



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST)

DANDAKARANYA SPECIAL ZONAL COMMITTEE

Press Release April 28, 2009

Red salutes to the fighting masses who boycotted the sham elections confronting the state's wide-spread violence and repression!

The first phase of the 15th Lok Sabha polls has come to an end. As far as Chattisgarh is concerned polling has been completed for all the 11 seats in the state. It is to be noted that of the 124 constituencies for which polling was conducted in the first phase of elections on April 16, the majority are the areas of Maoist people's war. The media, which relentlessly boasts that our country is "the biggest democracy in the world" and that these sham elections are the "the biggest chapter of the democracy", maintained a deep silence regarding state violence, especially on the people of the struggle areas. And it limited itself to publish the news of the 'violence' of the Maoists. Actually in *Chattisgarh*, in keeping view of the elections, 250 additional companies have been sent in addition to the already existing thousands of police and paramilitary forces. 80 percent of these forces have been deployed in our struggle areas only. In *Gadchiroli* district of *Maharashtra*, an additional 25 companies of Para-military forces were deployed. It is clear that the sole aim of deploying the forces on such a large scale is to foil the 'election boycott' and to make desperate attempts to retain the steadily sagging image of so-called parliamentary democracy. With this aim, the state's armed forces committed innumerable atrocities on the fighting masses. Many people were killed in fake encounters. Many villages were raided and houses burnt down. In many places women were gang-raped. The irony is that all these happened in the name of conducting the elections in an 'impartial' and 'peaceful' manner. What better example can one give to understand the notorious and repressive history of this fake democracy?

In *Gadchiroli* district of *Maharashtra*, the local police, C-60 Commandos and the Central Para-military forces have unleashed brutal attacks on the people and carried out a suppression campaign on a large scale in the name of 'operation parakram'. The 'operation parakram' was in fact a campaign of gang rape of women and the murders of innocent tribals in the name of encounters. According to the reports available till now, 10 tribal women were gang-raped by the state's forces. In Pavarvel village, one woman was gang raped by five police men and later sent to jail by branding her as a 'naxalite'. She was threatened to keep mum.

On March 23, the beasts of C-60 Commando force under the leadership of notorious *SI Munna Thakur* entered the *Hallepal* village of *Manpur* area in Chattisgarh, and gang raped a woman. In the first week of March one Sukku, a resident of *Goddalvai* village in *Dhanora tehsil* was killed in cold blood and announced that one naxal commander was killed in an 'encounter' that lasted for an hour-and-half. In fact

Sukku was a young tribal and ordinary resident of that village. Apart from this, dozens of tribals from many villages were arrested and sent to jail under false cases.

According to the decision taken in the meeting of the Chief Ministers of four States in Delhi in February, a joint operation was started in Maharashtra and Chattisgarh. Under this, thousands of additional armed forces were deployed in Rajnandgaon and Kanker districts of Chattisgarh. New camps were opened in Panabaras, Vasidi, Khadgav, Kandaadi and Sitagav of Mohala-Manpur areas in Rajnandgaon and Kapsi and Kodapadha in Kanker districts, by deploying hundreds of armed forces. These state forces are touring the villages in the name of patrolling and are creating terror amongst the people. Misbehaving with women and looting poultry and liquor from the villagers has become a common feature. With the approach of the elections, the cycle of repression has further increased throughout Dandakaranya. The police raided the Kulli village of Badgaav area in Kanker district (North Bastar) on 27th March 2009 and burnt down the house and barn of Mr. Mansingh, a peasant. On the same day they raided Katnar village of Koilbeda area and beat up the villagers and arrested 10. On April 5, in Lohar village of Koilbeda area they created terror and severely beat up 9 villagers. Many people left their houses and ran away to the forest after seeing the police forces. Police broke the locks and looted the houses also. Due to the merciless beatings of the police, a 60 year old tribal peasant, Sammu Darro, met with an instantaneous death. Police left the deceased there itself. The ruling classes, which make big claims of conducting 'free' and 'impartial' elections are in fact spreading violence, murders, rapes and terror.

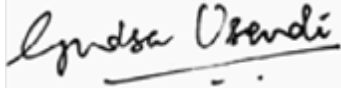
In spite of this extensive terror created by the state's forces, the people, especially in our struggle areas, took part in 'poll boycott' on large scale by rejecting this fake parliamentary democracy. In Bastar constituency there was not a single vote polled in almost 50 polling centers. In spite of the presence of hundreds of police forces not a single vote was polled in Gollapalli of South Bastar and in Kishtaram only 2 votes were polled. In Kanker and Rajnandgaon areas also, majority of the people boycotted the polls in our struggle areas. In fact, the government itself changed the 86 polling centers in Dantewada, Bijapur and Narayanapur to road side villages. During the repolling at 25 centres on 27 April many people did not vote. In 2 centers zero percent polling was recorded. Wherever the polling took place, the state's repressive forces had the main 'role' in it. The people who refused to vote were threatened that they would be killed by branding them as naxalites, that ration supplies to the villages would be stopped, and that they will not be allowed into weekly bazaars and so on. People made the poll boycott campaign a success without heeding these threats. The same state's forces slaughtered the democratic right of the people not to vote. There were many instances of thrashing of people to make them vote. In spite of all this, people accepted the alternative of building the revolutionary people's power by boycotting these fake elections. Our Special Zonal Committee, Dandakaranya offers its red salutes to all the fighting masses.

On the occasion of the elections our PLGA made heroic attacks on terrorist armed forces by braving the state repression. Especially through accomplishing actions like Chintagupha, Maruki, Mungner, Bijapur and annihilating the murderer like Channuram Karma the PLGA tried its best to protect the people from the murderous attacks of the enemy forces. On this occasion we red salute to heroic commanders and red soldiers.

We express our regrets for the sorrowful incident at Kamkasur in which five innocent civilians were killed

With the intention of punishing the terrorist police and para-military forces one of our PLGA's units planned an attack near Kamkasur which falls under Khadgaon area of Rajnandgaon district. But by mistake our comrades blew up a vehicle which was carrying employees on election duty instead of police. In this incident five innocent people were killed and two seriously injured. They were mainly forest and education department employees. According to the information we received from the concerned

committee, there was a grave mistake on part of our comrades in identifying the vehicle and the people traveling in it. We express our deep sorrow and sympathy to the families and friends of the bereaved. And we also wish the speedy recovery of the injured. We request, from the bottom of our hearts, the entire people of Chattisgarh to forgive us for this grave mistake. We promise to take all precautions not to repeat this type of incidents in future. We also promise to train our comrades in this direction. And also we condemn the mis-propaganda of the government that we killed the people deliberately.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gudsu Usendi". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

(Gudsu Usendi)
Spokes Person
Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee
CPI (Maoist)

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