is hounded and persecuted for his humanitarian service for the adivasis and for his defence of the Constitutionally-guaranteed rights of the oppressed, voiceless people. His ashram is demolished, he is not allowed to move around, not allowed to rent a house, and armed hooligans sponsored by the state issue daily threats that he should leave Chhattisgarh. Why will Gandhians be tolerated in a police state? Interestingly, the ideologically opposite Maoists had never interfered in the humanitarian work being carried out by Himanshu ever since he began his work in Dantewada almost two decades ago. Yet our Chidambaram has the temerity to allege that Maoists would have killed Gandhi if he were alive today! He, however, finds himself quite comfortable in bed with the saffron fascist gangsters who had murdered Gandhi!! And he provides complete assistance to these saffron fascists in Chhattisgarh to arrest, torture, murder and persecute the Gandhian social workers who, at least, are living among the oppressed people and doing some reformist work. Chidambaram's senseless war on anyone and everyone who question the misdeeds of the police and the powersthat-be is alienating even those who had been steadfast believers in non-violence and oppose the revolutionary counter-violence of the Maoists. Thanks to the state terror and state-sponsored terror unleashed by Chidambaram-Raman Singh bandit gang, any talk of non-violent resistance has become a joke today, and very soon, there will hardly be anyone left does not believe in the need for violent resistance to confront an arrogant, savage police state.

Sonia-Manmohan-Chidambaram's war is not just a war against the Maoists.

It is a brutal war against all those who cherish democratic values and human rights.

It is a war against all those liberal-minded citizens who still harbor illusions on the Indian Constitution which, in reality, is nothing but a worthless paper for the vast majority of the Indian people.

It is a war against all those who aspire for peace and security.

It is a war against civil society and all democratic and human values.

It is a war that is intended to stamp out even the minimal democratic space that exists in a semicolonial semi-feudal state.

No wonder, every organization and social activist who made attempts to visit Dantewada to speak to the victims of state terror and investigate the atrocities of the police were hounded out and harassed by Raman Singh's goons. No wonder, advocates of peace, and non-violent social activists





like Medha Patkar, Sandeep Pandey, Kavita Srivatsav and two dozen concerned individuals, were stopped while on a visit to Dantewada and forced to go back by a state-sponsored demonstration of salwa judum terrorists who had a miraculous metamorphosis overnight into *Ma Danteswari Swabhiman Manch* as *salwa judum* had become a hated name. No wonder, activists of 25-odd mahila organisations who tried to proceed to Dantewada on 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> of last December were forced to return by these same state-sponsored goons who harassed them all through their route.

No wonder, even the Home Minister who had promised to attend the *jan sunwayi* organized by Himanshu and others in Dantewada chose not to proceed lest the gruesome truth would mock at him and at the men who are waging the brutal war on the people. Speaking at a press conference after provoking the attacks on the NPA activists and others, DGP Vishwa Ranjan said the police were enquiring into the "possible links" of the NGOs with Maoists. To establish his point he quoted the tactics of the Maoists from the Urban Perspective Paper of the CPI(Maoist) which spoke of doing fractional work in various political parties, mass organizations, trade unions, NGOs and so on. This crooked mind conveniently avoided all other organizations and mentioned NGOs with the aim of targeting them for attack. Will he also look for Maoists in his police force and the Indian Army which too are mentioned in the Maoist document for infiltration? Or the various parliamentary parties into which Maoists said they would have to infiltrate? It is clear that this murderer who writes poems using the blood of the poor innocent adivasis as his ink is preparing the ground for pouncing on the members of civil society who are questioning his murderous campaign. With saffron Raman Singh and khadi Chidambaram on his side Vishwa Ranjan cares a hoot for the public outcry over the murders he commits.

Every citizen of India should rise up and question why the government is waging this brutal war on the people, should condemn and demand that the government immediately call a halt to its Operation Greed Hunt and its campaign of murders, rapes, abductions, tortures, loot and arson in adivasi villages, to withdraw the murderers and rapists in police uniform from these villages, to punish these culprits perpetrating inhuman crimes against the people. They should tell Chidambaram that the people of India are not with him in his murderous campaign against the adivasis and that has no right to wage war in the name of the Indian people.

The police and the political parties ruling various states have been desperately trying to make sure that the truth does not reach the outside world. DGP Vishwa Ranjan, a psuedo-intellectual and a self-styled poet, had warned journalists not to write anything in favour of the Maoists. His man in charge of Dantewada, SRP Kalluri, called a meeting of the journalists and threatened them with dire consequences if they ventured to report on Maoists or against the police atrocities.

As this sordid drama of mass murders goes on, people are not taking it lying down. The people's armed resistance is going to ever higher levels sending nightmares to the reactionaries who dreamt that brute force could stifle resistance. Chidambaram himself admitted that the "situation in Lalgarh is depressing." This street rowdy in the guise of a soft-spoken sophisticated gentleman, imagined that he could crush in no time the mass democratic militant people's resistance in Lalgarh by deploying his CoBRAs, CRPF, BSF, and other repressive forces. Within six months this fascist is overcome by depression since the people's resistance has only grown stronger and had assumed more militant forms. With over a hundred class enemies and police agents and a dozen or so policemen having been wiped out in Lalgarh and its surroundings ever since the joint operations by the central and state forces began in June last, Chidambaram resorted to a blame game accusing the "Left Front" government of West Bengal for having failed to contain the Maoists despite all assistance provided by the Centre. The social fascists hit back alleging that the entire "mess" was due to the mismanagement by the Centre and Chidambaram. As the dog-fights intensify between various sections of the ruling classes in West Bengal, the people of the state, particularly in the Lalgarh region and Junglemahal, are getting ever more radicalized. It will not be an exaggeration to say that there is hardly anyone in these regions today who has any illusion about the nature of the state and so-called democracy in the country. No matter however much the Manmohan Singhs and Chidambarams unleash non-stop propaganda lauding the so-called merits and achievements of our "democracy.

If the situation in Lalgarh has depressed Chidambaram and the powers guiding him, then the unfolding situation in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh as a result of his Operation Greed Hunt would send him and other war-mongers into a permanent trauma. When the director of this unjust cruel war against the people himself finds this depressing, one can imagine what would be the mental state of the soldiers recruited and sent to fight their own people. Suicides have been increasing at an alarming rate among the poor, famished, unemployed men and women who are used as cannon-fodder in the war to fatten the tiny corporate elite and mafia gangs ruling our country. Several policemen have refused to participate in this cruel war against their own people. The morale of the police and the central paramilitary forces who were sent for operations in these areas is at an all-time low. The state of desperation among the rulers is evident from the fact that they are compelled to recruit young boys and girls from the local adivasis because the welltrained, well-equipped elite forces sent by the centre, and those in the states who had been trained by spending huge amounts of public money, refuse to be in the fore-front in the battle against the Maoists. The much-touted CoBRAs are known to flee at the sight of Maoist guerrillas as witnessed in Kishtaram area in Dantewada. And these cowards display their "bravery" by pouncing on unarmed villagers, murdering them, and shamelessly claiming that they had killed Maoists in fierce battles. They had even refused to hand over the bodies of the adivasis they had murdered to the concerned families lest the police stories of "heroically" killing Maoists get exposed.

It is clear that Chidambaram and his band of war-mongers will be bogged down in a Vietnam War-like situation that would not just be depressing but would prompt men like him to commit suicide like Hitler. The forces he is sending to the remote adivasi-inhabited areas in the various states will undergo as severe a mental trauma as their American counterparts during the Vietnam War or in today's Afghanistan and Iraq. If more American soldiers had died of suicides than due to the war in Afghanistan, as the latest reports indicate, it shows the mental state of these soldiers and their total loss of confidence on the system they are compelled to serve. Massacres of innocent adivasis in Dantewada, Bijapur, Narayanpur, Jagdalpur, Kanker and elsewhere with false and ludicrous claims that the state's mercenary forces had achieved victory over the Maoists cannot boost the morale of the enemy forces. On the contrary, this will lead to fierce resistance by the masses who will show no mercy on those who are out to destroy their lives, economy, culture and whatever they have.

The war will inevitably go to a higher stage and will assume the form of a total war against the repressive state and its various wings, against mercenary uniformed forces that kill people at will, against political leaders who are directing the war, against police agents who facilitate the murderous attacks by the repressive forces, against state-sponsored vigilante gangs that rally all the lumpen elements in adivasi society for the defence of the exploiting classes for a few crumbs thrown at them. The economy and the infrastructure through which the state is able to wage the bloody war will increasingly become a target of the revolutionaries and the affected people in these regions. However much Chidambaram and the like may bark about Maoist violence to cover up the inhuman and brutal violence carried out by their own mercenary forces on innocent people, the people will hit back more ferociously wherever they can and on every symbol of the killing machine called the Indian state.

What other option do the oppressed, repressed and suppressed people have than to fight back in fierce self-defence against the brutal armed offensive by a fascist militarized state that destroys and ruins their lives? And what else do they have than to prepare themselves to undergo immense sacrifices in this cruel civil war between the haves and have-nots?

# The massacre of "Maoists" by Vishwa Ranjan's Goondas in Dantewada—eye-witness accounts

In the gory attacks by the uniformed state-hired mercenaries ever since the launch of Operation



Green Hunt (it is more appropriate to call this as Operation Greed Hunt), at least 70 innocent adivasis were murdered in the districts of Dantewada and Bijapur in Chhattisgarh alone. The reports in *Tehelka magazine*, one of the few magazines that displays the courage to bring to light the facts—whatever be the magazine's actual views regarding the ongoing movements, the organizations leading them, and the ideologies subscribed by those leading those movements have exposed some of the atrocities in Dantewada, Lalgarh, Orissa and elsewhere. These facts, which are glaringly evident even to the naked eye, have been blacked out by the entire so-called mainstream media that is now addicted to the more remunerative "paidnews"

culture with an occasional harmless exposure. No wonder, the reports of atrocities by a lawless force that is given unfettered license to kill, rape, abduct and torture innocent people, are deliberately suppressed by the political and police establishment with the connivance of a docile and servile media. As we traveled to the villages affected by the Operation Tribal Hunt unleashed by the tiny parasitic corporate elite through its loyal servant heading the Union Home Ministry, incredible but true

stories of human tragedy were awaiting. We visited the four villages of Singanamadugu, Gattam, Gachampalli and Palachelime, falling under Kishtaram PS area in Dantewada district, where 12 adivasi villagers were brutally murdered after abducting them. As we spoke to the families of the victims of the Greed Hunt unleashed by the rulers, a feeling of guilt, shame and agony overtook us at our inability to bring the culprits of such monstrous acts to book.

The Union Government had declared Maoists as the single biggest threat to the security of our country. Citing statistics, government spokespersons, police top brass and so-called political analysts and commentators have been trying to show how incidents of violence by Maoists had far surpassed those committed by the national liberation fighters in Kashmir and the various nationalities in the North East in the year 2009. They quote the blowing up of school buildings, panchayat bhawan buildings, cell phone towers, railway property etc and conclude that the Maoists are against development, that by targeting the government property they are hitting at the government's benign measures to better the living conditions of the people.

The media too has embellished the police stories by adding its own share of masala mix of lies and myths about the so-called extortion by the Maoists, murder of "innocent" people, recruitment of child soldiers, nexus with Islamic jehadists, foreign agencies and countries like the ISI and China, and a host of baseless lies and police stories. The common objective of all these anti-people, criminal media sources that dole out pre-hatched, ill-fabricated information to the public is to manufacture consent for the bloody aggressive war against the people by the reactionary ruling classes of India backed by imperialism, particularly American imperialism. In this cacophony of loud lies and dirty psychological war, truth has become a casualty. But for a few sane voices, the entire political and police establishment, the self-styled arbitrators and the omni-present media are trapped in a state of hysteria bordering on madness. Most of their observations, analyses, judgments are biased against the very people who are the victims of the criminal system and its guardians who perpetrate endless injustices on the hapless people. Like the police beasts in Chhattisgarh who arrest the victims themselves and anyone filing complaints against murderers and rapists, the media too puts to trial the victims and the Maoists who lead them while maintaining criminal silence about the perpetrators of the crimes.

While the case of a Ruchika Girhotra is a rare case that sees the light of the day (though the media can hardly influence its ultimate outcome which is completely dependent on the existing criminal justice system which can never deliver real justice to any victim if the perpetrator belonged to the club of the rich and the powerful), thousands upon thousands of Ruchikas are dying unsung, unheard and unwept every year in our land of so-called "democracy".

In Manipur, for instance, there were 200 fake encounters in 2009 alone, i.e after Chidambaram's assumption as the Home Minister of the country. But the self-righteous Home Minister denies there has been any fake encounter after he took over!! But when this lie is not going down the throats of a rare interviewer this master evader would save his skin by placing the blame on the concerned state governments. By defending the khaki-clad culprits without even conducting a formal enquiry Chidambaram's share in these heinous murders is even greater than that of the dehumanized policemen who had committed them or the state government that had directly ordered these murders. In Chhattisgarh, there have been at least 120 murders of innocent adivasis in the year 2009 by the central and state forces. Vishwa Ranjan, the chief of the killer squads in the state, boasted that 107 Maoists were eliminated by his forces in the year. Not satisfied with these murders, Chidambaram has been pushing aggressively to deploy more forces to carry out the state-organised mayhem and massacres. But the media hardly speaks against these crimes against humanity and the Home Minister who is the direct abettor of these crimes.

Our direct enquiry into the murder, destruction of property and burning down of the houses of adivasis by the specially-trained elite CoBRA force when they began their Operation Greed Hunt in the middle of September brought several startling facts into light—facts that are irrefutable and glaring to the naked eye. However, the khaki-clad demons and their commander-in-chief Chidambaram, loudly deny that any innocent adivasi was ever killed and, what is worse, even claim that their "brave" mercenaries had achieved significant success over the Maoists by capturing an arms factory near Singanamadugu village in Kishtaram area of Dantewada district and gunning down 12 Maoists after losing six CoBRA personnel including two assistant commandants. The government claimed that it

was the first major success against the Maoists. Innumerable stories and analyses appeared in the media. But what are the facts?

#### How the "brave" CoBRAs killed the "dangerous" Maoists

On September 17, 2009 hundreds of CoBRA, CRPF, Chhattisgarh police and SPOs raided six villages—Singanamadugu, Palachelima, Gattapadu, Gacchampalli, Ethrajpadu and Endapadu. A police raid means indiscriminate murders, cruel tortures, abductions, rape of women, burning down houses, stealing chicken, pigs and goats, looting money and property of adivasis, destruction of adivasi belongings and other atrocities. Ever since the state-sponsored salwa judum came into existence in June 2005 adivasis of Dantewada and Bijapur have understood from their own direct experience that a visit by the police only meant a virtual reign of terror on the hapless adivasis. That is why the adivasis generally flee their homes and take shelter in the forest whenever they come to know that police are coming to their villages.

In the eyes of the adivasis policemen are not a breed of the human species. They are looked upon as some alien beasts of prey that know only murder, rape and torture. While the adivasis have been living in the forest for ages without any fear of the wild beasts of the jungle, they shudder at the very thought of the beasts in khaki uniform who commit pre-meditated sadistic murders and other atrocities on everyone right from a child to a disabled old person. The hatred and wrath against the police is so intense among the adivasis that they would not hesitate a bit to hack a policeman to pieces if he falls into their hands. Those who let out shrill cries about the "cruelty", "inhumanity" and the "senseless killings" of the Maoists should realize why the peace-loving adivasis are driven to such a situation. One can only understand it if one were to experience the inhuman murders, rapes, tortures, abductions, destruction and looting of property, mental and physical harassment and endless police atrocities on almost a daily basis. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the adivasis had no proper sleep particularly since the state-sponsored salwa judum began its murderous campaign accompanied by the central and state police forces. The so-called fundamental rights guaranteed by the Indian Constitution have never been known to the millions of adivasis. All this is evident to anyone who visits the adivasi villages.

But visiting the adivasi villages is not an easy thing. It requires great courage and preparedness to undertake the risk of even losing one's life. In the police state of Chhattisgarh where only the diktat of the police runs virtually everything from the so-called civil administration to the media, where salwa judum goons and mercenary SPOs attack anyone who dares to investigate facts, beat up and lynch anyone from "outside" who dares to enter the adivasi villages, it indeed requires enormous guts to undertake such a venture. No wonder, saffron terrorist chief minister Raman Singh has been inviting the civil rights activists and other outsiders to visit Dantewada and Bijapur districts to taste the state-sponsored "adivasi wrath" against whoever spoke in favour of the Maoists (in actual terms it means speaking against police atrocities). And when the visits did take place, the saffron terrorist had let loose his state-sponsored goons on the fact finding teams and others. Thus the police state in Chhattisgarh has ensured that the countless crimes perpetrated by its various repressive wings do not get publicized and that only the police stories do the rounds in the media. That is how the 12 adivasis who were murdered by the CoBRAs on September 17 became Maoists in police jargon and the media had become a shameless accomplice by propagated this white lie.

Let us look at the gory happenings of September 17 to understand the truth behind the barrage of lies floated by the police and Raman Singh's fascist regime. Basing on information that Maoists had gathered at a place near Singanamadugu village, the central forces, state police and SPOs led by CoBRA force surrounded the area on the night of September 16<sup>th</sup> itself. The people have been generally vigilant about the police attacks but this time the enemy forces had managed to approach the area secretly with the help of a police agent and the people had no idea until the next morning when the attack began.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> morning the adivasis of Singanamadugu village commenced their daily chores. Suddenly they heard continuous firing and they knew that the guerrilla camp in the proximity of the village was attacked by the police forces. They fled the village on hearing the shots. The guerrillas too retreated safely from their camp after putting up resistance for some time. But Madivi Deval, a resident of the village had gone to the neighbouring village of Chinna Kedwal the previous day. When he was proceeding to his village in the morning the police abducted him, tortured him cruelly and murdered him. They even took away his dead body. Deval has left behind his wife and three children.

The youngest child is just 4 months old. The mother and wife of Deval were not aware of his fate for some days. They thought he might have been in Chinna Kedwal but when the people of Kedwal informed them that Deval had left for Singanamadugu on 17<sup>th</sup> early morning they were worried. They found the cycle and chappals of Deval at the place of his abduction and initially they thought he might have fled into the forest upon hearing the shots. They were eagerly waiting for his return. But by 21<sup>s</sup> it became clear to them that Deval was murdered by the police. Three villagers from Thummal village were forcibly brought to Singanamadugu by the police when they went for the raid on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Deval was shot dead in front of the three villagers and they were forced to carry the dead body to Chintagufa. Police buried Deval's dead body in Chintagufa. They did not even have the humanity to hand over the dead body to his family members. It was only after the Thummal villagers revealed this that the family members of Deval and other people came to know about the murder. They also showed the spot where Deval was shot dead by the police and the blood-marks were still there four days after the ghastly murder. The family members who were deprived of even having a last glimpse of the dead body of Deval by the inhuman killers in police uniform had to content themselves with the dried up blood-marks at the site of murder. The cruel police state had snatched the only bread-winner in Deval's family.

On the same day the mercenaries numbering around 300 raided Gachampalli village. Those who could flee on sighting the police were saved. The few who could not make it due to old age and physical disabilities became victims of police atrocity. One of the unfortunate ones who fell into the hands of these khaki mercenaries was 70-year-old Dudi Muye. Both her legs were disabled due to some disease. Hence when everyone fled she could not do anything even as Chidambaram's Cobras advanced towards her. When her house was set on fire she asked why they were burning her house a second time (the police had burnt down some time ago). The CoBRAs became furious and shot her thrice. Her dead body was left behind and there were bullets in her chest, thigh and leg. The brutal shooting down of Dudi Muye was witnessed by her neighbor who hid herself in the nearby maize field and thus saved herself.



Adivasis Adumal and Chulal were shot dead here

Jogi, wife of Adumal

The second batch of Cobras found Adamal and his wife Jogi tilling their field. They first caught Adamal and then his wife whose attempts to flee did not succeed. Both were stripped naked by tearing down the clothes with a knife and they were taken into the village thrashing them all the way. Around the same time they also caught Chulal who was tilling his field along with his son Jogal. He managed to escape upon seeing the Cobras but Chulal fell into their hands. His wife Muke too was picked up by the police from another place. Kowasi Pojje and her 12-year-old daughter Bhime were arrested from their homes. Both Muke and Pojje were stripped naked. All these arrested

adivasi villagers were taken to the village community centre where they were made to squat. Adamal and Chulal were first shot dead; while doing this Chidambaram's Cobras shouted at the wives of the two men to witness how their husbands were dying. After murdering the two men they cut off the penis of Adamal. The cruelty exhibited by these death squads is horrifying. Such is the "rule of law" without which the democracy would collapse like a pack of cards. Cries of death shattered the peace of the place where the adivasi boys and girls used to perform dances with great glee. After this atrocity the house of Adamal and Jogi was burnt down. Later the three women were dragged in to the bushes in the centre of the village and raped.

Yet another batch of Cobras found a 60-year-old Madivi Jogal who stayed in his house hoping that the police may not do harm to old-aged men.

His wife Gangi too stayed back with her husband dropping her instinctual urge to flee. But Jogal was mistaken about the element of humanity he though the invaders might have. These were poisonous Cobras sent all the way to Dantewada by the powers in Delhi. They do not discriminate between old and young, men and women. Their fangs can sting anyone. Both Jogal and his wife were thrown to the ground and beaten severely as a result of which all the teeth were broken. Later Jogal was shot

dead and Gangi was stripped naked and raped. Old age too does not dissuade these rapists sent by the Centre. Their house was burnt down.

Gangal was another old-aged man who became a victim of state terror in the village that day. This 70-year-old had lost vision in both the eyes and hence had no other option than to stay back in his house when the Cobras arrived. He was caught and cruelly tortured: his hands were broken, stabbed several times with knives and peeled out parts of his flesh. Then they left him to die a slow and painful death. They burned down his house before leaving the village. After the tormentors left the village those who had fled returned. Gangal's children tried to make him drink some water. Gangal said he would not live and within a short while breathed his last. Thus in this village of about 70 houses five adivasis were murdered. The houses of four of them-Muye, Gangal, Adamal and Jogal-were burnt down. Besides these, the houses of Madivi Idumal, Kowasi Ungi, Kowasi Kosal, Muchhaki Bheema, Sodi Mangdu, Sodi Ita, Sodi Somal, Sodi Jogal, Madivi Madal were also burnt. The meager belongings of these poor adivasis like foodgrains, clothes, utensils, cycles and radios were reduced to ashes. Money was looted from these houses: Rs. 800 from Dudi Bheemal's house, 1000 from Madivi Jogi's house, 500 from Kowasi Kosa's house, 200 from Madivi Madal, 3300 from Sodi Mangu, 2000 from SodiSomal, 3500 from Sodi Ital. Gold valued at Rs. 7000 was burnt along with the house of Kowasi Rajal. These might seem trivial to outsiders but they are a treasure for the adivasis whose sweat and tears had gone to earn these sums of money.

The police took into custody Adamal's wife Jogi, Chulal's wife Muke, Jogal's wife Gangi, Pojje and her daughter Bheeme, Sodi Kosi and her five-year-old daughter, and a deaf old man named Madivi Madal. Jogi, Muke, Pojje and Gangi were raped by the Cobras and other policemen accompanying them. Even 12-year-old Bheeme was sexually harassed by squeezing her breasts and hitting her private part with the rifle.

The police stayed only for 30 minutes in this village. They would not dare to stay longer fearing attacks by Maoist guerrillas. Their motto is: "*Kill all! Burn all! Destroy all!*" Just like the motto of the mercenary troops of Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang in China. In the 30 minutes they took the lives of five innocent adivasis. Raped four women. (*Many more would have suffered the same fate had they not escaped into the forest upon seeing the policemen.*) Set on fire 16 houses belonging to 14 families. Burnt property of the villagers. Looted thousands of rupees from the houses. Of the five people who were murdered by the police three are old-aged men and physically disabled. None of the dead or arrested have been active in the revolutionary mass organizations. Then why did the police and central paramilitary forces indulge in such cruelty and murdered old harmless people? That is how Chidambaram and Raman Singh, Vishwa Ranjan and Kalluri seek to reclaim the territories held by the Maoists. And develop these territories!!

The abducted villagers were taken upto Kollai village. These villagers had lost all hope that they would live to see their families again particularly after the horrors they had witnessed in the village committed by these beasts which knew no mercy. But as they approached the village of Kollai there was sudden firing from the people's militia which created panic among the Cobras and other police forces. moreover, there was heavy downpour. Taking advantage of this condition all the abducted villagers managed to escape using the cover of the trees and bushes.

When we visited the village on Oct 13 people had not yet returned. The terror of September 17 still haunted them. Most of them stayed in temporary houses deep inside the forest.

From Gachampalli we went to Gattapadu. The police raided this village between 10 and 11 on the morning of September 17. Even by Oct 14 only 40 per cent of the people had returned to the village. Even those people were staying outside their village during nights. In this village three adivasis—Paddam Deval, Sodi Masal and Dudi Pojjal—were shot dead by the police. Two other villagers—Dudi Kosal and Dudi Ungal—were let off after severe beating. Deval has a small child who has not even completed its first year.

Then we went to Palachelima village. Here three adivasi villagers—Tuniki Sinnal (35), Sodi Sanesh (43) and Dudi Adamal (35)—were brutally murdered by the police. The police beasts went to the village between 10 and 11 on 17<sup>th</sup> morning. Immediately they picked up 16 people and beat them severely. They tried to take them away to enact another fake encounter to claim that 16 Maoists were eliminated by the "brave" forces to provide security to the exploiting rulers. However, they were

prevented by the people of the entire village. Family members of the arrested people including children clung to them and did not let them be whisked away. The tussle between the police beasts and the women and children of the village went on till 5 in the evening. The police beasts threatened that they would shoot all of them dead but the people did not budge. At last, the beasts had to let off the arrested people. They demolished the martyrs' column in the village built in memory of a Maoist leader comrade Sukhdev. When these police beasts were leaving the village in the evening another batch of Chidambaram's beasts arrived on the scene. As soon as they came they arrested Sinnal, Sanesh and Adamal. Sanesh was in the house of Adamal when the beasts arrived. Sinnal was in his house nearby. All the three were taken away as soon as they were arrested lest the others offer resistance.

Tuniki Sinnal also known as Ramakrishna has a wife named Veere, father Ramulu and two children. Eldest is 8 years and the younger is less than an year old. Wife Veere was not in the village when her husband was taken away by the police. She had been to another village and came to know about the arrest of Sinnal only two days later. The beasts sent by saffron terrorist Raman singh and Khadi terrorist Chidambaram turned this family into an incredible tragedy. Sinnal has a brother who is studying in school. His sister Muthi married Sanesh who too was murdered by the beasts. Sanesh has two siblings:one is two-year-old and another is still suckling milk. Sanesh has a mother named Budri. The family's tragedy after losing the two working men is indescribable. How would the old parents and four children and the women survive? How are Chidambaram and Raman Singh going to achieve victory over the Maoists by murdering such innocent adivasi villagers and ruining entire families? Is this how Chidambaram wants to reclaim territories held by Maoists and the type of development he and Raman Singh want to achieve? When such ghastly murders and bizarre happenings are taking place right in the heart of India why are the electronic and print media silent? By remaining silent are not these media channels guilty of abetting the crimes perpetrated by Chidambaram and Co? All these came to mind as I watched the unfortunate children of Sinnal and Sanesh who would never again see their fathers and, as they grow up, would never even know how they looked like.

Adamal who was picked up in the house of Sanesh has a wife named Gangi, father Sukhram and mother Ite. He has no children.

After the three were taken away that evening their family members went to the police station in Kishtaram in the early hours. But they were scared to enter the station and stayed at a distance hoping to see their loved ones. Some people who met them told them that three people were shot dead and their dead bodies dressed in olive green uniforms were brought to the station. As the three who were picked up in Palachelima were in lungis their relatives though that the dead were some others. But when the reporters showed the photos they broke into tears. Their men had suddenly become dalam members wearing guerrilla uniforms.

Of the six who were taken away from Gattam and Palachelime villages five were shot dead near the road between Nallabelli and Gollapalli. Adamal was murdered near Pydagudem which was at a short distance from there. The family members went to the spot where their beloved ones were murdered. But what remained there were dried up blood and pieces of clothes worn by the dead. They took those pieces of clothes to preserve as the last symbols of their beloved ones. At the spot where Adamal was murdered his towel was found. All his clothes were torn into pieces. "Even his underwear was torn up. Nothing was left behind by the murderers" wailed his wife with deep agony.

"Why didn't they kill my son in the village itself? At least we would have had his dead body," cried out Adamal's mother. Her pain at not having performed the last rites for his son was evident in her words. In adivasi society the dead are buried and the personal belongings are kept over near the burial place. But the beasts sent by Chidambaram and Raman Singh did not even have the humanity to hand over the dead and their belongings to their families.

"Even if they had killed my husband they should have done it in the village. Why did they have to do it at an unknown place and prevent us from seeing their dead bodies?" said Sinnal's wife Veere and Sanesh's wife Gangi. In those words is the ingrained understanding that the Indian state is not their state, that they had no fundamental rights and that the enemy state would kill people like them. But at least they felt, the dead bodies could be given. Their state of mind shows the pathetic situation in our so-called democracy where a significant section of the population does not even know that they have some rights that are supposed to be inalienable and guaranteed by a so-called Constitution.

Why can't Vishwa Ranjan, SRP Kalluri, RK Vij, Longkumar, Amaresh Mishra, Rahul Sharma and others think that adivasis and Maoists too are Indian citizens, as so often reiterated by their political bosses Manmohan Singh and Chidambaram, and implement the laws of the land that the dead body of anyone found dead should be handed over to their relatives? As per the law the police should publish the photographs of the dead body of even an unidentified person but in the tale of endless tragedy of Dantewada the police beasts had not only committed heinous cold-blooded murders after picking up adivasi villagers right from their homes in the face of protests by their kith and kin, but had even refused to hand over the dead bodies!! The Vishwa Ranjans and his beastly tribe had deprived the adivasi families even the basic human right guaranteed by civilized societies the world over to bury their dead. This inhumanity is not just the characteristic feature of these uniformed beasts who swear by the Indian Constitution when they pass the IPS. It permeates the entire political establishment: our Sonias, Manmohans, Chidambarams, Raman Singhs and all the vultures who rule this country watch this tragedy of citizens of their own country (they anyway hardly consider India their country and have most of their wealth in foreign banks and lands and have more loyalties to their masters abroad than to the Constitution of our own country) without any feeling of guilt at what their mercenaries are doing to poor adivasis. Why should they, when all these inhuman episodes are actually a part of their own hideous plan to evict the entire adivasi community from their homes and thereby pave way for the entry of the tiny corporate elite in whose class interests they were brought to power? Criminal silence is maintained by those ruling our country even as heart-rending stories of mass murders, rapes, abductions, tortures of innocent unarmed adivasi villagers, gagging of the media and a virtual news blackout by the police at the point of gun, obstruction of fact-finding teams and protests, abound in a section of the media (the large part of the mainstream media, though, is wedded to sensation-mongering trash and publish/air paidnews and act as mercenaries to the moneyed interests).

Who will assume responsibility for the tragic deaths of Madivi Deval of Singanamadugu; Dudi Muye, Adamal, Chulal, Madivi Jogal and Gangal of Gachampalli; Paddam Deval, Sodi Masal and Dudi Pojjal of Gattapadu; Tuniki Sinnal (35), Sodi Sanesh (43) and Dudi Adamal of Palachelima? And such "encounters" with the "Maoists" go on unabated: the protests by the kith and kin of the dead adivasis, by the civil rights activists and others of civil society have no affect at all on the thick-skinned lawless goons going in the name of security forces who are given complete immunity by the reactionary rulers whatever be the inhuman crimes committed by them. Goompad is another village that has been a witness to the murder of nine adivasis on October 1, 2009 who were again shown by the IPS goondas as Maoists. Ever since then the eye-witness to the gruesome murders, Sodi Sambo, also injured by a police bullet in her leg, is being shadowed round-the-clock to make her into another Zahira, or bump her off. The state government of Chhattisgarh and the congress-led UPA government at the Centre are leaving no stone unturned to silence the eye-witness lest the secret of their encounters of Maoists becomes public. Even when Sodi Sambo is admitted for treatment in the AIIMS in Delhi, the head-hunters of Vishwa Ranjan are "guarding" her.

Then there are encounters of seven "Maoists" in Tetemadugu, Dokpad and Palodi near Kistaram on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Another three Maoists were murdered in such encounter between Pamulvai and Pallewada in Bijapur district on December 23. Then there are adivasis who are abducted by the police and nothing more is heard of them until their photographs suddenly appear in papers as dead Maoists. 24 such adivasis are still "mysteriously missing" from Burkapal, Elma Gonda and Minpa villages falling under Chintagupha police station area between 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> November 2009. These adivasis, abducted by the CoBRAs, CRPF and SPOs, might anytime reappear as dead bodies of "Maoists killed in encounters". One of the horrific methods used by Vishwa Ranjan and his band of khaki thugs is to abduct villagers, keep them in illegal police custody as long as they need, and when they want some results to be shown in their war against Maoists, murder them and present them as "Maoists" killed in encounters. This would ensure promotions, rewards and satisfaction to everyone right from Union Home Minister Chidambaram to Raman Singh to the SPs of the concerned districts. They imagine this would keep up the sagging morale of their men who are brought in from various parts of the country. Our democracy allows such abductions and murders by the state's mercenary forces without any questions ever being raised let alone punishing the culprits.

The latest incident of encounter claimed by the khaki goons under saffron terrorist Raman Singh government is the murder of 12 "Maoists" in Bijapur district. They, however, said they could not find a single body and that all the 12 bodies were taken away by the retreating Maoists. The idiotic brains of

these IPS officers cannot even weave their stories well. Even a school boy can see through their white lies. How can the Maoists carry away 12 bodies of their comrades when the "victorious" enemy should have been pursuing them?

The existing democratic criminal justice system will never bring to book the criminals in police uniforms who had committed these heinous crimes. It cannot take to task the police officials of Chhattisgarh who had deliberately misled the people through white lies that they had killed these 12 Maoists in fierce encounters. It is the people's courts alone that can deliver real justice to the victims. And that day will not be far away.

Every murder, rape, abduction, torture and atrocity creates more revolutionaries and alienates ever greater number of people forcing them to take up arms. The accumulating anger and hatred generated by these atrocities would burst out like a volcano and the molten red hot lava would reduce the perpetrators of these inhuman crimes into ash.

### Mass Murderers of adivasis meet in Raipur to plan more



A meeting of the counter-revolutionary leaders and officials of the three states—Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Orissa—took place on January 22, 2010 to step up their armed onslaught and campaign of murder in the name of Operation Green Hunt. The meeting was specially held for reviewing the progress made in the joint operations against the Maoists in the three states which were launched almost a month ago. Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh, Orissa Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Maharashtra Home

minister RR Patil attended the meeting in Raipur presided over by the Union Home Minister Chidambaram. The DGP and Chief Secretaries of the three states, the nine-member special Intelligence Team of the Centre as well as the intelligence heads of the states, the special team from Union Home Ministry, the chiefs of BSF, CRPF, ITBP and the overall chief of the operations in the seven states, Vijay Raman, attended the meeting.

After the meeting, all the murderers spoke to the media appreciating the immense assistance and guidance by the central government to the states in tackling Naxalism. They were particularly lauding Chidambaram for his all-out support to the states in fighting Naxalism. It was but natural since Chidambaram had given a free hand to the states to stage fake encounters of unarmed adivasis in the name of Maoists, illegally detain and torture them for days without end, burn adivasi hamlets and destroy their property, evacuate the entire indigenous population from their homes to make way for the entry of mining MNCs and corporate sector, commit rapes of adivasi women and use rape as an instrument of state terror to contain the Maoists, and such indescribable atrocities by the police, central paramilitary and SPOs.

The Head of these mass murderers, P Chidambaram, expressed satisfaction at the progress made by the various states in the war against Maoists. Obviously, the Home Minister was deriving vicarious pleasure at the massacres carried out by his CoBRAs, CRPF, BSF, ITBP and the state's police forces in Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Maharashtra. As a Minister supposed to be incharge of internal security, Chidambaram spoke not a single word about the insecurity created by the state's forces in various states in the name of their fight against the Maoists. His criminal silence on the half-a-dozen incidents of mass murder by the central and state forces in Dantewada and Bijapur in recent months clearly showed that he is neck-deep involved in the enactment of these murders. No wonder, at a press conference held immediately after the conclusion of the meeting, Chidambaram was all in praise for the operations (which are nothing but the mass murder of innocent unarmed adivasis who are labeled as Maoists) undertaken by the state's forces in the past few months.

Chidambaram announced that the fight against the Maoists could last from 2-3 years which meant he would allow these mass murders to go on unchecked for that long. But will the Indian people allow this murderer to become the Indian avatar of Rajapakse?

# Naxals protect forest from the marauding plunderers and help it grow

According to several reports which appeared in the media in the past month there has been a significant increase in the dense forest in the areas dominated by the Naxalites. Quoting the facts from the **State of the Forest report-2009** released by the Forest Survey of India, these media reports stated that over the past 4-5 years, the dense forest in the Maoist-dominated districts of Dantewada, Kanker, Bastar, Rajnandgaon, Dhamtari and other districts in Chhattisgarh, has increased in its expanse. They all acknowledge this was due to the impact of the Naxalite movement on legal as well as illegal felling of the trees that had been going on uninterrupted before the entry of Naxals to these areas. In contrast, in areas outside the direct influence of the Naxalites, the forest cover has decreased. While the report of 2005 based on the satellite images of Sept-Oct 2005, estimated that 2,256 sq km of the forest was very dense, the report of 2009 based on the images of Nov-Dec 2006 estimated this as 4,162 sq km. The forest area as a whole had decreased while the very dense forest had almost doubled during this period.

Even the most reactionary section of the Chhattisgarh media like the ETV, which spares no stone unturned to level false allegations and spread slander against the Maoists, was compelled to admit that the Naxalites had done one good thing by protecting and increasing the dense forest. However, this mouthpiece of the exploitative ruling classes tried to explain why the Naxalites had undertaken this good job. According to it, the Naxalites are in dire need of dense forest for their own existence and protection and hence they stopped all attempts by the forest contractors and others to cut down the forest. It commented that Naxalites did this in their own selfish interests. It bewailed why this could not be done in other areas by the forest officials. Expecting the government officials to do such a thing is like expecting a thief to protect one's house!!

Why has the preservation and growth of the dense forest in Naxal-dominated areas attracted the media attention? It is because like every resource in this society, the forest too is subjected to the rapacious plunder by the exploiters and oppressors ruling our country and the imperialists who are calling the shots from behind the curtains. And so the news of not just preservation but also the growth of dense forests has surprised everyone. In fact, the indigenous community living in the vast forests of our country have preserved the forests and maintained the environment for several centuries through their judicious use of the land and the forest resources. It is only with the invasion and occupation of their territories by the so-called civilized society-first the British white colonialists and later the native brown sahibs into whose hands political power was transferred-that the forest began to be denuded very fast. The forest cover in India has been continuously getting depleted in the past six decades due to so-called development projects, dams, mining companies, timber contractors, non-adivasi landlords and other land-hungry outsiders and mafia gangs. The forest officials, bureaucrats, police officials, and political leaders are hand in glove with the illegal timber contractors and mining companies. This bunch of traitors has been raping the forest without any hindrance until the Naxalites entered. Of course, in areas where the Maoist activity is absent this illegal felling of the forest continues unhampered every day as one can witness hundreds of illegal mining companies, timber contractors in these areas. Wherever the Maoists began the class struggle the forest officials fled after receiving severe thrashing and severe punishments in the hands of the people and Maoists. In Dandakaranya, North Telangana, Andhra-Orissa Border region, Jharkhand, parts of Maharashtra, Orissa and West Bengal forest officials, contractors and timber smugglers had not ventured into the forest areas for almost two decades after they were thrown out by the adivasis led by the Maoists through militant armed resistance. The lives of local adivasis too had improved significantly after the expulsion of these anti-people leaches who rape the forest as well as the women living in the forests, suck the blood of the people and indulge in outright plunder and destruction of the entire forest belt.

The fact that the dense forest in the areas of armed struggle waged by the most oppressed people of our country led by the CPI(Maoist) has increased over the years shows the alternative model of development espoused by the revolutionaries vis-à-vis the anti-people development model being implemented by the ruling class reactionaries for the benefit of a handful of corporate sharks and imperialist vultures. The people of the entire country should realise the hoax of development practiced by the reactionary rulers and rally around the alternative model provided by the Maoist revolutionaries in order to protect and preserve our scarce natural resources and rich human

potential. As the Maoist movement expands into newer territories one can be assured that more forest will get protection from the onslaught of the marauders and will expand further. The Report by the Forest Survey of India should serve as one important reason why the people of our country should come forward to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Maoists to build a prosperous new India free from all exploitation.



# 2 CRPF men wiped out in Lohardaga landmine blast by Maoist guerrillas



landmine blast, lohardaga, 13 dec09

# Six policemen wiped out in a land-mine ambush by Maoist guerrillas in Gumla

Maoist guerrillas ambushed a police party in Pakripaat in Bishnupur PS area in Gumla district of Jharkhand wiping out six policemen on January 15. Two jawans were seriously injured and one was missing at the time of writing. All the arms of the policemen were seized by the guerrillas. The station house officer of the police station Shyamkishori Singh was also killed in the ambush. The truck in which the police party was travelling was ripped apart in the mine blast. Those who tried to flee from the blown up truck were shot at by the guerrillas.

## Land-mine blast in Palamau kills a CRPF jawan and injures several

On December 18, a land-mine was triggered off by Maoist guerrillas in Palamau district of Jharkhand. One CRPF jawann was killed and several police personnel including the Sub-Inspector were seriously injured. The ambush took place in Hussainabad Assembly constituency under Mohammadgunj PS.



### ASP injured in Maoist attack in Dantewada

Additional Superintendent of Police DS Madavi and SPO Bhunesh were seriously injured in a Maoist ambush in Dantewada district in Dandakaranya guerrilla zone on December 6. The ASP was leading a police party that was returning to Errabore from Gorkha after carrying out search-and-destroy operations against the Maoist guerrillas. When they were near Etagatta on Injaram-Bejji road, a pressure bomb went off tearing off the leg of the SPO and severely injuring the ASP who were airlifted to Raipur.

## Two CRPF men injured in Lalgarh

Two CRPF jawans were injured in a landmine blast triggered by Maoists at Malida near Pirakata in Salboni in the afternoon of December 13. The blast occurred around 4.30 pm when the forces were returning to their Pirakata camp after an operation. The Maoist guerrillas also opened fire after the blast.

### Widespread protests against police atrocities in Salboni

On December 11, thousands of people led by Maoists surrounded police camps in Salboni to protest against the killing of a villager the previous day by the police. On December 10, when people went to the Satpati police camp in Salboni to protest against police atrocities in the area, the police opened indiscriminate fire killing one villager. Several villagers were also injured. One of those injured, Tamal Shaw, 34, a quack, was taken to Calcutta with three bullet wounds. Outraged by this provocation thousands of people mobilized from the nearby villages and surrounded the police station.

The People's Committee Against Police Atrocities has called a 24-hour bandh on December 12 in West Midnapore, Purulia and Bankura. Led by committee leaders, villagers felled trees and blocked roads between Lalgarh and Bhimpur.

"The joint forces are torturing innocent villagers and firing at them. So, trees were felled in some areas to hamper their movement. We will build up our struggle against the joint forces by spreading out to places where their camps are located. Trees will be felled and roads will be dug up. We won't tolerate their torture," committee leader Asit Mahato said.

State police chief Bhupinder Singh expressed police helplessness as far as preventing Maoist attacks on CPI(M) cadre and other police agents. He said it is impossible to provide security to one and all.

In Calcutta, home secretary Ardhendu Sen said: "No matter how many villagers are at the front of a demonstration, armed Maoists are always behind them."

The police acknowledged that "Lalgarh-type" resistance is increasing in other parts of West Midnapore, Purulia and Bankura districts of West Bengal. "*The Maoists have made the joint forces their target*," said West Midnapore superintendent of police Manoj Verma. He dished out the usual police story that the police had to fire in self-defence when they were attacked by the villagers led by the Maoists on December 10.

## Maoists resist re-enactment of salwa judum in CPI (M)'s police state in West Bengal

The social-fascist CPI(M), despite its overt opposition to the vigilante gangs of salwa judum in Chhattisgarh, has been desperately trying to re-enact it in the state of West Bengal where it is in power. Besides harmad bahini, which is the social fascist party's own vigilante gang, it has been setting up many other organizations and recruiting disgruntled adivasis, arming them, and pitting them against the majority of the adivasis who are waging a struggle against the police and social-fascist atrocities. It is also aiding the reactionary feudal party called Jharkhand Party as well as the *Bharat Jakat Majhi Marwa* that has been trying to wean away adivasis from the path of struggle and acting as the agent of the state.

In a series of attacks, Maoist guerrillas punished several agents belonging to the CPI(M), Jharkhand Party (Aditya) and the *Bharat Jakat Majhi Marwa*.

\*\* On the night of December 3, two local leaders of the anti-Maoist campaign, Nimai Singh, the branch secretary of the CPI(M), and Phaniram Singh, an activist of Jharkhand Party (Aditya), were captured from the village of Simulpal in Belpahari block in West Midnapore and annihilated. Around the same time another agent from the Bharat Jakat Majhi Marwa, Bagrai Soren, was punished in the nearby village of Dakai. \*\* On December 1, Satyanarayan Hansda, a teacher from Goaltore, who was used by the police and the CPI(M) to organize a campaign against the Maoists and to pass on information regarding the movements of the Maoists in the area, was picked up by the Maoists and annihilated after explaining his misdeeds to the people. Satyanarayan was working in the villages of Shirishboni, Porakanali and Metala on behalf of the police.

\*\* On December 10, four CPI(M) supporters including two local leaders were annihilated by Maoist guerrillas in the Lalgarh region in West Midnapore district. Brihaspati Mahato, Bijoy Mahato and Manik mahato were captured from Sevayatan locality in Jhargram town on December 9<sup>th</sup> and were annihilated the next day.

\*\* On the night of December 12, a CPI(M) leader and former gram panchayat member of Kadamdiha village in Lalgarh region, Dinabandhu Soren, was taken away by Maoist guerrillas and shot dead the next day.

\*\* CPM workers Tilak Tudu and Panchanan Mahato who were acting as police informers were annihilated in Parulia and Paluiboni villages of Salboni on December 11.

\*\* Hekim Mura (50), a member of the Gana Pratirodh Committee (GPC), a pro-CPI-M organisation formed to attack the Maoists, was annihilated by Maoist guerrillas on January 4 near Dhekia in Belpahari area. Mura, a former Jharkhand Party activist, recently shifted his allegiance to the CPI-M. On the same day, another police agent, Bapi Bakli, was shot dead in front of his shop at Pirakata Market in Salboni. Posters were left near the dead body stating that he was punished for acting as a police informer.

### Jan Sunwayi of Himanshu Kumar disrupted by the police state

When several activists of civil rights and democratic organsations like Medha Patkar, Sandeep Pandey, Janaklal Thakur, PUCL's Kavita Srivastav, Vijendra, Anand Mazgaonkar, Madhuresh, Gangesh, Gabriel Detirich, Sushant, Shere Bano Fransh, Mumbai advocate Kamayani Bali Mahabal, Hazra Bivi and Rachna Dingra from Bhopal, Madhumita Dutta from *Other Media*, Chennai Metro Workers' Union leader K Srinivasan, Piyush Sethia, social activist Chandrika, Archana from Chennai went to Dantewada to participate in the jan sunwai organized by Himanshu Kumar of Vanvasi Chetna Ashram, they were attacked by salwa judum goons and policemen in mufti organized by the district SP Amaresh Mishra and DGP Vishwa Ranajan. Comprador-feudal Congress leader Mahendra karma's brother Chabindra Karma led the state-sponsored attack in the name of Maa Danteswari Swabbhiman Manch and local business associations. As soon as these activists came out of vanvasi chetna ashram and were proceeding towards the office of the SP and Collector they were surrounded near Faraspal chowk by several goons created and nurtured by the state's police. They raised slogans against the team and Maoists. They began to hurl abuses against the civil rights organizations and individuals who, they alleged, were only condemning the police but not the killings by Maoists.

The civil rights activists submitted memoranda to the district collector and SP in which they stated that the government and the police were stalling the jan sunwayi by placing the salwa judum, SPOs and some adivasis in front. They demanded that adivasi activists Kopa Kunjam and Sokhnath be released immediately and the false cases foisted against them be withdrawn; Sodhi Sambho be immediately be sent for complete examination; that all adivasi women who are waging struggle against the sexual abuse by the police and SPOs be released from police custody and provide security. They also demanded that those villagers who were arrested when they went for jan sunwayee be released immediately and allow them to meet the civil rights activists.

The corporate giants like the Tatas, Essar and Vedanta poured in huge amounts to fund the vigilante gangs that are unleashing cruel attacks on Maoist sympathizers and democratic organizations and individuals and ordinary adivasis. The main objective of these gangs is to clear the area of adivasis and resettle them elsewhere so as the entire area can become the grazing ground for the corporate mining beasts. They threw eggs, tomatos and stones at the activists who were on their way to the office of the Collector and the SP to submit memoranda. Medha Patkar and others sat on a dharna in protest against the state-sponsored attack.

Not content with this, children were also mobilized in Raipur and were trained to give slogans against the Maoists and the social activists when the team of social and civil rights activists visited the city.

### Maoists observe bandh in south Orissa

The CPI(Maoist) call for a bandh in Gajapati and Malkangiri districts of South Orissa was observed successfully on 28 December, 2009. The Maoists had given the bandh call to protest against increasing police atrocities in the area.

A series of strikes were carried out by Maoist guerrillas in the two districts on the night of December 27; four government-run passengers buses were set on fire, a forest beat house and two mobile phone towers were destroyed. Scores of trees were felled on the roads blocking the entire traffic on the roads.

One of the telecom towers destroyed in Malkangiri district was close to a police station and "all the acts committed were within close distance of police camps", wailed a newspaper.

All the vehicles on the NH 17 connecting Rayagada with Ganjam and rest of Orissa through the Gajapati district were stopped. Four buses moving from Jeypore, Rayagada, Bhawanipatna and Koraput towards Berhampur and Bhubaneswar were stopped and after the passengers got off the buses they were set on fire using the diesel from the vehicles.

At Malkangiri, the Maoists torched a forest beat house near Balimela. They also carried out explosions destroying two telecom towers, one of which was close to a police station. They felled trees at over 25 places along the 30 km road stretch between Baipariguda of Koraput district and Govindapalli disrupting vehicular traffic. The Maoists had circulated leaflets widely among the people asking them to support the bandh against police atrocities.

### Bandh in Dandakaranya

On January 9 a bandh was successfully observed in Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh by the Dandakaranya by the special zonal committee and the Central Regional Bureau of the CPI(Maoist). The bandh was in protest against Operation Green Hunt and Operation Trishool. The entire transport and business establishments in the region came to a halt. Roads were dug up and blockades were set up on most of the roads in the areas under Maoist influence.

# An Open Letter to the Prime Minister of India by PUDR

'There is an undeclared emergency in operation in Dantewada -- people are being denied access to the area and information, detained illegally, implicated in false cases, threatened, tortured and killed'.

#### Dear Mr Prime Minister

With great dismay we want to bring to your notice the rapid breakdown of constitutional order in Chhattisgarh since November 2009. You must be aware that since the year 2005, the Dantewada district of this state has witnessed intensified conflict between state and the CPI (Maoist). In course of this conflict, more than 600 villages have been uprooted leading to forced displacement of lakhs of adivasis. The Chhattisgarh administration has also enlisted the support of the controversial Salwa Judum 'andolan' to counter the CPI (Maoist), besides appointing thousands of Special Police Offices (SPOs). The sequence of events since November 2009 underlines a comprehensive breakdown of the rule of law and pulverization of democratic space in Chhattisgarh. We therefore urge you to take note of the following:

#### The Case of Sodi Sambo

- On October 1, 2009, there was an alleged incident of killings by police and SPOs in Gompad village, Dantewada, described by the district SP as an 'encounter' to a broad based fact finding team including the Peoples Union for Democratic Rights (PUDR, Delhi) and the Peoples Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL, Chhattisgarh), Action Aid and Vanvasi Chetna Ashram (Dantewada) etc. Sodi Sambo is one of the victims and witnesses of the Gompad killings and a petitioner in Writ Petition (Criminal) No. 103 of 2009 in the Supreme Court.
- On January 3, 2010, when Sambo was on her way to Delhi for treatment of her leg which had been shot, she was taken away by the police. This despite the fact that Sambo is innocent and faces no criminal charges/despite the police declaration that there are no charges against her.
- On January 5, the police informed the press that SP Dantewada had received a complaint from some "relative" of Sambo that Himanshu Kumar of VCA had 'abducted' Sambo. Significantly, Himanshu Kumar is petitioner no.1 in the writ petition filed against the Dantewada police, in the Supreme Court.
- On January 6, the PUCL and PUDR filed an application in the Supreme Court that the Petitioner No. 13 in the Criminal Writ Petition No. 103 of 2009, Sodi Sambo, was being intimidated to coerce her into withdrawing her petition. The petition prayed that she be permitted to come to Delhi to continue her treatment at the St. Stephens Hospital and that the state bears her expenses for the same. All this while, Sambo was kept in a hospital in Jagdalpur where the treatment required for her leg was not available. Even the journalists from Indian Express and Tehelka were prevented from meeting her.
- On January 7, the Supreme Court ordered the State of Chhattisgarh to not prevent Sodi Sambo from travelling to Delhi for medical treatment at St. Stephens Hospital at her own cost. The National Alliance for People's Movement (NAPM) team met the SP Dantewada so they could meet and escort Sambo to Delhi. They were brusquely told not to interfere and that the Petitioner Organization, PUCL or others will not be permitted to have any role in this regard. The model argument for denying access to her has been that as a witness, she needs to be protected from anybody influencing her. Ironically, Sambo is being 'protected' by the same police that she alleges are responsible for her injuries. Sambo has now been shifted to AIIMS in Delhi by the Chhattisgarh government. Sambo's lawyer has also not been allowed to meet her. Why is the Chhattisgarh government so wary of anybody meeting Sambo? Is it because she is a witness to the state's excesses on adivasis which has been continuously going on for the past four years?

#### Targeting of Vanvasi Chetna Ashram

 We would also like to bring to your notice the reprehensible harassment of civil rights and democratic spaces, like the Vanvasi Chetna Ashram (VCA), in Chattisgarh. The VCA, led by Gandhian Himanshu Kumar, has been raising and documenting the atrocities on innocent adivasis by state forces on the pretext of fighting Naxals in Dantewada. Himanshu had planned a *padyatra* beginning December 14, 2009, to be followed by a *saytagraha* and a *jan* *sunvai* (public hearing), for which Home minister P.Chidambaram had agreed to come. He was denied permission for the *padyatra* and *satyagraha* in Dantewada. A national team of women traveling to participate in the programme were stopped in Raipur, humiliated and finally not allowed to reach Dantewada. On December10, 2009 (Human Right Day), one of the VCA's main activists, Kopa Kunjam, was picked up along with lawyer Alban Toppo. While Alban was let off after some beating, Kopa was slammed with murder charges and still languishes in jail. Another VCA activist, Sukhnath, has been falsely implicated and booked under Chhattisgarh Special Public Security Act (CSPSA). Earlier in May, 2009, VCA premises were demolished bypassing legal procedures. VCA was asked to vacate the rented accommodation as the landlord was under pressure from the administration to do so. The VCA has now been blacklisted by the Chhattisgarh administration.

#### Rape and Intimidation of Women of Samsetti Village

• Four adivasi girls from Samsetti village, Sukma block of Dantewada, were raped by Special Police Officers (SPO) two years ago. The issue was brought to light by the magazine *Tehelka* and Himanshu Kumar's sustained efforts helped registration of a rape case in Bilaspur High Court in March 2009, even as the police refused to file FIRs. These women were picked up by the same SPOs when their cases were to come up for hearing in the courts on December, 10. They were beaten, illegally kept at the police station for five days and their thumb imprints taken on a blank sheet to say that Himanshu Kumar had pressurized them to level false charges of rape.

#### Obstructing rights' groups, researchers and journalists from functioning in the state

- Two Professors from Delhi University, Nandini Sundar and Ujjwal Kumar Singh who were in Dantewada from December 29-31, 2009, were surrounded and trailed by armed SPOs throughout their visit. Hotel owners denied them lodging at the behest of the Chhattisgarh government and the Dantewada police.
- On January 5, 2010 Satyen Bordoloi and Priyanka Borpujari, journalists from Bombay who had been highlighting violations by the state and the VCA's struggles in the print and electronic media, Suresh Deepala, law student and AID volunteer from Hyderabad, and Nishtha, a student of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, who were visiting Himanshu for the jan sunwai, were surrounded by 25 armed police and SPOs and prevented from leaving. They were assaulted and their cameras taken away.
- On January 6, activists from NAPM including Medha Patkar and Sandeep Pandey were assaulted by a mob brought in from Kasauli Relief Camp by an organization called Maa Danteshwari Swabhiman Manch, essentially a new version of Salwa Judum. Eggs and sewage were thrown at the delegation. 25 to 30 adivasis who still dared to come for the *Jan Sunvai* were also stopped, harassed and intimidated by the police.

There is an undeclared emergency in operation in Dantewada where people are being denied access to the area and information, detained illegally, implicated in false cases, threatened, tortured and killed. The Home Minister, Mr. P. Chidambaram was apprised of the problems but he has chosen to remain silent for in the war against Naxals, everything seems fair to him. We would therefore like you to ponder and answer if the tribal people of Dantewada are not citizens of this country? Are they not supposed to have a say in the development of this country? Why are they expected to keep quiet as their resources, livelihoods and lives are snatched away to benefit a few? How fair is the state's strategy of displacing them and handing over their natural resources to private corporations? Can all opposition, including peaceful, Gandhian protests, to state policies be declared Naxalite and thereby brushed aside? And finally, can we in the name of fighting Naxalism put democracy and our constitution to peril and is this the only answer that a state worthy of calling itself a democracy has to such challenges?

It has also come to our knowledge that the combing operation in Chhattisgarh has begun and security forces have entered the jungles from Konta, the southernmost part of Chhattisgarh. This could not have been done without the knowledge and approval of the Home Ministry. It should also be noted that 'Operation Greenhunt' against Maoists was disowned by your government but what we are seeing is its surreptitious continuation without an official name. As the Prime Minister of this country, we hope you will break your silence and accept responsibility for the wrongs being committed in Chhattisgarh and take immediate action to restore constitutional freedoms in the state.

Sincerely, People's Union for Democratic Rights, PUDR



## Statement of Campaign for Peace & Democracy (Manipur)

Delivered to the **Convention Against War on People**, Friday, 10 a.m. -7 p.m., 4 December 2009, Speaker's Hall, Constitution Club, Rafi Marg, New Delhi. Organized by Forum Against War on People

Dear Friends,

CPDM is grateful to have the opportunity for being with you all who have gathered here.

Most of us are concerned about the escalating scale of war on people perpetrated by the state mercenaries in several parts of present day Indian sub-continent. Under the aegis of the bourgeoning Indian capitalist rulers who are in control of the state and the media, war crimes are being perpetrated with immunity everywhere wherever democratic movements towards durable peace, development and democracy become prominent. On this occasion of the Convention Against War on People I would like to seek for your attention towards the prevailing war on people in Manipur.

#### **Historical Background**

- (1) Present India is a post 1947 political invention under the vested capitalist initiative of the Indian ruling class by overriding the national interest of several *ethnos* and political communities. The principle of voluntary unionism had not been followed.
- (2) The history of war on people may be traced as early as the year 1948 when several Mao Nagas of Senapati District and Hmar in the Tipaimukh regions who had asserted for local self-determination were repressed and some were killed for their democratic aspiration by the then Manipur government under the instruction of the Indian rulers. In the valley there was heavy repression upon attempted communist revolution carried out under the leadership of comrade Irabot from 1948-1951. Since the early 1960s several Naga peasants have been facing the brunt of military occupation leading to physical assaults and restriction of free movement for sources of economic livelihood. Since 1980 to 2004 Manipur as a whole was physically, economically and psychologically affected by military rampages under the provision of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act. There are several other repressive and suppressive acts as well to curb democratic movements.

#### Stage of War since 1949

Present stage of war on people in Manipur is illustrative in terms of the character manifested in the crisscrossing tactical and structural arrangements.

#### Tactical collusion:

- (1) The Indian rulers (industrialists, compradors, and business establishments) have capitalist interest duped *geo-strategic exigency* in Manipur. Manipur serves as the market, sources of raw materials and military base for the expansion of Indian capitalism in Manipur and in the Southeast Asian regions.
- (2) The bulk of the Manipur upper class cutting across community affiliation had class interest; although purposefully to retain political power in their hands they at times clubbed together political, regional and communal interests in election campaigns and other sectarian assertions. They became the Manipur rulers and supported the Indian rulers as long as the Indian state would serve their interest.
- (3) The Indian rulers have found reliable ally in Manipur rulers and have erected puppet governments in successive terms who in their turn mortgaged Manipur to capitalist enterprises and perpetuated class order as well. Communal and armed agents are being reproduced, if not recruited from amongst the Manipuri people to defend Indian capitalism and fight against the democratic forces. Several misguided youth lured by prospect of private property or disillusioned by the relative weakness of revolutionary propaganda have either

joined the rank and file of the imperialist mercenaries in waging war on the people or have became effective tools of carrying out communal politics.

#### Structural arrangement:

- (1) Firstly, armed forces (including the union paramilitary forces) are carrying out unrestraint war on people with immunity under the provision of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act 1958.
- (2) Secondly, police forces (particularly the Manipur Police Commando) who are lured by money and prospect for promotion are carrying out massive looting and fake encounters.
- (3) Thirdly, underpaid auxiliary forces that are being recruited on contract basis such as the Village Volunteer Forces in hill districts and Special Police Officers or Village Defense Forces in the valley districts are the camp followers of the regular forces in carrying out widespread hunt for democratic activists.
- (4) Fourthly, gangsters in the guise of revolutionary who are operating either from inside state jail or under the command of the security forces are carrying out rampant looting, killing and psychological propaganda to confuse the people between gangsters and democratic activists.
- (5) Fifthly, communal warlords and conservative reactionaries are being sponsored respectively to divide the people vertically along communal lines and to divert the focus of the democratic movement.
- (6) Sixthly, several undercover secret agents, both regular & part time informers are operating as watchdog upon democratic activities and to advance psychological warfare in order to misguide the oppressed and the exploited people and to deviation them from democratic movement towards personal interest and sectarianism.
- (7) Seventhly, the war on people is being covered up by articulating official jargons such as 'war on terrorism,' 'counter insurgency,' and 'law & order problem' and so on. A wrong picture about the democratic movement in Manipur is being depicted and widely published across the Indian sub-continent and beyond by the imperialist media.

#### What are the impacts of war on people?

- Politically, since the 15<sup>th</sup> October 1949 the political community of Manipur as a whole had not been able to exercise their right to political self determination (right of accession or secession inclusive).
- (2) Structurally, the bourgeoisie democracy in Manipur is governed by a puppet regime composed of the Manipur upper class under the strict surveillance of a Governor instituted by the Indian state. At the grass root the backbone of the government is provided by a bulk of the forces that are being mentioned under the subheading of structural arrangement.
- (3) Economically, while the Indian capitalism (mixed up market expansion and finance imperialism) installed upon a semi-tribal cum agro-based backward economy has drained the wealth of the people and reduced Manipur to dependent on imports for food and other consumer goods; there has been increasing displacement, marginalization and pauperization in the name of development projects under the protection of security forces such as forcible construction of capitalist dams, power projects, and offices & institutional buildings.
- (4) Physically and psychologically, increasing militarization has created reign of terror leading to insurmountable human rights violations and long lasting psychological effect or war hysteria among the affected population.
- (5) Constitutionally, rights to life and democratic rights are being denied. The space for democratic assertion of civil, political and economic rights has been shrinking. There has been heavy crackdown upon civil society organizations for exposing state terrorism. The number of persons convicted, tortured and jailed or killed for their democratic ideas and initiatives has been increasing. For fear of state repression and brutality several of the war

affected persons are forced to submit to the class rule against their own democratic conscience.

(6) Finally, under the patronage of the Indian rulers sectarianism and communalism continued to play a divisive role in addressing the fundamental question of democracy from either sectarian or communal perspectives. As a result no unified democratic force under a common banner capable of overthrowing the class ruler could be developed.

#### **Fundamental question**

- (1) The war on people does not distinguish people along communal or regional lines and the war impact is being felt similarly by the affected people. No particular community or region is responsible for the rampant capitalist onslaught in the name of security and counter-terrorism.
- (2) If the class rulers are united for common purpose there can be no reason why the organizations representing the oppressed and the exploited peoples are not united in their just struggle against the common enemy.
- (3) We need to contextualize the war paradigms of the ruling class and accordingly carry out over encompassing ideological propaganda and political assertion for a democratic society free from any form of suppression and exploitation. And the emancipated peoples should enjoy the right to either voluntary unionism or secession based on common consent to be drawn out of the objective material condition.

Down with war on people Long live democracy

Sd/-CPDM Delhi: 4 December 2009

# 'Public Sector created Chhattisgarh's middle class'

Advocate **Sudha Bhardwaj** of the Chhattisgarh Mukti Morch and PUCL talks to Jyoti Punwani about Chhattisgarh, where the Centre has announced the start of its offensive against the Maoists:

#### What news of the offensive?

When operation Green Hunt began in September, notice under Section 95 of the CrPC (which includes sedition) was served on newspapers for publishing the Maoists' press releases, which said that the only persons to have been killed by the security forces were ordinary Adivasis. Over 100



journalists demonstrated in Jagdalpur saying that in a conflict situation, we can't print only police handouts. Journalists have been arrested under the State's special Security Act. For us, this new offensive is only an intensification of the drive going on since 2005, to clear villages to facilitate a corporate land grab, in the name of fighting insurgency.

#### Do all parties support this operation?

The CPI's Manish Kunjam has held massive Adivasi mahasabhas against the indiscriminate efforts by companies to acquire land. But these have barely created a ripple in the administration. The Congress is divided – while Mahendra Karma is the founder of Salwa Judum, Ajit Jogi has questioned it. When Congress MLA Kawasi Lakhma objected to the Singaram fake encounter in which 19 innocents were killed, the district collector recommended that his security be withdrawn. A BJP MLA alleged that most of the 79 so-called surrendered Naxalites paraded by the police in 2007 were

innocent peasants. Some were even BJP cadres! But only a few were released. This refusal by the administration to liten to dissent leaves the Adivasis helpless. It makes it appear as if everyone is against them and on the side of the companies. In fact, it is evident that the state is in the stranglehold of the corporate. People objecting at environmental clearance hearings are lathi-charged. Public hearings are held inside police barricades. When gram sabhas refuse to give land, there's compulsory land acquisition at gunpoint.

#### What's the space for non-mainstream political groups?

Everyone who works with the Adivasis or opposes the corporate is harassed-freedom fighter Ram Kumar Agarwal, Gandhian Himanshu Kumar, environmentalist Jayant Bohidar, Dr. Binayak Sen. Every form of dissent is being criminalized. Laws are supposed to define what is a crime. Waging war against the state is a crime. But anyone who protests against the administration is labeled a Naxal supporter. This is McCarthyism.

#### Don't you want development?

The Bhilai Steel Plant also took away land and water, but it created 96,000 permanent jobs. Chhattisgarh's middle class is a creation of the public sector. Today's mining companies give neither compensation nor permanent jobs. Last year, the state's sponge iron plants were at a standstill because they had to buy iron ore at Rs. 5,800 a ton. But Japan gets it as Rs. 400 from Bailadila mines. This is imperialism, not development. We must be grateful to the Adivasis for saving our resources from this loot.

# 'Green Hunt sellout of natural resources'

HT-4 Jan 2010

PATIALA: Forum Against War-Punjab, on Sunday organized a convention here to oppose the Union government's move to launch a military offensive against the Maoists in various parts of the country.

Terming it a sellout of the coutry's natural resources to multinationals, Gautam Navlakha of the Economic and Political Weeklysaid, "Central India, which is going to be the battlefield of Green Huntm is the richest region in terms of natural resources. Mines have already been sold out to MNCs at throwaway prices. Att he same time, these are areas which noticed the biggest resistance frompeople to protect their land." The state, he says not only wants to break that resistance from people to protect their land. not only wants to break that resistance but also wants to grab the resources."

"if the government only wants towipe out the Maoists, why are they not making all the MoUs signed for these areas in public domain?"

Navalakha said Home Minister P. Chidambaram made it clear that "in this war, either you are with us or with them (Maoists). Of course, in a war ijmposed on masses, which is going to affect 10-15 crore people, the masses will stand by the mass resistance instead of any corrupt political establishment".

Sharing his experiences from his travels inside the Maoist guerilla zones, Satnam, a political activist and writer, said whatever the State calls them, "nobody can turn away from the truth that Maoists have given an alternative model of development which has helped in advancement of tribals".

Nisha Biswas, a political activist from Kolkata, discussed the situation in Lalgarh on how CPI(M) was "committing atrocities and people's resistance in the area".

Prof Jagmohan Singhm president of AFDR, Punjab, said "this war is going to lead the country towards an irreversible damage".

The convention was attended by peasants, students and university teachers in large numbers. Forum Against War is a platform of Punjabi writers, artistes, scholars and university teachers to oppose Operation Green Hunt.

# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

#### **Public Statement**

Al 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.

#### 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.



# Message of Solidarity

#### Dr. James Albert

Advisor for ethnic and religious minorities in India GeiststraBe 7 37010-Goettingen, Germany, Fax: 0049(0)551-58028

**To: Stop War on Citizens** Gottingen, Germany, 2 December 2009

#### Subject: Convention Against War on Peoples

#### Message of Solidarity

Society for Threatened Peoples(STP) is a Human Rights organisation based in Germany, in the past we have raised our voice against the suppression of the indigenous people of India and the violation of their rights.

With deep concern we follow the news about the military operations directed against the Adivasis living in the entire forested regions of central and eastern India, we hear of massive military and paramilitary forces with sophisticated weapons starting a ruthless battled offensive against unarmed farmers and other Adivasi citizens of India

we support the peoples rights to live in peace in accordance with their traditions in their forests and on their land as guaranteed in the constitution of India, we have received verified reports on police brutality against Adivasis. organisations like salwa Judum have been installed to split tribal unity and intimidate peace-loving forest-dwellers and villagers through acts of violence, women, children and the aged have been their prime victims.

We fully support the initiative of the "Forum Against war on People"

We in Germany have experienced in our own history how our nation was split in Suppressors and victims, suffering, death and destruction was the result for millions of innocent people, we know only too well the results of the militarization of the state and of society. We thank you for the invitation to your 'Convention Against War on People'.

society **for threatened peoples** Gesellschaft fur bedrohte Volker **GERMAN** OFFICE P. O. Box 2024 D-37010 Gdttingen phone +49 (0)551 49906-0 fax +49 (0)551 58028 e-mail Info@gfbv.de

#### <u>www.gfbv.de</u>

SOCIETY FOR THREATENED PEOPLES INTERNATIONAL

(A) Vienna (BiH) Sarajevo+Srebrenica (CH) Bern (D) Gottingen+Berlin (I) Bozen (IRQ) Arbil (L) Luxembourg (NL) Groningen-Assen (RCH) Temuco/Chile (SCG) Pristina/Kosovo (USA) New York HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANISATION in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the UNITED NATIONS and in participatory status with the COUNCIL OF EUROPE

it would have been a great honour for us to send a delegate to your convention on the 4"th of December 2009 to New Delhi, but the notice was too short.

May you be successful in urging your government to listen to your demands for peace. You can count on us for international support for your just cause.

## \James Albert (STP)

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#### for human rights. WORLDWIDE.

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Rally Against War on People 17th December 2009, New Delhi



Convention against war on people, 4 December, New Delhi



## Army short of 1.86lakh bulletproof jackets

New Delhi-17dec09



Life in india comes cheap. Despite a lapse of several years, a major chunk of army soldiers are yet to get something as basic as proper bulletproof jackets. Nothing that the authorized holding of bulletproof jackets for the army was 3,53,76 5, the parliamentary standing committee on deence ond Wednesday expressed anguish that MoD was yet to make up the shortfall of as many as 1,86,138 of them.

"this is risking the life of as many soldiers. The committee desires that such important life-saving items should be purchased through fast-track procedures. Quality codntrl should be observed so that lives of trained soldiers may not be lost," it said.

## Super database soon: Big Brother will watch you War on Terror National Intelligence Grid will have access to 21 key databases

Hindustan Times Aloke Tikku and Gaurav Choudhury

New Delhi: Every time you flash your credit card, pick up the phone,d take a fight or access the Internet, somebody will be watching you.

India is ramping up its intelligence infrastructure and networking databases in the public and private sectors. Once the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) is established by May 2011, it will provide

#### THE LONG ARM OF THE NATGRID

#### Key databases to be networked

Telephone, Internet Vehicle ownership, driving licence Police record, stolen vehicles Passport, Immigration record Registered goods company Foreign currency transactions Foreign inward remittances Credit card data Tax Data, PAN details Election records Stock-market transactions

# Agencies that will have access to this database

Intelligence Bureau Research and Analysis Wing Central Bureau of Investigation Directorate of Revenue Intelligence Enforcement Directorate Central Board of Excise and Customs Central Board of Direct Taxes Narcotics Control Bureau Financial Intelligence Unit Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence

security agencies real-time access into 21 categories of databases – including bank account details, credit card transactions, driving licences as well as visa and immigration records.

This means that rather than writing to more than 50 entities – government bodies such as the RBI and the Bureau of Immigration, and private firms like phone and airline companies – all that a security agency has to do to get to know all is to feed our name into the system.

"once you feed in a person's name, you will get al the details abut him, across all the databases," a government official said. Right from the color of your car, outstanding traffic fines to be paid and the last time you paid by card for a late-night dinner with a friend.

"There really will not be any secrets from the State," a security official said. "It's the same in the United States."

The information grid will also have the ability to trawl through the consolidated database to sniff for suspicious trends and flag them for further investigations.

Intelligence officials insist they need this information to tackle the new sophisticated face of terrorism.

"Headley wouldn't have had a free run for three years if this kind of a system had been in place," an intelligence official said, referring to the Pakistan-origin David Coleman Headley who was arrested by US federal agents for conspiring to carry out terror attacks in India and Denmark. "It would have raised a red flag, since he was travelling to Pakistan after every visit to India and wasn't converting enough foreign currency into Indian rupees though he was a businessman," the official said.

Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram has inducted Raghu Menon, a security expert in the private sector, to set up the system. Menon joined this month as chief executive officer of NATGRID.

# Chidambaram wants to bifurcate home ministry

#### Favours All Intelligence Agencies Under National Counter Terrorism Centre THE ECONOMIC TIMES NEW DELHI 24 DECEMBER 2009

IN A proposal that aims to give the home ministry full control over the plethora of intelligence and law enforcement agencies, including those under the ministries of defence and finance and even the PMO, in matters relating to internal security, Union home minister P Chidambaram has proposed the setting up of National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC), an overarching mechanism that will be singularly responsible for preventing, containing and countering terror attacks across the country.

Delivering the annual endowment lecture organised by the Intelligence Bureau here on Wednesday, Mr Chidambaram said India would have the NCTC, an evolution of MAC that will also preside over intelligence, investigation and operational aspects of the fight against terror, by the end of 2010.

In yet another key proposal to "radically restructure the security architecture at the national level," Mr Chidambaram on Wednesday suggested the bifurcation of the MHA so as to allow the home minister to devote his full energy to the crucial function of internal security.

According to him, a separate department could be created within the MHA to deal with matters not directly related to internal security—such as centre-state relations, justice, human rights, UTs, disaster management, census, freedom fighters welfare — and be dealt with by a junior minister, "more or less independendy."

An official later explained that the separate department for matters unrelated to internal security —that could be on the lines of the DLPP in the commerce ministry—could be handled by a junior minister, including possibly one of the ministers of state I (MoS) in the home ministry, who would ultimately J report to Mr Chidambaram.

"Given the new internal security challenges that we face today and would continue to face over the next 5-10 years, the home minister's whole time and energy must be devoted to matters relating to internal security," explained a senior official, underlining the need to make internal security the central focus of MHA's responsibilities.

Mr Chidambaram too agreed that "given the imperatives and challenges of the times, a division of the current functions of the MHA is unavoidable." He added that a separate department be created within the ministry to deal with functions not related to internal security, and dealt by another minister, more of less independently, without referring every issue to the home minister.

Mr Chidambaram's radical proposal not only seeks to limit national security advisor's (NSA) role in presiding over counter-terrorism matters, leaving him to concentrate on external threats and policy, but also aims at making the home minister somewhat of an internal security czar. With the minister clearly stating that it would be logical and natural to place the NCTC under the MHA, all the intelligence agencies — NIA, NTRO, JIC, NCRB, NSG, besides the R&AW CBI and ARC and even the DRI, FIU and ED, "to the extent that they deal with terrorism –" would end up reporting to him on matters relating to internal security.

According to the vision outlined by Mr Chidambaram, the NCTC would prevent and respond to violent attack "of a certain magnitude" by any insurgent or terror outfit across the country, with

agencies like NIA, NTRO, JIC, NCRB and NSG being brought "naturally" under its control. That apart, the positioning of R&AW, ARC and CBI would have to be re-examined to put them under oversight of NCTC to the extent that they deal with terror. Even\ the intelligence agencies of the defence and finance ministries would have to mandatorily depute their representatives to the NCTC, which would also control NATGRID – a network of 21 sets of databases -and supervise the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS).

Justifying the bringing of all intelligence and law enforcement agencies under the NCTC umbrella to deal with internal security challenges, Mr Chidambaram noted that "what will strike any observer that there is no single or unified command which can issue directions to these agencies and bodies...it is this assessment which leads me to argue that the security structure at the top must be thoroughly and radically restructured."

The NCTC is proposed to be headed by a highly-qualified professional with vast experience in security-related matters. Mr Chidambaram indicated that he could either be a senior police officer or a military officer. "He will be the single person accountable to the country on all matters relating to internal security," the home minister noted.

## States to raise special force against Maoists

;Sabyasachi Roy

#### KOLKATA, 4 JAN:

The governments of eight Maoist-dominated states will soon raise a special force to tackle the ultra-left militants in their areas. The first phase of the training programme of the force which is yet to be named has been completed recently.

A senior state police officer said 30 officers from eight states underwent the month long training at Ghatshila in Jharkhand. Out of 30 officers, four were from West Bengal including an IPS officer, an officer of DSP rank and one each from inspector and sub-inspector ranks. The training wasimparted by some foreign army officials, who have experience in tackling guerilla warfare, he added. The officer said, the special force will be monitored jointly by the governments of the eight states. And this force will be different from Specially Trained Armed Company (STRACO), which is already operating in the Junglemahal and the Special Anti-Naxal Force similar to Grey Hound Force, to be raised.

Another senior officer of state police said that during the month-long training the selected officers underwent rigorous physical and state-of-the-art arms training. For increased level of endurance, they were trained to survive in deep forest areas for longer period and techniques to detect explosive. The main objective of this force will be stay in the forest areas near the base camps of the Maoists and to gather detailed information about their activities and their strength. The officers from the different states representing the force will operate in their jurisdictions and would exchange the information from time to time. But during joint operation the force will work jointly with other state and Central para-military forces.

The officer further maintained that the state government is to yet recruit more officers, who will be later trained by the recently trained officers. He also said that in future the trained officers would have to through further training programmes.

When contacted, Mr Bhupindar Singh, Director General of Police, said the force would be named soon. It will be pressed into action as and when the training programme was completed. He added that more officers will be recruited to strengthen the force.

# Indian Air Force to build its Airbase camp in Chhattisgarh

In the war waged by the Indian ruling classes against the Maoists and adivasis of the country, massive funds are being spent for developing infrastructure which would facilitate the movement of

the paramiltary and other troops in the remote forest areas. While the people are reduced to starvation and suffer from an acute shortage of drinking water and other daily necessities, the



exploiting classes are spending huge amounts for their war on the people. Roads are being laid in inaccessible jungles by the Border Roads Organisation under heavy armed security, railway lines are being planned to carry the mineral wealth of the region as well as to move the state's troops in the Centre's Operation Greed Hunt. And now the construction of helipads and airbases is going on at a rapid pace. Airbase camps are

being planned in all the areas of Maoist people's war. The air marshal of Central command, Harshavardhan met Raman Singh and requested the chief minister to sanction land for the airbase. Later an official of the state government announced the plans of IAF to establish the airbase in Chhattisgarh. Addressing a press conference on Jan 7 this year, Harshavardhan said that the establishment of the airbase will be of great help to the forces fighting the Naxals on the ground.

The IAF officials tried to select land near Bilaspur but the required amount of land was not available. 104 officers of the Army have been stationed in the state to proceed with the setting up of the airbase camp. The other places selected by IAF are in Mahasamund, Nandini, Dalli-Rajahara and Gariaband one of which will be finalized.

Already 40 helipads have been set up in Bastar Range alone.

#### Now young girls to become cannon fodder in the state's war against Maoists



Recently there is an increasing drive for the recruitment of young adivasi girls into the police force and also the CRPF by the various state governments and also by the Central government. This shows the utter desperation of the ruling class and the police forces who have become nervous after suffering heavy casualties in their fight against the Maoists. Chhattisgarh has begun this recruitment in a big way with the aim of deploying the adivasi girls in the areas of armed struggle waged by the Maoist revolutionaries. 90 girls from Bijapur have been selected and being trained by the three battalions in Chhattisgarh—168, 170, 85. CRPF has also begun its recruitment drive of local adivasi girls. 300 girls are brought from Dantewada, Bijapur and Narayanpur for recruitment into the CRPF. The girls are being given training in Bilaspur. A CRPF commandant claimed that the recruitment would give a big boost to their war against the Maoists in the dense forests of Chhattisgarh.

The rulers who never bother about jobs for women are now going all out to recruit them into their police force to make them cannon fodder in the rulers' war against the Maoists and the adivasis community.

# Telangana lays bare the opportunism, hypocrisy and regional chauvinism of all parliamentary parties



The Mammoth Student Meeting in Osmania University Campus in Hyderabad on January 3, 2010

Telangana has once again brought into focus the rank opportunism, the unparalleled hypocrisy, the outright treachery and betrayal by all the so-called mainstream political parties. Those who still harboured some illusions on the parliamentary parties and imagined that these parties would not go back on the promises made by them publicly during the Assembly and Lok Sabha elections just eight months ago were shocked. While the cadres and even leaders of these parties in Telangana region became angry and exhibited their wrath by mass resignations, burning down of the party offices, gheraoing and even beating up the leaders who spoke against Telangana, a few had become so extremely emotional that they had even committed suicides.

The ruling Congress, the chief opposition party in Andhra Pradesh, Telugu Desam, Chiranjeevi's Praja Rajyam Party, the social-fascist CPI(M), CPI, the Hitlerite Lok Satta of former bureaucrat Jayaprakash Narayan, have all made a volte face in just a matter of months. The issue gained momentum when the people of Telangana, particularly the student community spearheaded by the Students' Joint Action Committee, began a mass agitation demanding that the AP State Assembly pass a resolution favouring the formation of separate Telangana state and to announce the process and a time-frame for the completion of the process. The TRS leader, KCR, who had been begging Sonia Gandhi and lobbying in the corridors of parliament for years and deliberately avoiding taking up mass struggle fearing the entire movement would go out of his control, undertook a fast-unto-death demanding separate Telangana. His attempts to withdraw the fast drew severe criticism from various quarters thus compelling him to continue the fast. After 11 days of fasting, when KCR's health was fast deteriorating and the situation was going out of control, the Union Home Minister Chidambaram held consultations with the leaders of various parliamentary parties in Andhra Pradesh on December 7. Two days later, on December 9, he announced that the process of formation of Telangana state would begin soon and asked the AP state assembly to introduce the resolution in the current session.

The real drama began after the December 9 announcement by the Union Home Minister. The leaders of the Congress, TDP, PRP, CPI(M) and others who hail from the coastal districts of Andhra region and Rayalaseema regions, the land mafia and the corporate houses from these regions who control vast assets in Hyderabad city, the neo-rich landlords from these regions who enjoy the waters of rivers flowing through Telangana while the peasants of Telangana are left with parched lands, the tiny capitalist-feudal elite from Andhra-Rayalaseema region that siphon off the revenues generated from Telangana, let out a shrill cry the moment Chidambaram made the statement on December 9. The elites of these regions are so influential what with their total control over the Telugu media, state bureaucracy, and their mind-boggling wealth looted from years of exploitation of the Telangana region, that they could pressurize the Congress High Command to reconsider its decision on Telangana. They also organized bandhs and protests with the tacit connivance of the state government headed by anti-Telangana leader from Coastal Andhra region, Roshaiah. The Jaganmohan Reddy (YSR's son) faction within the Congress, which has been trying to create a situation of instability for the Roshaiah government in its bid to make YSR's son the chief minister of the state, utilized the December 9 statement of Chidambaram to whip up anti-Telangana regional

chauvinism in Coastal Andhra-Rayalaseema region and spell trouble for the Roshaiah government. Jagnmohan's faction organized bandhs that had hardly any mass participation; enacted a resignation drama of the MLAs and MPs of the region; and the state seemed to be headed towards President's rule. The MLAs and MPs of Congress, TDP, PRP in the coastal Andhra-Rayalaseema region openly opposed the demand for Telangana while those from the same parties hailing from Telangana region openly supported the demand. Thus every party in the state is vertically divided on the issue. There appeared to be only two parties in Andhra Pradesh: one party supporting separate Telangana state with the demand that the political process for the creation of separate state be initiated immediately; and the second is the party that is opposed tooth and nail to the demand for separate Telangana which wants the Centre to make a categorical statement that the state will not be bifurcated.

Chidambaram proved himself to be a spineless, opportunist, incapable Home Minister when, within a fortnight, he backtracked on his December 9 announcement to appease his own MLAs and MPs from the Coastal Andhra-Rayalaseema region by issuing another statement on December 23. He said that further decision on Telangana would be taken only after achieving consensus on the issue among all parties in Andhra Pradesh. He tried to place the entire blame for the situation on other political parties in Andhra Pradesh that had changed their stance after the December 9 statement on the process of formation of Telangana. But this opportunist cunningly evaded the crucial point why his own Party men had opposed the decision of the High Command to which they swear their unquestionable loyalty everyday. The reversal of the Centre's stand within a fortnight is solely due to the severe crisis within the Congress itself which Sonia, Manmohan, Chidambaram and other stalwarts found it impossible to stem. Obviously, the leaders of various parties from Andhra-Ravalaseema region hailed the December 23 announcement of Chidambaram. And even more vehemently it was spurned and condemned by the people and the political leaders from Telangana. Every organization and the people of Telangana at large described this as Chidambaram's shameless betrayal of the people of Telangana and a sell-out to the money power of the wealthy class of Andhra-Rayalaseema region.

The people of Telangana, who were oppressed for decades not only by the feudal forces, comprador bureaucratic bourgeoisie and imperialists, like the people of all other states of India, but also by the rapacious exploiters from the Coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema regions, came out into the streets in open defiance of the police restrictions and intimidation. And the agitation for their longcherished dream of a separate state has exposed the hypocrisy and opportunism of all the so-called mainstream parliamentary parties as never before. On January 3, a massive student rally called vidyarthi garjana was organized in the Osmania University campus by Students Joint Action Committee (Students JAC). The state government tried desperately to disrupt the meeting. The police denied permission for the meeting. The students approached the High Court which gave permission with several restrictions such as: only students should attend the meeting, political parties should not participate, and so on. With the court order the police could not go ahead with their plans to disrupt the meeting. However, this wicked repressive force spared no effort to place hurdles for students wishing to attend the meeting. The police tried desperately to foil the call of the Students JAC. And they failed miserably. They stopped over one lakh students in various districts when they were proceeding to the meeting in Hyderabad on the plea that they did not have ID cards to prove they were students. In spite of the police harassment and obstruction over three lakh students attended the meeting. The immensely successful meeting of the students was a fitting answer to the police state in Andhra Pradesh. Students discovered innovative methods to dodge the police and reach the venue.

The OU meeting showed the power of student unity. Cutting across party affiliations students from all the ten districts of Telangana poured into OU Arts College Campus. Songs and cultural performances enthused the mammoth gathering. The meeting created a great impact precisely due to the reason that no parliamentary party was present. The parliamentary parties which are declaring their support for separate state of Telangana today are the very same parties and leaders who had been betraying the people of Telangana region throughout their lives. Their support today is mere opportunism since no parliamentary party can exist in Telangana in the present surcharged atmosphere without declaring its support for a separate state. The speakers in the students rally included several student leaders of JAC. Others who spoke were Prof Kodandaram, the convenor of the Political JAC, revolutionary writer comrade Varavara Rao, Kasim, Madiga Reservation Porata Samiti leader Manda Krishna Madiga, journalist Allam Narayana, 95-year-old Telangana veteran Konda Laxman Bapuji, leader of Progressive Organisation of Women, Sandhya, and others.

Arunodaya of CPI(ML)-Janashakti and other cultural troupes gave inspiring performances. Revolutionary ballad Gaddar was not allowed and was stopped at the gate.

The people of Telangana have seen continuous betrayals by the various parliamentary parties over the decades. In 1969 around 400 students were killed by the police in a year-long militant agitation by the students supported by various sections of the people. The agitation was withdrawn by Chenna Reddy, who was leading the agitation, after striking a compromise with the Congress and became the chief minister of Andhra Pradesh. After this betrayal people of Telangana had lost all hopes on the parliamentary parties on the issue of separate Telangana but their aspirations for a separate state continued in their hearts in the next four decades. The TRS, which was formed with the avowed sole objective of achieving Telangana state, was content with a few ministerial posts and confined itself to lobbying with the Congress High Command and occasional demonstrations. It diverted the issue of separate Telangana into parliamentary channels.

It is at this juncture that students came onto the scene raising fresh hopes among the people as the students rejected the leadership of the parliamentary parties and began their agitation independently. They formed the Student JAC while most of the political parties came together under the banner of Political JAC with an independent leader of the civil rights movement, Prof Kodandaram as its convener. Today the entire region of Telangana has erupted like a volcano. Every section of the society—students, university professors, school and college teachers, workers, middle class employees, peasants, various occupational castes, women, dalits—have come out into the streets with several creative forms of protest. The Centre has been trying to procrastinate on the issue with the fond hope that with time the agitation would die down. But, contrary to its expectations, the agitation is taking on more militant forms and is bringing broader sections of the population into the struggle. On January 20, when the students were prevented from taking the body of a student Venugopal Reddy who had committed suicide for the delay by the Centre in announcing the process of formation of separate Telagana, students turned furious and defied the police obstruction. In the resulting clashes 30 students and 15 policemen were injured. The police brutally lahti-charged and fires rubber bullets on the students.

Students are now more determined than before to achieve separate state of Telangana. They had warned the MLAs and MPs to resign from their seats by February 15 or face consequences. The political leaders will not dare to defy the writ of the students. And with the resignations of the MLAs from Telangana which has 107 out of the 294 MLAs in the state, Andhra Pradesh will head for President's rule. The Centre and Chidambaram who is dealing with the issue, it looks, is prepared to suppress the agitation in Telangana to appease the wealthy sections from Andhra-Rayalaseema. It is trying to find one excuse or the other to water down the struggle and to crush it brutally. It has been trying to play the Maoist card by saying that Maoists have taken over, or that they would get strengthened due to the agitation. The DGP Girish Kumar showed his loyalties to the Andhra-Rayalaseema mafia businessmen by warning that small states like Telangana would strengthen the Maoists. A secret report is said to have been prepared listing out people who are supposed to be Maoists or have links with the Maoists. ESL Narasimhan, a former director of the Intelligence Bureau and the Governor of Chhattisgarh, was brought to Andhra Pradesh as the Governor after the ignominious exit of ND Tiwari following the exposure of his indecent sexual acts. Narasimhan is known to have sanctioned mass murders in Chhattisgarh, encouraged the setting up of the terrorist salwa judum hangs, and turned the state into a killing-field. He was specially brought to Andhra Pradesh to cruelly suppress the agitation for separate Telangana.

However much the reactionary rulers may try to suppress the agitation and create a blood-bath, they are unlikely to succeed this time in achieving their objective. The more brutal the police repression the more militant and broader the struggle would become. If the Centre continues to procrastinate it is likely that the property of the wealthy class from Andhra-Rayalaseema region in Hyderabad and other parts of Telangana will become the target of the people's wrath. The people of Telangana who had seen several militant struggles in the past, are imbued with radical consciousness due to years of armed struggle waged by the Maoist revolutionaries, will not be cowed down by the brutal acts of the police state. They will certainly achieve a separate Telangana state which will be a step forward in the long-term goal of achieving a new democratic Telangana.

# Some pictures of Separate Telangana movement





























## Paresh Barua calls for plebiscite

Telegraph

**Guwahati, Dec. 11:** Ulfa commander-in-chief Paresh Barua today offered a Hobson's choice to the government — either include sovereignty in the talks or conduct a plebiscite among the indigenous people of the state.

New Assam Governor J.B. Patnaik, however, tried to keep the peace process on track by inviting Ulfa for unconditional talks.

Barua, in an e-mailed statement, said his option was the "*last word*" of those who were still not in the "enemy's" clutches.

A source said while Barua's statement allowed the leaders in custody, including Ulfa chairman Arabinda Rajkhowa, to have their views, "talks with these captive leaders are unlikely to restore peace in the state given that the Ulfa's strength lies in its military, which Barua controls." He said the government could not accept either of the options.

Barua said Indian democracy did not practice peoples' democracy. *"India's claim about being the biggest democracy in the world is nothing but a propaganda. In reality there are no democratic rights. People of Assam are being suppressed by the Indian occupational forces and for the people of Assam democracy has no meaning."* He said since plebiscite was a part of people's democracy, it was the duty of the occupation forces to consider a people's referendum for Assam.

"We will continue to fight against the Indian occupational forces unless they agree to hold discussion on sovereignty or conduct a plebiscite," the statement said. The statement said Indian democracy had turned into a "party democracy" with political parties in power working only in their interest.

Within an hour of being sworn in this evening, Governor J.B. Patnaik said, "The home minister has invited them (Ulfa) to come to the negotiating table. I have also invited them today. They should come for talks unconditionally. I don't believe in violent methods. There is enough scope in the Constitution to settle any problem without resorting to violence," he told reporters at the Raj Bhavan.

## In India, Forests Grow with Naxalite People's War

(Reproduced from WWW.REVLEFT.COM)

A new report has stunned and embarrassed imperialism and Indian compradors: forests are growing in tribal areas controlled by Naxalites, India's Maoist-inspired revolutionaries. Some of the districts in which the Naxalites are based, Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, have seen remarkable greening, leading to a marginal net gain of forests throughout India. Though it has received little media attention, the news came shortly before world leaders met in Copenhagen, purportedly to discuss discuss curbing global climate change.

Naxalites claim they are fighting for the economic and social rights of India's poorest. Their social base is the country's peasants, forest-dwelling peoples and, to a lesser extend, the urban poor and sections of the intelligentsia. The Naxalite movement began as a peasant insurrection in 1967 against the ruling 'Communist' Party of India in West Bengal. It was led by leftist opposition within the Party, influenced by Maoism, then at its revolutionary height during the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. Today, Naxalites operate in over one-third of Indian and are organized into a number of groups. They claim to be carrying out a people's war: leading guerrilla offensives against government forces, building independent bases of power and providing greatly-needed social reforms in areas under their control. Naxal base areas are said to be rich in iron, coal, bauxite, gold, uranium,

magnesium and diamonds. Mining Companies are reluctant to enter these areas and it has been reported the investors have been scared away in areas where the Naxal presence has increased.

The Indian Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, has called Naxalism the country's greatest internal security threat. In September of 2009, the Indian state launched Operation Green Hunt, a two-year military offensive against the Naxalite movement involving over 100,000 troops. Since 2005, the Indian state has funded anti-Naxal militias. The Indian media has also launched a public relations offensive against the revolutionaries. The Naxals are often called criminals and murderers. Rather than fighting for social welfare, the Indian state claims the Naxals seek political power.

For their part, the Naxals openly state they desire political power, saying they cannot reasonably implement necessary social changes without it. They say they have been pushed to this position from decades of exploitation and state violence and claim their own violence is defensive, aimed at compradors, government forces and other enemies of the people. It is estimated that 42 percent of Indians currently live under the international poverty line of \$1.25/day (PPP).

Imperialism has nothing to offer but its own wretched self-preservation. The comprador Indian state has been adamant. India's poor will suffer deepened and widened exploitation, continued division and sale of communal lands, the building of more 'Special Economic Zones' and the militarism necessary to enforce these measures. At the same time, in Copenhagen, imperialists haggle over who's going to profit from the devastating climate change they acknowledge they're creating.

Imperialism breeds resistance. The Indian Naxalites are fighting for a system which operates around the needs of people, not capital accumulation. It should be of no surprise that areas under their influence have seen growth in forest coverings. Revolutionary struggle and social change, as the Naxalites are attempting carrying out in swaths of India, are the only real solutions to global climate change.

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# Bihar cops thrash Jamia professor, brand him 'Naxal'

Pranava K Chaudhary, TNN 26 December 2009

PATNA: Associate professor at Jamia Millia Islamia, Rahul Ramagundam, was assaulted, abused and branded a Naxalite by Bihar police for daring to ask the cops why the hutments belonging to Musahars -- among the most backward of Scheduled Castes -- were being demolished.

Ramagundam, who teaches at Dr K R Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies at JMI, was thrashed and abused and called a Naxalite by Khagaria police at Amausi village. His local companion was also manhandled and beaten up by lathi-wielding police constables and officers. The incident took place on December 22.

"How could asking just one question lead to such physical violence? How can one be called a Naxalite and assaulted and humiliated like this," asked Ramagundam. Amausi had hit headlines on October 1 when 16 villagers, mostly OBCs (Kurmi), were killed allegedly by Musahars. The village has some 300 Musahar families who live in thatched huts.

"On December 22, I rode pillion on the motorbike of Varun Choudhry, a grassroots activist with Khagaria-based NGO Samta, to go to Amausi. When we reached, the village was in turmoil. The cops were breaking thatched houses of people who were said to be absconding.

Shankar Sada, whom Varun met in the village, took us to the place where the police party had camped before taking up the rip-and-strip job," Ramagundam said. "Just as we spoke, a police party arrived and pulled down the thatched roof and walls of a hut. I couldn't control myself. I asked the cops if they had any written orders to pull down the houses of the absconding accused. "A tall uniformed man stared at me. Instead of answering, he asked me my identity. I teach in Delhi, I told him. 'Name?' I told him. 'Father's name?' I told him. But even before I could take out my identity card, he turned hostile. By then, I was surrounded by the rest of the cops. They roughed me up and thrashed my colleague, Varun, who suffered a fracture," said Ramagundam.

"They had guns. A constable in green fatigues called me a Naxalite and moved menacingly to break the cordon around me," he said. After meeting Khagaria SP Anusya Rannsingh Sodhi, Ramagundam lodged a complaint asking whether people had the right to ask police for written orders before dismantling houses of the "poorest of the poor".

The Khagaria SP said she would conduct an inquiry and take appropriate action. She added that she would not take action against anyone merely on the basis of Ramagundam's statement. Ramagundam is author of two books, 'Defeated Innocence' on the Adivasi struggle for land rights in Madhya Pradesh in 2001 and 'Gandhi's Khadi: A History of Contention and Conciliation'.

#### Maoists on development spree

#### Rajib chatterjee, The Statesman

KOLKATA, 3 JAN: Maoists are learnt to have established a parallel government in the forest areas of Junglemahal on the West Bengal-Jharkhand-Bihar border to carry out development work. With the state government failing to reoccupy areas from Maoists, the Left-wing ultras have set up health centres, excavated ponds, and formed an agricultural cooperative to help tribals who have been neglected for the past three decades, according to an Intelligence Branch official.

A tribal outfit, controlled by CPI (Maoist), has set up a health centre at Koroya village at Balarampur in Purulia where local people are treated, Intelligence agencies have come to know.

The Maoists have also set up a "service centre" at Ayodhya Garerh Math from where they provide various services to local residents. Those who receive injuries in the "war" against police are treated here, a highly placed Intelligence official told The Statesman. In a large number of Maoist controlled villages in the border zone, ponds were excavated for the convenience of local people during the harsh summer months. At Chatrajaba village near Bagmundi, Maoists have recently excavated a pond for local people. New wells are being dug while old ones are being cleaned by Maoists at various villages where there is acute scarcity of drinking water.

Intelligence officials recently recovered some documents in which Maoists gave an overview of developmental activities being carried out by them in areas where the government is not present. Quoting the document, an official said that community halls are also being set up at remote areas. To develop agriculture, the Maoists have taken an initiative to form "Krishi Jote" (agricultural cooperatives) in every zone of Junglemahal. The ultra-left wing party is also forming cooperatives to pisciculture. According to reports, women have been included in managing committees to run the cooperatives.

Maoists have also destroyed several hooch dens in Midnapore West, Purulia, and Bankura districts. Significantly, large numbers of women participated in this drive. Those who used to operate hooch dens were fined Rs 5,000.

The official added Maoists are raising funds to run their "administration" by collecting fines from ration dealers, operators of hooch dens and government contractors. Since forest department employees don't have access to the area, medicinal plants planted by the department are also believed to have been sold by the Maoists.

#### 'My Conscience Won't Allow Me To Abandon Lalgarh'

Trinamool MP Kabir Suman, who recently resigned from his party, tells ARUP CHAKRABORTY that he is an activist and not meant for politics

## What prompted this eight-song album that caused the furore?

It is called *Chatradharer Gaan*, and is all about the governmentsponsored terror in Lalgarh and Chhatradhar Mahato; and it stands as tall as Birsa Munda. The songs come despite the feeling that the end is near. My song talks about an issue that we are all familiar with: Whom does the forest belong to? Does it belong to the government, the Home Ministry, the party leaders or the revolutionaries?

My voice still belongs to me. I am in the habit of speaking the truth and I never shy away from the reality. I failed to express my feelings in Parliament, but I will never compromise with my songs. I do not care what happens. I will speak for freedom.

#### So have you guit the TMC?

The time to answer this question has still not arrived.



Photo: PINTU PRADHAN

#### What made you step down?

My tongue is mine, my voice only mine. I didn't gift these to anyone. I am used to speaking about the reality. I couldn't speak about anything in Parliament, but while sitting with the UPA members I saw very clearly how the parliamentary system functions. The winners of elections take all, while the vote bank is left hungry as before. My conscience will not allow me to abandon Lalgarh. The political bosses make empty promises.

You had decided to resign from the party in November 2009. Why did you wait till January 2010?

I wanted to give it a last try.

## You had alleged that your party is full of "petty and corrupt leaders at the local level". Do you still stand by that statement?

I am not interested in answering this one. Really, I am not interested in talking about them. Were your grievances redressed?

I don't care about that either.

What did your party chief Mamata Banerjee have to say about the corruption? She did not respond. She just wants me to sing.

She had also roped in writer and social worker Mahasweta Devi to bring you back into the party. Didn't that work?

That's for you to find out.

You had once said that you are more Marxist than anyone around, and that you had never thought you would walk alongside Mamata Banerjee. What made you associate with her? I still believe in Maoism and Marxism. I believe in revolution. I look for change. I urge the downtrodden people to fight for it. I had thought she would bring about the change.

#### What is it like to work with Mamata Banerjee?

I would like to avoid answering this one.

Aren't you afraid that your resignation will prompt the Left to criticise the TMC?

I don't care if there are any tussles for the top political seat.

Does Kabir Suman have a political future?

Politics is not my cup of tea. I am an activist.

#### Do you support armed revolution?

Armed revolution is born of hunger. It comes only after years of deprivation. The Jangalmahal people have remained deprived right since 1947. If they won't revolt, who will?

From Tehelka Magazine, Vol 7, Issue 02, Dated January 16, 2010

#### Suicide claims more US military lives than Afghan war

#### By James Cogan 6 January 2010

American military personnel are continuing to take their own lives in unprecedented numbers, as the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq wars drag on. By late November, at least 334 members of the armed forces had committed suicide in 2009, more than the 319 who were killed in Afghanistan or the 150 who died in Iraq. While a final figure is not available, the toll of military suicides last year was the worst since records began to be kept in 1980.

The Army, National Guard and Army Reserve lost at least 211 personnel to suicide. More than half of those who took their lives had served in either Iraq or Afghanistan. The Army suicide rate of 20.2 per 100,000 personnel is higher than that registered among males aged 19 to 29, the gender age bracket with the highest rate among the general population. Before 2001, the Army rarely suffered 10 suicides per 100,000 soldiers.

The Navy lost at least 47 active duty personnel in 2009, the Air Force 34 and the Marine Corp, which has been flung into some of the bloodiest fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, 42. The Marine suicide rate has soared since 2001 from 12 to at least 19.5 per 100,000.

For every death, at least five members of the armed forces were hospitalised for attempting to take their life. According to the *Navy Times*, 2 percent of Army; 2.3 percent of Marines and 3 percent of Navy respondents to the military's own survey of 28,536 members from all branches reported they had attempted suicide at some point. The "Defense Survey of Health-Related Behaviors" also found "dangerous levels" of alcohol abuse and the illicit use of drugs such as pain killers by 12 percent of personnel.

The trigger for a suicide attempt varied from case to case: relationship breakdowns, financial problems, substance abuse, tensions with other members of their unit, a traumatic event. What is clear, however, is that military service has seriously impacted on the physical and mental health of the victims.

The suicide figures for serving personnel are only one indication. The most alarming statistics are those on mental illness related to the hundreds of thousands of veterans of the two wars who have left the military and sought to reintegrate into civilian life.

While there is no exact figure, studies estimate that as many as 20 to 30 percent of veterans suffer some degree of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), hindering their ability to hold down jobs, maintain relationships, overcome substance abuse and, in some cases, maintain their will to live. The worsening economic conditions facing working people in the US are aggravating the difficulties.

A survey last year found that at least 15 percent of former soldiers in the 20 to 24 age bracket were unemployed. An article by the *Florida Today* site on January 3 reported that 450 of the 800 homeless in Brevard County were Iraq or Afghanistan veterans. Shelters in California are reporting twice as many requests for assistance from new veterans compared with 2007. At the current rate, they will eventually outnumber the more than 100,000 homeless Vietnam vets.

A study of veterans with PTSD published last August by the *Journal of Traumatic Stress* found that 47 percent had had suicidal thoughts before seeking treatment and 3 percent had attempted to kill themselves. The US Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) has been compelled to substantially upgrade its services. Since its 24-hour, seven-days a week suicide hotline was belatedly established in July 2007, it has counselled over 185,000 veterans or their families and claims to have prevented at least 5,000 suicides. It now has 400 counselors dedicated to suicide prevention though even the Pentagon admits far more are needed.

People who served in either Iraq or Afghanistan make up a growing proportion of the 6,400 veterans that VA estimates take their own lives each year. A 2007 CBS study put the rate among male veterans aged 20 to 24 at four times the national average—more than 40 per 100,000 per year.

The suicide estimates do not include the hundreds of young veterans who die each year in auto accidents, many of which are linked with excessive speed or driving under the influence and kill or injure others as well. In 2008, veterans who served in Iraq or Afghanistan were 75 percent more likely to die in an auto accident than non-veterans and 148 percent more likely to die in a motorcycle crash. Suicide statistics also do not count deaths that are classified as accidental drug-related overdoses.

American society will continue to pay for the harm caused by the Iraq and Afghan wars for decades to come. There is a growing medical consensus that a significant factor in PTSD is actual physical damage to the brain. Developments in vehicle and body armour, combined with advances in medical treatment, have enabled thousands of soldiers to survive bomb blasts that might have taken their lives in earlier conflicts. They survive with trauma to their brain however.

The Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury estimated in early 2009 that between 45,000 to 90,000 veterans of the two wars had been left with "severe and lasting symptoms" of brain injury. Overall, the Defense Department estimates that as many as 20 percent of veterans had suffered some degree of brain injury due to bomb blasts while in Iraq or Afghanistan—a staggering 360,000 men and women.



"We have started a new form of joint operation in Rajnandgaon and northern Bastar. The objective is to pack a small area with adequate force, so that Naxals are forced to flee the area. Once they have retreated we will develop the area. When that area has developed, we will move to another geographical area and develop it." – Vishwa Ranajan, DGP, Chhattisgarh

From "Life Behind the Iron Curtain", Tusha Mittal, Tehelka Magazine, Vol 7, Issue 02, Dated January 16, 2010

At a recent press conference in Raipur, Chhattisgarh DGP Vishwa Ranjan told journalists on record that there could be police action against them if they wrote in favour of Naxalites. Two weeks ago in Dantewada, DIG SR Kalluri called journalists into his office for one-on-one sessions. "He told us not to write in favour of the Naxals (euphemism for not writing anything against the State) and said the police have their eyes on us," says NRK Pillai, vice-president of the Chhattisgarh Working Journalists Union. "The atmosphere isn't conducive. There's no one really to back us. Press owners will not stand by us. There's always the fear of what will happen to our families."

file a response.



Sambo's husband was tilling the fields on the morning of October 1, 2009, when Salwa Judum SPOs barged into Goompad village. One bullet from their guns split open her leg. Her children leapt towards her, covering her body. That could be why she is still alive. Nine others were killed during combing operations. Most were those who could not run away — Madvi Yankaiya, 50; Madvi Bajaar 50 and his wife Madvi Subhi, 45; their daughters Madvi Kanama, 20 and eight-year-old Madvi Mooti; and a newly married couple Soyam Subaiya, 20 and Soyam Subhi, 18.



Another 2-year-old boy was found with his fingers missing. The Dantewada SP announced that nine Naxalites had been killed in an encounter in Goompad village. This is the tale the outside world would have believed, had Himanshu not met Shambo during a regular public hearing in the forest. She told him about the massacre she had witnessed; he ensured she filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court. The court accepted her petition and directed the state to

#### The following is an excerpt from Tehelka Magazine, Vol 6, Issue 50, Dated December 19, 2009

On the afternoon of November 20, the Indian Reserve Battalion, a paramilitary force stationed at Narayanpatna police station opened fire on 150 Adivasis who had gathered in front of the station. Two people, Wadeka Singanna and Andru Nachika, died; around 60 were injured. The victims were members of the Chasi Mulia Adivasi Sangh (CMAS), an Adivasi rights organisation working in Narayanpatna block. They were protesting against excesses committed by police and paramilitary forces that entered their villages during search and combing operations.

In a press conference two days after the firing, SP Deepak Kumar laid out the official police version: leaders of CMAS broke down the police station gates and confronted Gaurang Sahu, the inspector in charge of the station. Heated arguments followed. At one point in the altercation, the Adivasis snatched a self-loading assault rifle and opened fire. In all, 22 rounds were fired, claimed the SP and Sahu was shot in the leg. According to him, the police firing that killed the two CMAS leaders was in self-defense, in retaliation to the firing by the Adivasis.

However, senior district administration officials and a government-appointed lawyer who reached the town a few hours after the firing offered TEHELKA a different account of the day. Off the record, a medical staffer involved in the post-mortem said that the bullet injuries indicated that the two leaders had been shot from behind, along the spine. No bullet injuries were found on their legs, suggesting that the police were shooting to kill, not to incapacitate. Singanna, a key CMAS leader, was shot 14 times, with some of the shots being fired after he fell to the ground. When TEHELKA asked the medical staffer about the injuries sustained by Inspector Sahu, there was silence. In a feeble, nervous voice, he revealed that the injuries were by no means grievous. Ask if the examination of Inspector Sahu's wounds showed signs of a bullet injury and the staffer tells TEHELKA he wants to be excused. He has a family that depends on him and would like to keep his job, he says.

There are several other unanswered questions. If the Adivasis fired 22 rounds at the police and one bullet hit Sahu, where are the remaining bullets? In a relatively small police station compound, how did the Adivasis who were apparently firing indiscriminately manage to miss the other policemen and IRB forces? Who did they seize the weapon from? The altercation between the Adivasi leaders and the inspector took place in full public view in the station compound, between the gate and the station building. As the station sits on the junction of Narayanpatna's two main roads, there were plenty of other eyewitnesses besides the CMAS members. Despite this, not one person talks of bullets fired from multiple locations. All accounts state that the bullets – 82 rounds were fired said SP Deepak Kumar at the press conference – came from the roof of the police station. The IRB personnel on the roof allegedly fired at the two leaders and then at the crowd. When TEHELKA contacted Gaurang Sahu, he refused to answer any questions.

Beyond the questions that arise about police excesses, what is perhaps of greater concern is the campaign unleashed days after the firing. Two days after the firing on 20 November, the police dubbed CMAS a Maoist front. Two weeks later, they asked the Home Department to ban CMAS. Supporters of CMAS who attempted to travel to the region have been arrested and called Maoists. (One of the CMAS supporters arrested by the police is Tapan Kumar Mishra, a popular civil rights activist in Orissa. Mishra had even contested the 2009 Assembly elections as an independent candidate. Mishra was hooded and produced before the media.) The police also claimed to have recovered 150 Maoist uniforms, a powerful landmine, 2 kg of highly explosive material and a VHF communication system.

BUT WHAT is the Chasi Mulia Adivasi Sangh? For more than 15 years, the CMAS has been working in Koraput district on two linked issues: the illegal and fraudulent grabbing of Adivasi land and alcohol addiction. With Adivasis' rights over ancestral land and the prohibition of transfer of land to non-Scheduled Tribes recognised by the Orissa Scheduled Area Transfer of Immovable Property Act and the Orissa Land Regulations Act, the CMAS mobilised Adivasis to take back land that they claim has been unfairly appropriated by nontribals. Before the November 2009 firing, Adivasis told TEHELKA that over 2,000 acres of land had been reclaimed by CMAS.

With the Special Operations Group and the COBRA force monitoring all movement in the area, this once sleepy hamlet is now a war zone. A climate of fear blankets the entire region. In district headquarters Koraput, about 70 kilometres from Narayanpatna, the local taxi association told

TEHELKA that the police had warned them against giving fares to outsiders. Of the six villages that TEHELKA visited in Narayanpatna block, several were deserted. The handful of Adivasi women who had stayed back said the other villagers had fled into the jungles, fearing police harassment and arrests.

IN BHALIAPUT, Linga's village, ostensibly as "part of search operations" the forces burnt a portion of Linga's house. When TEHELKA visited the village two days later, the three Adivasis who remained in the village said the police burnt the house after daubing it with enamel paint and dousing it in kerosene. A few metres away from the scorched debris, TEHELKA found tins of paint and an almost-empty kerosene bottle. Also strewn amidst the burnt debris were medicines which had been kept there for the village anganwadi centre, according to the Adivasis. In almost every house in the village, stored food grains had been destroyed by the forces.



# 'GO TELL THE PEOPLE IN DELHI THAT IF THEY BEHAVE LIKE THIS WITH US, WE WILL THROW THEM OUT'

JAGANNATH KHARA, 50

**SON SADHURAM KHARA** was taken away on 29 November 2009. Has no idea where he is now or who took him away. Three police stations in the area, including one across the border in Andhra, deny arresting or detaining his son.

26-year-old Sadhuram Khara was at the weekly Sunday haat with another relative when two people dressed in typical Adivasi clothes stopped him. Even as his relative listened openmouthed, the men asked Sadhuram if he spoke Telugu. When he said yes, they asked him to take his shirt off. As a frightened Sadhuram complied, the men asked him about the hair on his chest and his fit body. A minute later, Sadhuram was marched off as the relative took to his heels. People in the haat later told Jagannath Khara that the men who took his son away were from the Andhra Pradesh Greyhounds police. Says a weeping Jagannath, "In their mind, my son did not fit the profile of an Adivasi. But my son was young and worked in the fields. He knew Telugu since the border is so close. How can any of this be a crime?" Villagers talk of Sadhuram as a natural leader who helped people obtain NREGS job cards and other work in the village.

WHAT MAKES the situation in Malkangiri worse is the fact that the anti-Naxal Greyhounds of Andhra Pradesh carried out several arrests and illegal detentions with no prior intimation or coordination with the Orissa police. When TEHELKA spoke with Rajesh Chatria, inspector in charge of Chitrakonda police station, about the disappearance of an Adivasi, Sadhuram Khara from a village in his station limits, the inspector admitted that the local police were rarely informed about Greyhound activities.

(From Tehelka Magazine, Vol 6, Issue 50, dated December 19, 2009)



# When the State Declares War on the People

A 15 minute Trailer on the Human Rights Violations in Chhattisgarh resulting from Operation Green Hunt

Director: Gopal Menon

#### Synopsis

We have been hearing many stories about the human rights violations before and after Operation Green Hunt was announced. Allegations and counter-allegations have been going

around. Fact-finding investigations have uncovered the atrocities security forces are committing in these areas, but now those very findings are being questioned.

At such a time it is crucial to present the reality and tear the veils obscuring the truth. *When the State Declares War on the People* is a 15-minute trailer by Gopal Menon based on his recent coverage of the ground reality in Chhattisgarh. This short film contains exclusive interviews with victims and their testimony including 1 ½ year old Suresh who had three fingers chopped off his left hand, an old man who was electrocuted and whose flesh was ripped off with knives, women raped by Special Police Officers and CRPF. The film also presents the views of Arundhati Roy and Mahesh Bhatt, two eminent citizens who have been closely following developments in Chhattisgarh. The clear intention of the State - to wipe out all resistance through terror in the name of fighting the Maoists - is demonstrated in this film.

#### About the Director

Gopal Menon is an activist-filmmaker focusing on caste, communalism,gender, and nationality. He was arrested twice while trying to go to Lalgarh and beaten with rifle butts and lathis. He was detained in Dantewada too. This is a trailer of a larger film on the Indian State's war on the people.

Some of Menon's earlier films are *Naga Story: The Other Side of Silence, Hey Ram!! Genocide in the Land of Gandhi, PAPA 2* (about disappearances in Kashmir) and *Resilient Rhythms* (a rainbow overview of the Dalit situation) amongst others.

#### Contacts

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# COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL REGIONAL BUREAU CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Date: 15 January 2010

#### OPPOSE THE MURDEROUS OPERATION GREEN HUNT UNLEASHED ON THE INDIAN PEOPLE BY FASCIST SONIA-MANMOHAN-CHIDAMBARAM GANG!

#### OBSERVE 72-HOUR BANDH FROM 25-27 JANUARY 2010 THROUGHOUT THE CENTRAL REGION OF INDIA!!

Ever since last June, starting with the massive counter-revolutionary armed offensive in Lalgarh region in West Bengal, the reactionary ruling classes of our country led by the Sonia-Manmohan-Chidambaram (SMC) fascist gang have stepped up their cruel offensive against the people in the entire mineral-rich, adivasi-inhabited areas in central and eastern India. In Dandakaranya special zone comprising the southern part of Chhattisgarh, Gadchiroli and Chandrapur districts of Maharashtra, the murderous war by the Congress-BJP fascist combine was unleashed on a massive scale from last September. Ever since then 82 adivasis were brutally murdered and hundreds were arrested or abducted, scores of women were raped and property of the adivasis worth several crores of rupees was destroyed. Seven adivasis were abducted and murdered near Kistaram on 10<sup>th</sup> November. The fate of 24 adivasis abducted by the CRPF, CoBRA personnel, Chhattiusgarh police and SPOs from Burkapal, Elmagonda, Minpa under Chintagupha PS between 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> November 2009 is still not known. On January 9 this year, eight adivasis were murdered in fake encounters in Dantewada and Narayanpur districts. Four were killed in Sarpanguda forest under Jegurgonda PS in Dantewada and another four were murdered in Homanar forest near Farasgaon under Benur PS in Narayanpur district. DIG of Dantewada range, SRP Kalluri, who had earned notoriety for raping an adivasi woman while he was serving as the SP of Sarguja district, Amaresh Mishra, the SP of Dantewada, TJ Longkumar, the IGP of Bastar Range, and DGP Vishwaranjan, the biggest thug of Chhattisgarh, are in the forefront of this campaign of murder, rape, abduction and torture of adivasis.

Every form of dissent has been crushed most brutally. Even civil rights and other social activists who attempted to visit the area to investigate facts were assaulted by state-sponsored *salwa judum, ma danteswari swabhiman manch* and other private vigilante gangs. Media has been gagged and all facts related to inhuman police atrocities are being suppressed by the police and the saffron terrorist government of Raman Singh with the active assistance of the *khadi* terrorist Congress-led UPA government at the Centre. All adivasis who are murdered are being shown as Maoist guerrillas and these cowardly operations are touted as major successes by the police forces against the Maoists. Through such false claims the top police brass and the government are trying to boost up the sagging morale of their forces who are losing their men in big number in real battles with the Maoists.

Like Hitler, Home Minister Chidambaram, while rushing thousands of central troops on a scale unheard of in the history of the revolutionary movement in India to carry out brutal massacres of adivasis in the entire adivasi belt stretching from West Midnapore-Purulia-Bankura in West Bengal to North Andhra and North Telangana in Andhra Pradesh, has been indulging in shameless white lies that Operation Green Hunt is a myth and purely an invention by the media. 58 battalions of central paramilitary forces have already been deployed in the areas of armed struggle led by the CPI(Maoist). On December 25 a massive joint operation was launched in entire Dandakaranya special zone by the police forces of Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra. A day prior to this massive joint offensive,

Chidambaram met Chief Secretaries and DGPs of five states in the country's capital and informed that an additional 33 battalions of central paramilitary forces consisting of CRPF, ITBP and BSF are being sent to step up the blood-bath. In addition to these central paramilitary forces, the police forces of Chhattisgarh, C-60 commandos and the regular police force of Maharashtra, the AP Grey Hounds, Orissa state armed police and Special Operations Group are taking part in the joint offensive in the central region. Almost 150,000 troops in all are said to be taking part in this joint offensive in just the three zones under the Central Regional Bureau of the CPI(Maoist), namely Dandakaranya, North Telangana, and Andhra-Orissa Border Special Zone.

It is clear that the agents of the imperialists and the comprador business houses ruling our country are preparing to evacuate the adivasis from the entire forest belt and hand over the mineralrich territory to their masters in exchange for fat commissions. While they had never bothered to provide even drinking water to the adivasis during the past 62 years they are spending thousands of crores for setting up airbases, helipads, shining metallic roads and other infrastructure for the movement of their mercenary troops for suppressing the people. Recently, Chhattisgarh government has declared that it would convert the government-run camps or the strategic hamlets that it had set up after burning down over 800 adivasi villages through the state-sponsored salwa judum terrorist campaign into regular village panchayats thereby revealing the real intention of its war against the people. It wants to drive out the adivasis permanently from their native villages and hand over the entire forest to the corporate bosses and imperialist vultures.

The Central Committee, CPI(Maoist), and its Central Regional Bureau, call upon the people of Chhattisgarh, North Telangana, Andhra-Orissa Border region and Gadchiroli and Chandrapur districts of Maharashtra to observe 72-hour bandh from 25-27 January to protest against the murderous joint offensive by the central paramilitary forces and the police of Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, AP and Orissa in the central region. We appeal to all revolutionary, democratic and peace-loving forces to unite to resist this fascist country-wide offensive by the Central and state governments, particularly the joint offensive by the Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa governments on the Maoist movement and the indigenous adivasi community in Dandakaranya, North Telangana, North Andhra and Orissa. We call upon them to extend solidarity and all kinds of assistance to the victims of this unprecedented brutal state terrorist violence. We invite all peace-loving citizens to visit these areas and expose the bizarre happenings to the outside world. We call upon the police and central forces not to become repressive tools in the hands of the reactionary anti-people rulers who are destroying the economy, social life and culture of our own adivasi brothers and sisters for the sake of their capitalist masters but, instead, to train their guns against these reactionary traitors who are selling out the country's interests.

Let us build a mighty militant mass movement to force the reactionary rulers to stop this blood-bath in the adivasi areas. We call upon the entire rank and file of the Party, the brave PLGA fighters, and the revolutionary masses to valiantly fight back the brutal offensive unleashed by the imperialist agents ruling our country, and to take the ongoing people's war of resistance to a higher level by displaying exemplary courage and determination to defeat the brutal enemy offensive.

Azad, Spokesperson, Central Committee CPI(Maoist) Pratap, Central Regional Bureau, CPI(Maoist)





Press Release

Date:

#### The claim made by the government that 7 'Naxals' were killed by the CoBRA, Greyhounds and SPOs in an encounter between the Maoists and the police on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009 is completely false!

#### Dear friends,

The central and state governments are presently engaged in a massive military operation under Operation Green Hunt. Thousands of paramilitary, Cobra and police forces are being deployed in each and every part of Dandakaranya region under this operation. These forces are entering forests, hills and village settlements and are unleashing attacks with immense brutality on unarmed and defenceless adivasis. Starting from the incident of 9<sup>th</sup> August 2009 in Vechhapal under Bharamgarh police station (Bijapur district) to the one near Kistaram (Dantewada district) on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009, all have been fake-encounters. 70 adivasis in total have been killed in these fake encounters within this period. Not a single one among them was a Maoist.

The government's claim of killing 7 'Naxals' in an encounter on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2009 near Kistaram is a complete lie. On 9<sup>th</sup> December, more than 500 policemen entered the area under Kistaram police station from Cherla Demmaguda police station area in Khammam district of Andhra Pradesh. They reached Tetemadgu village through Dokpad and Kurigundam, and encircled it. From the morning to the evening of 9<sup>th</sup> December, the police burnt down houses, committed atrocities on women, and brutally tortured the villagers. They took away four persons from the village. Two more villagers from Dokpad who came to visit their relatives in Tetemadgu were also abducted in this manner. After spending the night in the forests, the police force reached Palodi village in the morning of 10<sup>th</sup> December, they detained another adivasi villager and completely burnt down the village. The police then took all the seven captives near Kestaram and riddled them with bullets in a most barbaric manner. The government is now claiming this to be an 'encounter' with the Maoists. The police took away a few more adivasi villagers with them. All of them are untraceable till now.

Between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November, the CRPF, Cobra, SPOs and police forces entered in their hundreds the adivasi villages under Chintagupha police station and unleashed atrocities. They attacked the villages of Burkapal on 7<sup>th</sup> November, Elma Gonda on 8<sup>th</sup> November, Minpa on 9<sup>th</sup> November, and forcibly abducted 24 persons. Their whereabouts or their fate is still unknown. We apprehend that the police has murdered many of them and disposed of the dead bodies. We request you to expose this cold-blooded murder bv the government through vour media/newspaper/magazine/channel.

The government has begun Operation Greenhunt from Dantewada and Bijapur districts. Thousands of troops are being deployed to carry out this operation. Combing operation in the forests has been started in coordination with the governments of Andhra, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Maharashtra and their top police officials. Village markets and shops are being closed down, and people are being prevented from harvesting their crops. The government is also asking the people to leave their forest

villages and come to the 'relief camps'. Many are running away to Andhra Pradesh in fear, leaving their village, land and forests.

We appeal to all the democratic, progressive and pro-people organisations and individuals, democratic and civil rights organisations and activists, writers and intellectuals, journalists, students and youth to come forward and make all efforts to stop this genocide and brutal repression committed on the people by the Indian government. They must also pressurise the government to conduct judicial enquiry into all the incidents taking place in this region, and to punish the police officers guilty of these crimes.

Raamanna

Secretary DKSZC CPI (Maoist)

# COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Press Release:

29 December 2009

#### Killer and molester Rathore represents the real face of the Indian state! We can obtain justice to thousands of Ruchikas only by overthrowing this criminal social-political system in India that masquerades as democracy!

The smile on the face of Rathore, the former DGP of Haryana and the sadist killer and molester of a minor girl, in many ways resembles the 'democracy' that the fascist, repressive Indian state dons to hide its hideous ugly features. Ruchika episode shows how a police official cannot only get away but can even be promoted even after committing the most heinous crimes. The various wings of the state were actively involved in defending this criminal for 19 long years. Whether it was the Congress regime of Bhajan Lal, or the HVP-BJP regime of Bansi Lal, or the INLD-BJP government of Om Prakash Chautala, the molester of Ruchika and the cause for her suicide, DGP Rathore, continued to lend support and even promote him to ADGP and then DGP. Rathore's repugnant episode reveals the real nature of our state—the anarchic, lawless, lumpenised character of its executive, judiciary and the legislative wings. The entire state machinery including the CBI which is in reality a criminal bureau, was involved in committing and shielding the criminal in khaki uniform, DGP Rathore.

It is only rarely that a case such as that of Ruchika sees the light of the day. Thousands of Ruchikas have suffered, and are suffering, due to such atrocities by policemen, bureaucrats, politicians, judges all in an unholy nexus. Rape of minor girls and women at large, torture, illegal detention and murder of innocent people has become an inherent trait of the police; defending these culprits in khaki uniform, absolving them of their heinous crimes, aiding and abetting them in all their misdeeds has become the duty of the judiciary; defending and promoting these khaki rowdies, rewarding them with medals of honour and promoting them for their brave acts of rapes and murders has become the feature of every party in power. Manmohan Singh, Chidambaram, Raman Singh, Buddhadeb, Naveen Patnaik, and others are directly responsible for the cold-blooded murders of thousands of people in Kashmir, North East, Maoist-influenced areas in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and so on. The so-called circular by the

Centre to the states to accept a complaint as an FIR is mere humbug. It is meant to be an eye-wash following the furore over the gross criminal attitude shown by the police in the case of Ruchika. If so several hundred complaints are already pending against notorious police officials in various states such as the rape of an adivasi girl by SRP Kalluri when he was SP of Sarguja district but who was subsequently promoted as DIG for his brave act; the rape of Mynabai in Gyarapatti PS by Munnasingh Thakur in Gadchiroli; the rape of a 13-year-old girl in Gadchiroli so clearly exposed by a fact-finding committee, and hundreds of other cases of rape and murder. Will Chidambaram allow these cases to be files at least in the states where the Congress itself is in power?

The entire media, for once, has played a commendable role by exposing the role of various agencies of the state in suppressing the case of Ruchika and acting as accomplices of Rathore. If the media exhibits the same interest in digging out the facts regarding the atrocities against the poor, illiterate, helpless adivasis and other oppressed, it would be of great help in acting as a check against the state's lawlessness. A few glaring recent incidents can expose the lumpen character of the state's forces and help in reducing, if not preventing, such abuses in future. That is cases that had been drawn to light in Tehelka—case of 80-year-old Dudi Muye, whose breasts were cut off and 1 ½ year-old child whose fingers were chopped off, and so on.

Azad, Spokesperson, Central Committee CPI(Maoist)

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

Press Release:

12 December 2009

#### Right to separate statehood is a democratic aspiration of every region that is subjected to prolonged discrimination and oppression! Support the just and democratic demands of the people of

#### Support the just and democratic demands of the people of Telangana, Gorkhaland, Bodoland, Vidarbha, Bundelkhand, Maru Pradesh and others!

The militant mass agitation by the people of Telangana that had forced the central government to concede to the demand for a separate state, however reluctantly, has given a fillip to the long-pending demands for statehood in several regions in the country. Even though the fate of Telangana itself is still hanging in air following opposition by almost all the parties in Andhra and Rayalaseema regions, and may require another edition of a more militant struggle by the people of Telangana region, the acceptance of separate state of Telangana in principle has no doubt set into motion a chain of mass agitations in several regions in the country.

The demand for separate state by people of Telangana, Gorkhaland, Bodoland, Bundelkhand, Vidarbha, Maru Pradesh, Poorvanchal, Coorg and other regions in the country is the inevitable consequence of decades of economic, social, political and cultural oppression practiced by the reactionary ruling classes over these regions, and the complete neglect and discrimination by the Central and state governments. The regional imbalances and uneven development which characterized India at the time of the transfer of power from the British imperialists to the native big landlord, big bourgeoisie exploiting classes had further increased and assumed acute proportions due to the unbridled plunder and loot of the backward regions by the imperialists, feudal forces and comprador big business houses. The so-called development had only pushed these regions into further backwardness, reducing the people to extreme misery and destitution. Moreover, most of these regions have their own distinct language, culture, contiguity of territory, and common psychological make-up. Hence they had always felt a separate nationality or community. It is due to these factors that the people of these regions have been demanding and agitatining for separate statehood.

The people of these regions not only suffer from discrimination and neglect by their respective state governments and the Centre which serve the imperialists, comprador big business houses, and big landlords, but also from the oppression, exploitation and discrimination by the landlords, bourgeoisie and the neo-rich class hailing from the relatively developed parts of those states. Hence the formation of a separate state will be the first step in the struggle of these regions to free themselves from the exploitation, oppression and plunder by the imperialists, comprador big bourgeoisie, and the big landlords, and the regional compradors from the advanced regions.

The Central Committee, CPI(Maoist), has consistently supported every democratic aspiration of the people. It recognizes the right of every oppressed nationality and region to have their own state. It pledges its total support to the fighting masses of these regions. Every parliamentary party will try to utilize the volatile situation and the sentiment of the people of the various regions for their narrow electoral ends. The people of these regions must beware of the machinations and manipulations of these opportunistic, hypocritical parties which seek to divert the people's wrath and sentiment into parliamentary channels.

It warns the people to beware of the conspiracies of the various parliamentary parties to hijack these movements for their electoral ends and their attempts to take it along the path of compromise. While uniting all forces, including the parliamentary parties that are willing to join the struggle we should formulate appropriate plans to defeat the enemy's brutal onslaught and to sustain the agitation with a clear long-term plan.

The time has come for forming a broad front of all these democratic forces against the Centre and the classes that run it. Azad, Spokesperson, Central Committee CPI(Maoist)

> COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Press Release:

23 December 2009

#### Condemn the continuing betrayal by the Congress at the Centre and all the parliamentary parties in Andhra region! Consensus Let us wage a united militant mass struggle against the Congress fascist regime and the betrayers in various political garbs!

The 40 million people of Telangana region who comprise almost 40 % of the population of the state of Andhra Pradesh have stood up boldly and unequivocally for their long-cherished democratic demand for a separate state. The people of Telangana region not only suffer from discrimination and neglect by the state and central governments that serve the imperialists, comprador big business houses, and big landlords, but also from the oppression, exploitation and discrimination by the landlords, bourgeoisie and the neo-rich class hailing from the relatively developed Andhra region. Hence the democratic aspiration for a separate state has taken firm root in the minds of the neglected people of Telangana region.

The demand for separate Telangana was raised several times over the past few decades and had even assumed the form of a violent year-long agitation in the year 1969. But it was then brutally

suppressed by the Congress government led by Indira Gandhi and betrayed by the Telangana Praja Samiti led by Chenna Reddy. 400 people, most of them students, were killed by the fascist Congress regime in 1969 but it could not kill the democratic aspiration of the people of Telangana. Successive regimes of the Congress and TDP, which were captive to the pressures of the Andhra lobby, had opposed the demand tooth and nail. However, during the elections to the state Assembly in 2004 and again in 2009, the Congress, with an eye on the votes, promised that it would fulfill the demand for a separate state if it came to power.

But this comprador Party, known for its long history of betrayals of promises, went back on its promise of Telangana state and began to dilly-dally on the issue for over five years. The other major party of the big landlord big bourgeoisie classes of India, the BJP too, had promised Telangana state with the catchy slogan of 'one vote-two states' way back in the 1999 elections but betrayed the people after it came to power in the Centre. Today the opportunist parties such as the BJP and TDP, CPI and CPI(M), are claiming that they support Telangana only with the ulterior motive of gaining some mass base and convert it to their vote banks. TRS, which contested elections on the sole slogan of separate Telangana in 2004 in alliance with the Congress, and again in 2009 in alliance with the TDP, had wasted more than five years begging Sonia and lobbying in the corridors of the Parliament for a separate state. The TRS and its leader KCR are opposed from the very beginning to people's agitation for achieving Telangana state. Their sole fear was that any mass agitation would become militant and slip out of their hands. Hence the TRS had been trying by all means to dilute the real struggle and confine it to the corridors of the Parliament and Assembly with an occasional demonstration to pretend that it is also for struggle. KCR, who claimed all along that his Party would achieve statehood for Telangana through lobbying among the Congress high command, has gone on an indefinite hunger-strike thinking this step would keep the movement under his control.

But the present mass upsurge in Telangana has gone beyond the control of any single party. It is gradually freeing itself from the manipulations and narrow selfish interests of the parliamentary parties and a new leadership is emerging out of the struggle. That is why the rulers are scared to the hilt by the unfolding events and by the prospects of formation of a democratic Telangana. The Congress-led UPA regime in the Centre and the Congress government in Andhra Pradesh are trying to suppress this spontaneous mass upsurge and the emerging young militant leadership by any means. It has closed down the universities and colleges for 15 days imagining that through this step it can douse the agitation. The government is also trying to divert the issue and legitimize its use of brute force in the name of anti-social elements entering the movement and also saying that Maoists will take advantage of the situation. It is trying in vain to separate the Maoists from the people. Maoists have always supported and will continue to support and participate in all people's movements including separate Telangana movement. The reactionary rulers cannot isolate the Maoists from the people.

The Central Committee, CPI(Maoist), which has consistently placed the demand for a separate democratic Telangana hails the students, workers, peasantry, middle-class employees, and the intelligentsia of Telangana for their resolute struggle in face of the fascist suppression by the reactionary ruling classes. It pledges its total support to the fighting masses of Telangana for whose liberation thousands of our comrades had sacrificed their lives in the past three decades. It calls upon the people of Telangana to beware of the conspiracies of the various parliamentary parties to hijack this movement for their electoral ends and their attempts to take it along the path of compromise. While uniting all forces, including the parliamentary parties that are willing to join the struggle we should formulate appropriate plans to defeat the enemy's brutal onslaught and to sustain the agitation with a clear long-term plan. We should force the so-called people's representatives belonging to various parliamentary parties in Telangana to resign and to particularly concentrate on wiping out the Congress party from the Telangana region. We appeal to the people of Telangana, particularly the students, not to indulge in suicides but to step up their mass movement until victory.

People and people alone are the real heroes. They are invincible. However much the fascist rulers try to suppress the people's struggle in rivers of blood through their uniformed mercenaries they will certainly be washed away by the tsunami of people's struggles. Let us intensify the mass movement by adopting all forms of struggle to defeat the offensive by the Manmohan-Chidambaram government at the Centre and Roshaiah's government in the state and continue the struggle resolutely until we achieve separate Telangana.

Azad, Spokesperson, Central Committee CPI(Maoist) Photos of victims of Chidambaram's Greed Hunt

























