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Maoists blow up government buildings at Relhatur village

The CPI(Maoists) on Saturday blasted two government buildings at Relhatur village in Orissa's Sundargarh district, police sources said. Around 100 armed ultras stormed into Relhatur village and blasted the panchayat office and its adjoining panchayat store building early this morning, the sources said.

An eyewitness said the maoists were shouting anti-government slogans asking villagers "dekho hum uda raha hai tumhara building, bullao police ko" (see we are blasting your buildings and call police).

The ultras also pasted hand written posters at nearby villages of Rengeda and Topadih. The people of Mahupada, Jharbeda, Relhatur, Sanbalijore and Nangalkata village had earlier left their houses on maoist fear and staged dharna before K Balang police station and NH No 215 demanding security at their villages.

The villagers had returned only three days back after the security camps opened in their villages. The district administration had held a "civil action" programme at Relhatur on Thursday and announced several development programmes and appealed to villagers to cooperate with police to tackle the maoist menace in their area.

The Superintendent of Police of Rourkela, Diptesh Patnaik said additional police force with senior officers rushed to Relhatur and joint combing operation will be intensified.

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