



Maoist Information Bulletin - 32

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Editorial	2
On Fascism and Brahmanical Hindu Fascism	8
Homage to the Martyrs	16
Obituary: Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan	.....	19
Call on the Occasion of the 11th Anniversary of Party Formation	.....	23
News from the Battlefield	.....	30
Voices against War on People	.....	37
People's Struggles	.....	49
News from Behind the Bars	.....	60
News From the Counter-revolutionary Camp	.....	71
Pages from the International Communist Movement	.....	84
Statements of CPI(Maoist)	.....	96

**Central Committee
Communist Party of India (Maoist)**

Editorial

Fight Brahmanical Hindu Fascism! Expand the Protracted People's War! Advance the New Democratic Revolution!

The killings of Mohammad Akhlaq, Prof. M M Kalburgi and Yakub Memon have come to symbolise in many ways the prevailing situation in the country under Modi-led BJP-rule. Akhlaq was bludgeoned to death at his Dadri home in September by a lynch-mob that was instigated, mobilised and led by a bunch of Sanghi goons after maliciously spreading the rumour of beef-eating. Prof. Kulbargi was shot dead by unidentified Hindutva-fascist assassins because of his consistent and irrepressible opposition to their designs in Karnataka. Memon was hanged this July in Nagpur jail after his conviction in the 1993 Mumbai blasts in a travesty of justice. For the self-appointed gendarmes of the 'Hindu Rashtra', to eat something of one's choice is anti-national, to voice dissent is anti-national, to be even the brother of a Muslim who is accused of so-called anti-national activities is anti-national – 'crimes' that are punishable by death according to the Manuvadi Hindutva-fascists. Whether the execution is actually carried out judicially by the state or by any of the numerous murderous gangs raised by the hydra-headed RSS – it makes little different to the person at the receiving end.

These killings (and of Govind Phansade and Narendra Dabholkar earlier) are but a few of the more

talked-about incidents in what has become an incessant barrage of attacks carried out in many forms by the Hindutva-fascists across the country. Particularly since the BJP government came to power, such attacks are taking place almost on a daily basis. Though termed by some as 'intolerance', this is part of an all-round attack by the Brahmanical Hindu-fascist forces against the people and affecting all spheres of their lives. These attacks are simultaneously ideological, political, social, religious, ethnic, economic, cultural, juridical and environmental – carried out with violent and non-violent, legal and illegal, constitutional and extra-constitutional means. On their target are all kinds of dissent and non-submissiveness, particularly the fighting organisations and individuals – revolutionary, democratic, secular and patriotic – as well as Muslims and Christians, Dalits and Adivasis, women and people of other oppressed genders, oppressed nationalities and even sections of the parliamentary opposition. In fact, anyone who refuses to fall in line with their Hindutva agenda or opposes their fascist diktats is a potential target. Indeed, at a time like this when the assault of the Hindutva-fascists is becoming increasingly conspicuous in all spheres of the society and the state, one cannot be faulted for wondering if a vast section

of our people are already made to live in the shadows of a veritable 'Hindu Rashtra'.

Hindu-fascism, even with its specificities, shares many characteristics of the fascisms that emerged in the capitalist countries during the economic, social and political crises period of the the 1930s, the Great Depression and the interval between the two inter-imperialist World Wars. Like Italian fascism and German Nazism, Hindutva too is a phenomenon of the era of imperialism and proletarian revolution, emerging along right-wing or fascist parties, institutions, armed detachments and gangs in the capitalist-imperialist countries with or without a parliamentary democratic cover. Fascism raised its head when at its highest stage, capitalism had entered a period of general crisis and socialism emerged as a real alternative before the world people with the victory of Bolshevik Revolution. The role of Italian, German, Japanese and other fascist movements of that time was to address this existential threat faced by the imperialist ruling classes of their respective countries. It was the political offensive of the bourgeoisie against the proletariat to come out of its severe economic and political crises. They pursued a domestic policy of open terrorist rule and a foreign policy of aggression and wars. Domestically, the main enemy of the fascists was the organisations and movements of workers and toiling masses, revolutionary proletarian parties and organisations along with other democratic classes and national minorities, migrants, while internationally, its prime target was the socialist camp led by the Soviet Union along with the national liberation movements of the colonies and semi-colonies. They waged counter-revolutionary wars against communist and democratic forces all over the world until revolutionary and national liberation wars finally consigned them to their graves.

But Hindutva – the 'Make in India' variety of fascism – not only escaped the fate of its European and Japanese contemporaries but has in fact thrived during the last hundred years of its existence. Hindutva fuses elements of India's caste-feudalism (such as its reactionary Brahmanical ideology and deep-rooted notion of inborn superiority, etc.) with those modern bourgeois concepts (like the nation, Aryan Race theory of colonial-Orientalist scholars and their communal formulation of Indian history, and so on) that suit the interests of the Indian comprador ruling classes and the obsolete social institutions and forces. It falsifies history to invent a glorious past of the 'Hindu

nation', unmindful of the fact that neither a religious community called the 'Hindu' nor a nation called the 'Indian' existed prior to British conquest of the subcontinent. The brainchild of the early Hindutva proponents is the neo-Brahmanical reactionary utopia of the 'Hindu Rashtra' (nation), which the Hindutva-fascists project back as the country's 'glorious' past and hold up as the ideal for the country's glorious future. They seek to impose this fascist ideology on both Hindus and non-Hindus and all social communities, sections and classes who do not agree with their communal conception of society and history. While Muslims and Christians are seen as aliens to be either assimilated, kept in line or suppressed, the Sikhs, Buddhists, Dalits and Adivasis are considered to be already Hindus and are included in the 'Hindu nation' against their will. The hierarchical, hegemonic and chauvinist Hindutva ideology, culture and values are imposed on all of them by suppressing, controlling or co-opting their diverse cultures, languages, beliefs and customs.

This fascist ideology of Hindutva is also reflected in the organisational structure of Hindu-fascist organisation. RSS, Hindu Mahasabha etc. that were established in the early 1920s are highly authoritarian and allows no disagreement with the leaders. The command of the *Sarsanghchalak* is the last word in RSS and is accepted without question. From its inception, Hindutva forces received support and patronage of the big landlords and the comprador big bourgeoisie as its reactionary ideology and authoritarian organisational structure was a useful tool for their economic and political interests. They were also subservient to the British colonial rulers, calling upon the people to struggle for 'national regeneration' at a time when all the anti-colonial, democratic and patriotic forces were engaged in the independence struggle (Savarkar glorified colonialism by writing that "the glory of the British empire is great" (V D Savarkar, *Hindutva*, p.85, 166); Golwalkar expressed his disdain for national independence by terming it as "that haphazard bundle of political rights" (M S Golwalkar, *We or Our Nationhood Defined*, p.7). True to their comprador character, Hindutva-fascists continue to commemorate collaborators and traitors as heroes like Savarkar while denouncing genuine nationalists and patriots like Tipu Sultan.

Hindutva-fascist forces stand for conciliation of antagonistic classes to prevent the development of class consciousness among the toilers and an

intensification of the organised class struggle. For instance, RSS had written to PM Nehru way back in 1948, “Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh’s is the only way to meet the challenge of communism and it is the only ideology which can harmonise and integrate the interests of different groups and classes and thus successfully avoid any class-war” (Letter by RSS office-bearers to PM Nehru, published in *Organiser*, 23 October 1948). They make use of the traditional adaptability of Hinduism to social change by preserving, protecting and strengthening all its reactionary aspects in the service of the ruling classes – be it the colonial rulers or the Indian ruling elite subservient to imperialism which took their place. They bolster the joint dictatorship of the big landlords-big comprador capitalists by suppressing the democratic classes, whipping up communal and national chauvinism, persecuting religious minorities and oppressing minority nationalities, Dalits, Adivasis and women. Ideologically, the metaphysical, idealist and subjective Hindutva world-outlook is a die-hard opponent of all forms of scientific, materialist, rational, objective and dialectical approach to understand and change the world – most of all the Marxist approach of scientific socialism and dialectical and historical materialism. Ideological-political indoctrination, social demagoguery, national and religious chauvinism, Goebbelsian propaganda, cooption and buying-out – i.e., all means fair and foul are part of their arsenal to win over one section of the broad masses and to terrorise others. They fully utilise the gullibility, backwardness, ignorance and contradictions among the broad masses as well as the reactionary aspects in people’s culture and social values rooted in the country’s semi-colonial semi-feudal system. They constantly engage in lies, deception, hypocrisy and subterfuge to manipulate public opinion and to hoodwink, mislead and divide the masses – often doing the opposite of what they say and saying in complete contrast to what they do. They use the products of modern science and technology to enslave the masses and achieve their reactionary social, economic, political and cultural goals.

Hindutva-fascism has adapted itself to the changing conditions and utilised all available forms to spread its most deceitful, deceptive and bloody tentacles. Contrary to its ideology and stated goals, it pledged itself to non-violent means, declared adherence to the Indian Constitution and presented itself as a mere cultural organisation (as did RSS after Gandhi’s assassination to get its ban revoked) – but

it does not conform to them in practice. Like its Nazi counterpart, it has utilised India’s parliamentary system to come to power in pursuit of its objectives. From the formation of Bharatiya Jana Sangh in 1951 to the formation of first BJP government at the centre in 1997, Hindutva-fascism had gained ground in large parts of the country by working under cover of parliamentary politics. But as Ram Janmabhoomi agitation, Rath Yatra, demolition of Babri Masjid, the subsequent bloodbath of Muslims in many parts of the country, Gujarat pogrom and innumerable other large and small heinous acts show, they have used extra-parliamentary and violent terrorist methods for parliamentary ends. They have achieved some significant success in their tactics largely because its parliamentary opposition – whether the Congress, revisionist CPI-CPI(M) or various regional parties – has proved ineffective in stopping the onward march of Hindutva-fascism. In fact, these ruling-class parties themselves have many overt or covert Hindutva adherents within them and helped in the growth of Hindutva-fascism with their class collaboration and opportunist politics. Since the parliamentary elections of 2014, BJP has emerged as the largest, most powerful and most preferred all-India party of the big comprador bureaucratic capitalists and landlords subservient to imperialists by displacing the Congress from this position.

Like all fascisms of the past, the present growth of Hindutva-fascism has taken place amidst an acute crisis of the world capitalist system beginning in 2008 which has not shown any serious sign of recovery. Fascist trends of various hues are on the rise once again all over the world. In India too, the old method of rule by the Congress-led UPA became inadequate for the Indian ruling classes in the present condition of crisis. Modi-led BJP was therefore catapulted to power in the last elections to carry out the agenda of neo-liberal ‘reforms’ more aggressively and ruthlessly – by fascist means if need be. The BJP with its neo-fascist Hindutva ideology and a wide network of fascist organisations working in almost all fields and regions and among all social sections, was best suited for the job. The ‘slow’ pace of the IMF-World Bank-dictated neo-liberal reforms and or hold-ups in opening all sectors of the economy for foreign and Indian big capital has led the BJP and its NDA allies to steamroll a plethora of policy changes through parliamentary and extra-parliamentary means. Displaying naked majoritarianism based on its absolute majority in the Lok Sabha, Modi-led BJP

government is imposing these policies with the fascist argument that they have got the popular mandate to implement whatever programme and policy they like. It is worth noting that the Fascists in Italy and the Nazis in Germany too had won majority seats in the parliamentary elections and used this brute majority to impose their policies.

As the country's economy sinks deeper into the abyss of recession and crisis, Hindutva-fascists led by Modi are taking desperate measures to satisfy their masters – the imperialists. On the one hand, the big capitalists big and landlords are showered with enormous financial windfall through introduction of new pro-corporate laws and changes in the existing laws, tax cuts and tax holidays, loan waivers and debt restructuring, disinvestment, handing over government property at dirt-cheap rates and through numerous such legal and illegal means. A number of existing laws related to the well-being and welfare of the people such as labour laws, laws entitling peasants to subsidy and compensation, pension, retirement-benefit and insurance regulations for the salaried classes, laws related to social security, health and education, etc. are being changed by the government by terming them as old and obsolete, while the age-old colonial laws used for suppressing the people are not only being retained but are bolstered with newer amendments. Schemes like 'skill development' are introduced to prepare a few million unemployed as cheap semi-skilled labour to meet the needs of the global capitalist economy and the Indian big capitalists. The drama of debate is acted-out in the pigsty of parliament by the ruling parties and the opposition alike, but all anti-people bills and policies are ultimately passed with mutual understanding. On the other hand, government expenditure on agriculture and manufacturing, social welfare and subsidies, education and health, water and housing, etc., are drastically curtailed in the name of fiscal discipline and austerity. Economic and political rights won by the people – be it workers, peasants, working women, employees, salaried people and others from the middle classes through long and bitter struggles – are taken away step by step to serve the interests of the imperialists and the Indian ruling classes. It is introducing a plethora of new policies that are having a bearing upon all spheres – economy, education, health, environment, social welfare and so on. Foreign investment which only tightens the noose of imperialism is presented by Modi government as the panacea for all the economic problems besetting the country. While mouthing pious discourses on

'Environmental Justice', the government is proceeding to remove even the remaining namesake restrictions on environmentally sensitive zones to invite foreign investment and maximise the exploitation of natural resources. By issuing indiscriminate clearance to mining, dams, highways, ports, housing, industries and such other projects and almost all kinds of services in such ecologically fragile regions, it is giving an open invitation for unprecedented ecological destruction and pollution, not to speak of large scale displacement of the people. Unable to address the basic problems of the masses or fulfil the grand pre-election promises, Modi and his ministers are resorting to gimmicks and 'perception management'. Following the model of the Nazi ace-propagandist Joseph Goebbels, Modi government is making extensive use of print, electronic and digital media to slyly manipulate public opinion, to delude the masses with lies and deception and to hard-sell the pro-imperialist and pro-Hindutva agenda it is trying to implement. The media is being controlled in covert and overt ways to monopolise the means of disseminating information. Phrases like 'development', 'empowerment' of the poor and the Dalits, Adivasis, women or other 'weaker sections', 'Sadbhavana-Shanti-Suraksha', 'nation building', 'national interest' and such phrases are relentlessly bombarded in a Goebbelsian manner. Sangh Parivar organisations too are using mass media to hide the real face of Hindutva fascism, to shape public opinion in favour of its agenda and to turn illusions into reality. Hypocrisy in words and in practice is a hallmark of the Hindutva-fascists.

Parallel to this process is the gradual fascization of the state. Be it the bureaucracy, judiciary, armed forces, jails or any other wing of the state – the BJP government is staffing their top rungs with Hindutva adherents wherever possible. The military, paramilitary and police forces are being further fascized during their training and service by the Hindutva fascists by using state power. They are being indoctrinated with pseudo-patriotism and favourite Hindutva themes like unity and integrity of the country, national interest, War on Terror, etc. In this way they are being brought closer to the Hindutva camp and ideologically prepared to ruthlessly crush the people and all forms of democratic movements in the name of defending the country and the nation, religion and faith, civilization and culture, etc. Keeping the mask of Narendra Modi in the forefront, Sangh Parivar is trying to expand its social base by introducing a few populist social welfare programmes like 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao', 'Jan Dhan Yojana', 'Swacch Bharat

Abhiyan', etc. Like all fascist forces of the past, the NDA government and the Sangh are taking up some of these populist measures only to facilitate the heightened exploitation and repression of the toiling masses and the oppressed social groups without stirring up widespread resistance. A renewed attempt is being made at saffronisation of education through measures like rewriting of school textbooks, changes in the syllabus, imposition of Sanskrit, Yoga and Hindu rituals in schools, and similar other measures. Modi government has stepped up its interference in the internal affairs of the universities and all other autonomous institutions with the aim of imposing the fundamentalist Hindutva agenda. This is in addition to the intensification of the previous government's policy of promoting privatisation of education. It is aggressively eulogising RSS figures like Savarkar, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and Deen Dayal Upadhyaya etc. and systematically naming public landmarks like roads, public institutions, welfare schemes, etc. in conformity to their ideology. Such measures are making the pro-rich, pro-Hindu, pro-'upper' caste, male-bias of the state even more pronounced. Muslims and their organisations are being targeted by the state in the name of fighting 'Islamic terror', while discrimination against religious minorities is becoming more menacing. While a free hand is given by the state to the offenders of the saffron camp including murderers involved in massacre of Muslims, stringent punishment including life term and death sentence are being handed out to the accused Muslims. A large number of them are kept in long-term detention without trial. Hindutva-fascists are holding up religious minorities as the enemies in front of the people to divert their growing frustration and anger into harmless channels. Similarly, Dalits, Adivasis, women, oppressed nationalities, rationalists, atheists, democrats, communists or even the parliamentary opposition – anyone who are in opposition to them – are being targeted. Anyone standing for genuine democracy, independence, sovereignty and self-reliance or militantly raising the basic democratic demands of the people is subjected to brutal violence using the state or saffron terror. Thousands of such attacks have been carried out in the last one and a half years of Modi rule, and the number is on the rise. The growing incidents of so-called intolerance all over the country too are an integral part of the Hindutva-fascist design.

Internationally, BJP government and the Hindutva-fascists are pursuing a 'big power'/'super-power' status for India by more closely collaborating with

US imperialism and clamouring for a greater role in international affairs. In their attempt to transform the country into a strong regional outpost of the US and other imperialist powers, NDA and RSS is a policy of drummed-up big-power chauvinism and expansionism in south-Asia. They are howling chauvinist barbs against Pakistan and China and are clamouring to expand the fight against 'Islamic Terror' by aligning more closely with US-Israeli foreign policy. Guided by the hegemonic idea of the Hindu Rashtra and Akhand Bharat, they are more aggressively following the expansionist policies of the previous governments, interfering in the internal affairs of the neighbouring countries like Nepal in scant respect for their sovereignty, thereby attracting the wrath of their people. The all-out Hindutva-fascist attack therefore is becoming unbearable not only for the broad masses of India but also for the people of our neighbouring countries.

In spite of the similarities, however, Hindutva-fascism is no Nazism of Hitler's Germany or fascism of Mussolini's Italy. The material basis of Hindutva-fascism lay in the country's social conditions and backward production relations. These production relations principally serve the interests of feudalism and comprador bureaucratic capitalism which are strongly integrated with and depended on the imperialist monopoly capital and are subservient to it. This results in the type of fascism peculiar to our country and any semi-colonial and semi-feudal countries – comprador-feudal fascism. As a result, Hindutva-fascism is necessarily weaker and more unstable than its counterparts in capitalist countries. As Dimitrov pointed out, here there can be no question of seeing "the kind of fascism that we are accustomed to see in Germany, Italy and other capitalist countries" (Dimitrov, Seventh Congress of the Comintern, 1935). Comprador-feudal fascism, by its very comprador nature, is unable to equal the fascism of imperialist countries. In addition, the oppressive, discriminatory, hierarchical, unscientific, anti-people and reactionary Brahmanical ideology and the rotten Jati-Varna system associated with it has never gone unchallenged in the country. It has faced unceasing ideological and political and other kinds of resistance including violent resistance from the oppressed and toiling masses from the time of its very inception. Whether Charvakas, Sankhyas and the Buddhists of the ancient times; Ravidas, Kabir and others of the middle ages or Jotiba Phule and Savitribai, Shahuji Maharaj, Dr. Ambedkar, Periyar

and several others representing the Dalits, Adivasis, women and revolutionary-democratic forces of the modern period in their own ways took part in this unbroken history of resistance. The people of the country, supported by the revolutionary and democratic people of the world, are now once again standing on the way of the neo-Brahmanical Hindutva-fascism. It is not plausible, therefore, to establish the 'Hindu Rashtra' of their dreams which would require the transformation of the present semi-fascist rule (with thinly-veiled fascist rule in some regions of the country such as parts of Dandakaranya, Bihar-Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir and the North East) to a complete and countrywide naked neo-fascist rule.

Indeed, the present unprecedented level of all-round Hindutva-fascist attack is facing a broad resistance in the country. Protests against saffron terror and fascization of the state are going on, with more and more people coming out to join their voice. The widespread indignation against the killing of Prof Kulbargi, Akhlaq and to a lesser extent the judicial murder of Yakub Memon carried forward this anti-fascist movement. Recently, hundreds of writers, artistes, academics, actors, journalists, film-makers and others from the literary, cultural and academic fields have returned government awards in an unparalleled protest against the attacks and growing threat of Hindutva-fascism. Their opposition to the persecution of minorities, attack on the basic civil and democratic rights including freedom of expression and dissent and attempts to impose control and dictate have snowballed into a veritable avalanche of protest. A large number of demonstrations, dharnas, meetings etc. are daily being organised across the country. The people of foreign countries too are expressing their condemnation of growing Hindutva-fascism in sharp contrast to the opportunistic whitewashing of the crimes of Modi and his cohorts by their governments. The recent outburst of anger of the people fighting for Patidar reservation against hated state symbols

like Police Stations has shown that even places like Gujarat which were once considered Hindutva strongholds are no longer safe due to the people's growing frustration and anger. The people will surely make the Hindutva-fascists realise that they constitute only a small minority in the country representing the obsolete forces, the reactionary ruling classes and their henchmen. The vast majority of the people of the country will neither subscribe to their reactionary ideology, nor will they take the forcible imposition of Hindu majoritarianism lying down. Sooner than later, BJP and the Sangh Parivar will realise that it is no fun to be the flunkies of imperialism.

MIB unequivocally extends its revolutionary solidarity to all who are part of this common fight – revolutionary, democratic, patriotic and secular forces, workers and peasants, national and religious minorities, Dalits and Adivasis, urban poor and the urban middle class, national bourgeoisie, students, teachers and intellectuals, academics, historians, writers, artistes, actors, advocates, journalists, doctors, scientists, researchers, women, LGBT, differently-able, the old and the young and people from all walks of life who are standing up against Hindutva-fascist enslavement. Taking inspiration from the experience of the international proletariat and the democratic forces in defeating fascism, we call upon all exploited and oppressed classes, communities, sections and groups to unite to become a mighty force against Brahmanical Hindu-fascism and to wage a protracted struggle to bury it once and for all. With the understanding that fascism can be completely uprooted only in a revolutionary way and not by revisionist, reformist and parliamentary ways or through electoral 'victories' over the BJP, MIB appeals to you all to strengthen the ongoing armed agrarian revolutionary war led by the CPI(Maoist) to establish a genuinely democratic, independent, sovereign and self-reliant people's republic which will be the real and final graveyard of Hindutva-fascism.

"The worldwide experience of the struggle against fascism teaches that the fascists can be defeated only by militant class struggle in the streets, factories and in the rest of the countryside. The fascists can be defeated only by isolating them from the people and smashing their organizational forces, and by developing and intensifying protracted peoples' war with the aim of new democratic revolution, then socialism and ultimately establishing communism."

- CPI(Maoist) Unity Congress - 9th Congress Resolution against Hindu Fascism

On Fascism and Brahmanical Hindu Fascism

Excerpts from the documents of the communist movement

[With the deepening crisis of the world capitalist system, the ruling bourgeoisie of the imperialist/capitalist countries and their comprador ruling classes in neo-colonial/semi-colonial countries are increasingly resorting to open terrorist methods of rule - fascism. Right-reactionary, conservative and fascist forces are gaining ground in a number of countries by tapping into the boiling cauldron of social discontent resulting from the economic ruin and political oppression of the labouring masses due to this crisis. In India, the main form that fascism has taken in the present times is Brahmanical Hindu fascism, with RSS-led Sangh Parivar as its most organised and virulent representative. This comprador-feudal variety of fascism has been steadily spreading its tentacles in the country ideologically, politically, organizationally and culturally by using the favourable domestic and international conditions. Hindutva fascism has proved itself to be a most loyal servant of imperialism-domestic ruling classes and a most pernicious enemy of the country's people. Revolutionary, democratic and pro-people's forces that seek progressive social change in the country will have to confront and defeat Brahmanical Hindu fascism/ Hindutva fascism on all fronts. But a correct understanding of Brahmanical Hindu fascism, and of fascism in general, is essential for an effective fight against it. The international proletariat has developed a comprehensive understanding of fascism in the course of fighting it and in leading all other democratic social classes/groups in this fight. The Marxist-Leninist-Maoist understanding of fascism must be our guide to know, fight and defeat Brahmanical Hindu fascism as well. Here we present a few extracts from the documents of the communist movement on fascism and Brahmanical Hindu fascism which may guide us towards this understanding - MIB]

FROM THE WORKS OF MARXIST TEACHERS

“Fascism is a reactionary force which is trying to preserve the old system by means of violence. What will you do with the fascists? Argue with them? Try to convince them? But this will have no effect upon them at all. Communists do not in the least idealise the methods of violence. But they, the Communists, do not want to be taken by surprise, they cannot count on the old world voluntarily departing from the stage, they see that the old system is violently defending itself, and that is why the Communists say to the working class: Answer violence with violence; do all you can to prevent the old dying order from crushing you, do not permit it to put manacles on your hands, on the hands with which you will overthrow the old system. As you see, the Communists regard the substitution of one social system for another, not simply as a spontaneous and peaceful process, but as a complicated, long and violent process. Communists cannot ignore facts.”

- Stalin, ‘Marxism versus Liberalism: An Interview with H. G. Wells’, 23 July 1934,

J V Stalin Works, Vol.14, p.36]

“In this connection the victory of fascism in Germany must be regarded not only as a symptom of the weakness of the working class and a result of the betrayals of the working class by Social-Democracy, which paved the way for fascism; it must also be regarded as a sign of the weakness of the bourgeoisie, a sign that the bourgeoisie is no longer able to rule by the old methods of parliamentarism and bourgeois democracy, and, as a consequence, is compelled in its home policy to resort to terrorist methods of rule — as a sign that it is no longer able to find a way out of the present situation on the basis of a peaceful foreign policy, and, as a consequence, is compelled to resort to a policy of war.”

- Stalin, ‘Report to the Seventeenth Party Congress on the Work of the Central Committee of the CPSU(B), January 26, 1934’, *J V Stalin Works*, Vol.13, pp.299-300]

“[T]he German fascist war machine will soon fall apart, the problem of the anti-fascist war in Europe is on the eve of total solution, and the Soviet Union is the main force in annihilating fascism. As the world anti-fascist war has its pivot in Europe, once the problem there is solved, the fate of the two great world camps, the fascist and the anti-fascist camps, will be decided. The Japanese imperialists feel themselves cornered, and their policy, too, can only be to muster all possible strength for a desperate last-ditch struggle. In China, they will try to “mop up” the Communists and entice the Kuomintang to capitulate.

The Kuomintang has also sensed the change. Faced with this situation it feels both joy and fear. Joy, because it imagines that with the war in Europe over, Britain and the United States will be left free to fight Japan on its behalf, and that it will be able to return to Nanking without any effort. Fear, because with the downfall of all three fascist powers the world will enter a great and unprecedented age of liberation, and the Kuomintang’s comprador-feudal fascist dictatorship will become a small island in a vast ocean of freedom and democracy; it fears that its own brand of fascism with its “one party, one doctrine, one leader” will be buried beneath the waves.”

- Mao Tse-tung, ‘A Comment on the Sessions of the Kuomintang Central Executive Committee and of the People’s Political Council, October 5, 1943, *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung*, Vol.3

FROM 1992 POLITICAL RESOLUTION QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON FASCISM

“Fascism – Its Essence, Characteristic features and the specific conditions for its development

Fascism is the direct, undisguised dictatorship of the bourgeoisie. The 13th Plenum of the Executive Committee of the Communist International (ECCI) in December 1933 defined Fascism as the “open, terrorist dictatorship of the most reactionary, most chauvinist and the most imperialist elements of finance capital.” In fact, in 1922 itself, when the fascist movements began to manifest themselves, the Comintern had explained in its Fourth Conference that “the reckless promotion of fascist organisation is the last card in the bourgeoisie’s hand.” It noted that fascism is the political offensive of the bourgeoisie against the proletariat:

“Closely linked to the economic offensive of capital is the political offensive of the bourgeoisie against the proletariat. Its sharpest expression is international fascism. Since falling living standards are now affecting the middle classes, including the civil service, the ruling class is no longer certain that it can rely on the bureaucracy to act as its tool. Instead, it is resorting everywhere to the creation of special White Guards, which are particularly directed against all the revolutionary efforts of the proletariat and are being increasingly used for the possible suppression of any attempt by the working class to improve its position.” (*Fourth Conference of the Comintern, December 1922*)

“Under certain special historical conditions the progress of the bourgeoisie, imperialist, reactionary offensive assumes the form of fascism.

These conditions are: instability of capitalist relationships; the existence of considerable declassed social elements, the pauperisation of broad strata of the urban petty-bourgeoisie and of the intelligentsia, discontent among the rural petty-bourgeoisie; and finally the constant menace of mass proletarian action. In order to stabilize and perpetuate to abandon the parliamentary system in favour of the fascist system, which is independent of inter-party arrangements and combinations.

The fascist system is a system of direct dictatorship, ideologically masked by the “national idea” and representation of the “professions” (in reality, representation of the various groups of the ruling class). It is a system that resorts to a peculiar form of social demagogy (anti-Semitism, occasional sorties against usurer’s capital and gestures of impatience with the parliamentary “talking shop”) in order to utilize the discontent of the petty-bourgeoisie, the intellectual and other strata of society; and to corruption through the building up of a compact and well-paid hierarchy of Fascist units, a party apparatus and a bureaucracy. At the same time, Fascism strives to permeate the working class by recruiting the most backward strata of the workers to its ranks, by playing upon their discontent, by taking advantage of the inaction of Social Democracy, etc.

The principal aim of Fascism is to destroy the revolutionary labour vanguard, i.e., the Communist sections and leading units of the proletariat. The combination of Social demagogy, corruption and active White terror, in conjunction with extreme imperialist aggression in the sphere of foreign politics, are the characteristic features of Fascism. In periods of acute crisis for the bourgeoisie, Fascism resorts to anti-capitalist phraseology, but after it has established itself at the helm of state, it casts aside its anti-capitalist prattle, and discloses itself as a terrorist dictatorship of big capital.” (ibid.)

The 6th Congress had also explained the role of Fascism, in its Resolution on the International Situation:

“The characteristic feature of Fascism is that, as a consequence of the shock suffered by the capitalist economic system and of special objective and subjective circumstances, the bourgeoisie – in order to hinder the development of the revolution – utilise the discontent of the petty and middle, urban and rural bourgeoisie, and even of certain strata of the declassed proletariat for the purpose of creating a reactionary mass movement. Fascism resorts to methods of open violence in order to break the power of the labour organisations and those of the peasant poor, and to proceed to capture power.

After capturing power, Fascism strives to establish political and organisational unity among all the governing classes of capitalist society (the bankers, the big industrialists and the agrarians), and to establish their undivided, open and consistent dictatorship. It places at the disposal of the governing classes armed forces specially trained for civil war, and establishes a new type of State, openly based on violence, coercion and corruption, not only of the petty-bourgeoisie strata, but even of certain elements of the working class (office employees, e-reformist leaders who have become government officials, trade union officials and officials of the Fascist Party, and also poor peasants and declassed proletarians recruited into the Fascist militia).”

The essence of Fascism is the endeavour to violently suppress and overcome the ever-intensifying contradictions of capitalist society. It strives to bring about forced harmony between the different strata of society by suppressing their conflicting interests.

Briefly, the specific characteristics of Fascist movements are terrorism, extra-legal fighting formations, anti-Parliamentarism, national and social demagogy etc.

The fascist dictatorships (i.e., after the capture of political power by the fascist parties) are characterised by reign of terror, totalitarian state, violent suppression of all class organisation of the working class as well as all other parties and organisations.

The social base and class content of fascism:

“Fascism tries to secure a mass basis for monopolist capital among the petty bourgeoisie, appealing to the peasantry, artisans, office employees and civil servants who have been thrown out of their normal course of life, and particularly to the declassed elements in the big cities, also trying to penetrate into the working class.” (13th Plenum of the ECCI, December 1933)

“The development of fascism, and of the fascist dictatorship itself, assumes different forms in different countries, according to historical, social and economic conditions and to the national peculiarities and the international position of the given country. In certain countries, principally those in which fascism does not enjoy a broad mass basis and in which the struggle of the various groups within the camp of the fascist bourgeoisie itself is fairly acute, fascism does not immediately venture to abolish parliament, but allows the other bourgeois parties, as well as the Social-Democratic parties, to retain a certain degree of legality. In other countries, where the ruling bourgeoisie fears an early outbreak of revolution, fascism has established its unrestricted political monopoly, either immediately or by intensifying its reign of terror against and persecuting all of competing parties and groups. This does not prevent fascism, when its position becomes particularly acute, from endeavouring to extend its basis and without altering its class nature, combining open terrorist dictatorship with a crude sham of parliamentarism.” (*The Fascist Offensive and the Tasks of the Comintern, Thesis to the 7th Congress of the Comintern*)

Fascism can also don the garb of democracy as in the case of American fascism in the 1930s though it could not come to power.

“It is a peculiarity of the development of American fascism that at the present stage it appears principally in the guise of an opposition to fascism, which it accuses of being an “un-American” tendency imported from abroad. In contradiction to German fascism, which acts under anti-constitutional slogans, American fascism tries to portray itself as the custodian of the constitution and “American Democracy”. (ibid.)

Many genuine Marxist-Leninist parties thought that Fascism, being associated with finance-capital, was a phenomenon related to the imperialist countries only.

The revisionists of the Second International on the other hand for a long time believed that Fascism was possible only in the “backward” countries, i.e., in countries in which “instead of horse-power the living horse dominates”.

Historical experience shows that Fascism can arise in any country in the era of imperialism.

The association of fascism with finance capital can be understood if one takes into consideration the fact that finance capital has begun to control the entire globe after the advent of imperialism. Though originating in different imperialist countries, finance capital strives to bring under its domination every colony and semi-colony in the world and has its lackeys among the comprador ruling classes of these countries. They prop up regimes which are favourable to them and topple those which seem to be a threat to their interests in a given country. Thus it is possible for international capital to prop up fascist regimes in colonies and semi-colonies of Asia, Africa and Latin America through the comprador big bourgeoisie-big landlord classes even though there is no indigenous finance capital in most of those countries.

In the case of China, Chou En-lai had explained that fascism in China was the open, terrorist rule of China’s big bourgeoisie and big landlords and that it was comprador-feudal fascism. Similar is the case with most of the colonies and semi-colonies.

In fact, Dimitrov himself pointed out in his concluding speech to the 7th World Congress of the Comintern in August 1935:

“In the colonial and semi-colonial countries also, as was mentioned in the discussion, certain fascist groups are developing but of course there can be no question of the kind of fascism that we are accustomed to see in Germany, Italy and other capitalist countries. Here we must study and take into account the quite special economic, political and historical conditions in accordance with which fascism is assuming and will continue to assume peculiar forms of its own” (*Unity of the Working Class against Fascism: Georgi Dimitrov’s Speech to the 7th Congress of CI*)

“No general characterisation of fascism, however correct in itself, can relieve us of the need to study and take into account the special features of the development of fascism and the various forms of fascist dictatorship in the individual countries and its various stages. It is necessary in each country to investigate, study and ascertain the national peculiarities, the specific national features of fascism and to map out accordingly effective methods and forms of struggle against fascism.” (ibid.)

Further:

“It would be a gross mistake to lay down any sort of universal scheme of the development of fascism, valid for all countries and all people. Such a scheme would not help but would hamper us in carrying on a real struggle.” (*Ibid.*)

Com. Chou En-lai, in his article “On Chinese Fascism, the New Autocracy” written in 1943, explained how the rule of Chiang Kai-shek’s Kuomintang was fascist though it did not exhibit the characteristic of national aggression.

“Since fascism means national aggression and since Chiang Kai-shek’s Kuomintang is resisting the Japanese aggressors, why do we call it fascist? Our answer is that this is exactly why comrade Mao Zedong calls it Chinese fascism. National aggression is one of the characteristics of fascism, but not the only one. Chinese fascism has all the characteristics of fascism pointed out by Georgi Dimitrov in his report except that of national aggression. Both in the past and present, Chiang Kai-shek’s Kuomintang has launched ruthless attacks on the people, on the working masses. It has even unleashed civil war to suppress the revolution and introduced rampant reaction and counter-revolution. It has thus become the arch-enemy of the whole Chinese people. It is only because China finds itself in the position of a colony or semi-colony that the Chinese big landlords and big bourgeoisie are powerless to invade other countries.” (*Selected Works of Chou En-lai*, Vol.1, p.161)

With regard to the changes that might occur in the camp of the ruling classes with the advent of fascism, the 13th plenum of the ECCI explained thus: “While the general line of all bourgeois parties, including social-democracy, is towards the fascization of the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, the realization of this line inevitably gives rise to disagreements among them as to forms and methods of fascization. Certain bourgeois groups, particularly (including) the social-fascist, who in practice stick at nothing in their acts of police violence against the proletariat, urge the maintenance of parliamentary forms when carrying through the fascization of the bourgeois dictatorship. The fascists, however, insist on the full or partial abolition of these old, shaken forms of bourgeois democracy, on carrying through fascization by means of the establishment of an open fascist dictatorship and by a wide application of both police violence and the terrorism of fascist gangs. Having come to power, fascism pushes aside, splits and disintegrates the other bourgeois parties (for instance, Poland) or dissolves them (Germany and Italy). This striving of fascism for political monopoly intensifies the discord and conflicts in the ranks of the ruling classes which follow from the internal contradictions in the position of the bourgeois who are becoming fascized.”

While recognising [the] growing danger of Fascism in the current-day world, we must not take fatalist line that the victory of fascism is inevitable.

In a still more serious situation in the early 1930s when fascism had become an impending threat worldwide, the Comintern had warned the world proletariat not to fall prey to the defeatist line of the inevitability of fascist dictatorship.

“In the fight against the fascization of the so-called ‘democratic’ countries, the communist parties must first of all brush aside (repudiate) the fatalist, defeatist line of a fascist dictatorship and imperialist war and also the opportunist underestimation of the tempo of fascization and the threat of imperialist wars, which condemns the communist parties to passivity.

In carefully explaining the economic and political slavery which the fascist dictatorship is bringing to the toilers, in showing the masses that the fascists are not socialists and are not bringing in a new (social) order, but are lackeys, lickspittles of capital, the communists must rouse the masses in time for the defence of the trade unions, of the labour press, of the workers’ clubs, of the freedom to strike and of workers’ meetings, organizing protests, demonstrations, strikes and setting up fighting self-defence detachments to resist the terrorist gangs.” (*13th Plenum of the ECCI, December 1933, p.302, Documents of Comintern, Vol. III*)”

[*People’s War, January-April 1994, pp.10-48*]

FROM THE BASIC DOCUMENTS OF CPI(MAOIST)

“The countryside is dominated by landlords, usurers, merchants and religious institutions. These exploiting sections are the mainstay of the semi-feudal relations of production in the country. All these facts show that our country is a semi-feudal country. This class of feudal landlords protect and instigate casteism, communalism, superstition and maintains private armies, or goonda forces, perpetuates medieval oppression on the rural masses, and oppressed dalits, adivasis and women through often perpetrating massacres, rapes etc. It is this class of oppressors who hold social and political power, ensures perpetuation of decadent feudal culture along with encouraging caste, fanaticism, male-domination, including patriarchy and undemocratic authoritarian ideas etc. in the vast countryside. The feudal landlord’s authority is caste-based. They use their upper-caste social and political links to sustain this authority and terror in the countryside. Brahminical ideology is used to give it a religious sanctity. This is the overall dominant aspect of the rural society of India and the main obstacle to the release of productive forces and the progress of our country. This class of usurers, merchants and big landlords is extremely reactionary and a social prop of imperialism; hence one of the chief targets of the new democratic revolution in India.” (pp.5-6)

“In India under the deceptive name and garb of secularism, Hindu communalism continues to hold sway. Almost all the ruling class parties continue to use the state machinery in fanning this communalism. The pro-Hindu bias of the Indian state is openly expressed on certain occasions. This communalism has been used to promote and propagate the idea of an Indian being equal to a Hindu, thereby directly making religious minorities secondary/second rate citizens. This communalism is not only directed against religious and other minorities but also against the Dalit sections of the society including Adivasis and women. This communalism is also used in fanning Brahmanism, national chauvinism, casteism and patriarchal mentality.

The religious minorities constitute 15 percent of the Indian population. They are victims of the discrimination, harassment and cruel oppression being perpetrated by the ruling classes through fanning Hindu communalism by even using their state machinery. The Hindu fascist gangs, quite often organize anti-minority pogroms in a systematic way in order to impose the communalistic concept of Hindutva. The main focus of these attacks has been the Muslims. The ruling classes have used Hindu Communalism as an effective tool to divide the toiling people on religious grounds. Hindu Communalism has emerged as an important ideological and political plank for the establishment of fascism in the country.

The party should oppose, expose and fight against the growing threat of these Hindu fundamentalist forces ideologically, politically and also fight against them at the local level by adopting all the appropriate means. At the same time we must also continue to expose the fundamentalism of other religions. But we must be clear that the real purpose of the chieftains of the Hindu fundamental forces is to divide and divert the people’s attention from their growing upsurges and thus blunt their class consciousness. Hence, the party must continue to focus its attention in advancing the actual class struggle, that is, the protracted people’s war, which will finally put an end to this threat.” (p.10)

[Party Programme, Unity Congress-9th Congress, CPI(Maoist), January 2007]

“The revolutionary united front is the real bastion that protects the revolutionary movement from fascist suppression and annihilation campaigns carried on jointly by the counter-revolutionary ruling classes. This united front can become powerful and stable only in the course of advancing the armed struggle and the armed struggle, in turn, can become powerful with the effective forging of the united front.” (p.44)

“The scope of the legal democratic organisation is very wide, extending to the broad coalitions and alliances formed against repression, lobalization, Hindutva forces and right up to the all-encompassing bodies formed with the banners of anti-capitalism or people’s struggles. Such organisations can be formed at various levels – town/city level, district level, state level, regional level, all-India level, or even at the international level.” (p.67)

“12. The attempts to convert Adivasis into various religions with the backing of the state have been going on since a long time. Whereas, during British rule, Christianity spread on a considerable scale into the vast tracts inhabited by the Adivasis, after the transfer of power it is the Hindu chauvinist organisations that are aggressively spreading Hindu religion in these areas. As the regions inhabited by the Adivasis are rich in mineral deposits and forest wealth, imperialists and comprador bureaucratic bourgeoisie are evincing special interest in exploiting these regions through mining, quarrying and such other activities. Some infrastructure too has been developed towards this end. The state and central governments have been carrying on construction works, luring a section from the Adivasis under the name of welfare schemes. In the main, tribal chiefs, are benefiting from government schemes and are trying to turn the people in favour of the government and, in some areas, a tiny section of adivasis have become rich and have developed themselves as local oppressors. Both of them constitute the social basis for the ruling class parties or parties in the name of welfare of various tribes and nationalities.” (pp.70-71)

“We must widely propagate the politics of new democratic revolution among the people of the religious minorities and make them realize that they too are oppressed by the three big mountains weighing down the backs of the entire Indian people and it is only by fighting unitedly with their class brethren among the Hindu majority that they can put an end to the religious persecution. We must take class struggle as the key link in solving the problem of communalism permanently.” (p.71)

“In the past few years, the strength of the communal forces in towns has increased considerably. The people of religious minorities are becoming prey to the attacks of the Hindu communal forces whose social base in the towns is relatively developing. To rein in such forces and bring out the oppressed people from the influence of communalism, the Party units, cadres and committees should exhibit initiative and stand by the side of the religious minorities and formulate necessary slogans and timely tactics as and when required.” (p.78)

[Strategy and Tactics, Unity Congress-9th Congress, CPI(Maoist), January 2007]

“Fascism has become a typical response of the ruling classes to the intensifying crisis of capitalism that has afflicted every sphere of life. Restructuring the economies has to be inevitably accompanied by fascist repression in every country that implements it. As the contradictions between the people and the ruling classes intensify; as unemployment, inflation, hunger, homelessness, insecurity and crime increase; the ruling classes are utilising the frustration among the people to bring in fascist forms of rule in order to crush all forms of people’s struggles, particularly the growing revolutionary movements.” (p.17)

“Thus fascism is emerging as a worldwide phenomenon in order to crush people’s struggles and to divert them into reactionary channels. Its victory or defeat is dependent on the strength or weakness of the revolutionary forces. The proletariat should fight all types of fascism, including social fascism, through militant and uncompromising struggles by isolating and fighting the extreme right-wing reactionary forces on the one hand, and the social fascists who act as scabs within the working class movement on the other. The final defeat of fascism, however, is possible only by overthrowing bourgeois-feudal rule through proletarian revolutions, establishing genuine working class states and eliminating the capitalist-imperialist system as a whole. If the working class does not seize the initiative, if it becomes a victim of social chauvinism and social pacifism, it cannot check the fascist onslaught on people’s movements and the basic human rights. Hence constant struggle should be waged by the working class and the oppressed masses against the growing fascist danger.” (p.17)

“[T]he Indian ruling classes and their imperialist chieftains, particularly the U.S. imperialists, are desperately engaged in keeping the broad masses, particularly the poor and landless peasants, comprising destitute Dalits, women, Adivasis and other oppressed sections under the iron heel of their already rotten exploitative and oppressive imperialist-feudal set-up. With this purpose they are also engaged in perpetuating, wiping up and fanning caste and communal passion particularly the Hindu fascism. Because they are increasingly losing their credibility, hence they are desperately using the British policy of “Divide and rule”, so that they may let the people kill the people by fighting among themselves. That is why their desperately engaged in setting up

and instigating the counter revolutionary gangs like RSS, Bajrang Dal and Shiv Sena type openly organized gangs which danced a dragon like dance of death previously in Bombay and Gujarat and recently all over Gujarat. These Hindu fundamentalist forces must not only be opposed, exposed and fought politically and ideologically, but also the masses should be aroused to isolate the leadership. Though the Hindu fascist policy of the ruling classes is to turn the class struggle into a fratricidal war between communities, this is no simple divide - and - rule but a systematic thorough fascist policy of whipping up hysteria amongst the majority community making a scapegoat against the minorities, particularly Muslims. To fight this conspiracy of the Sangh gang including BJP it is first and foremost necessary at the local level to stand with the sections under attack - the minorities, particularly Muslims - and defend their rights, including that to their religion and as equal citizens of the country. But, while defending the minorities locally the Party must expose that section of the leadership that spreads the venom of fundamentalist ideology and at the same time must also continue to expose the fundamentalism of other religions. If the Party of the proletariat does not continue to focus its attention in advancing the actual class struggle, that is, the PPW, which will finally put an end to this threat, the mass of Muslims will be drawn into the clutches of the fundamentalists thereby facilitating the fratricidal war. In addition an intensification of the class struggle and people's war in the country and its extension to areas involving minorities will prevent the Hindu fascists from raising their head, at the very start." (p.31)

"Nakedly relying on vicious repressive measures and fanning of communal frenzy, particularly the fascist Hindu fundamentalism is the latest weapon of the Indian ruling classes. With the change of the colour and faces of the rulers in Delhi the Sangh Parivar are bound to continue their nefarious designs in fanning fundamentalism to gain back lost power. However, the project to install a Hindu fascist state has run into some problems. Significant sections of the ruling classes are not in favour of such a step at this time. They prefer to maintain a strong Hindu fascist presence in the form of a social and political force in order to sustain and nurture an extreme Right-wing and reactionary political environment. This is why they raise issues from the Hindutva agenda i.e. singing of *vande matram* etc on and off to keep it alive. Also large sections of the people are rejecting extreme forms of the Hindu fascist agenda. . The party of the proletariat continues the struggle against these forces as desired by the circumstances while keeping the edge of the people's struggles directed against the new rulers along with CPI/CPM and their imperialist chieftains." (p.35)

"10. Isolate and defeat the Hindu fascist forces; concentrate the attacks in particular on the BJP, RSS, VHP, Bajrang Dal, Shiv Sena and other Hindu chauvinist and fascist organisations. Support the struggle of the religious minorities against the Hindu chauvinist policies of the Indian State." (p.40)

[Political Resolution, Unity Congress-9th Congress, CPI(Maoist), January 2007]

FROM UNITY CONGRESS-9TH CONGRESS RESOLUTION AGAINST HINDU FASCISM

"Since the early '80s, the ruling classes have been promoting Hindu communalism, targeting religious minorities, with the hope of uniting the Hindu majority behind themselves. The Babri Masjid demolition in 1992 was a devious act committed with this very hope. The main vehicle of the Hindu fascist onslaught has been the BJP-RSS combine with its storm trooper organisations like the VHP, Bajrang Dal, etc. The Shiv Sena in Maharashtra too has been propped up to achieve this end. The Hindu fascists are particularly dangerous since they have the support of the most important arms of the state in all their activities.

... Under the "patriotic garb" of Hindutva policies, they are meekly implementing the imperialist-dictated policies of liberalization-privatisation-globalisation, especially after the 80's. For this they are conducting a Hindu fascist campaign, on the basis of which they will try to establish open terrorist forms of rule.

... These Hindu fascists are trying to impose a hegemonistic Hindu culture on the various culturally diverse people of India. While their attacks are mainly concentrated against muslims, they are also targeting Christians, especially in the tribal areas, aggressively converting tribals to Hinduism. Similarly, they also attack dalits. . .

(Continued on page no.36)

Homage to the Martyrs

In the six months between July and December 2015, more than 70 comrades – including several women comrades – have laid down their precious lives for the liberation of the oppressed masses by advancing the country's national and democratic revolution. While some were martyred during PLGA attacks on enemy forces, many fell to the bullets of the paramilitary-police forces in fierce gun-battles. Many of them were killed by the enemy in fake encounters, at times after subjecting them to cruel torture. Some comrades died in accidents, while a few others passed away due to illness and old age.

The martyred comrades include leaders and members of the party committees at all levels from the Central Committee to the village party committees/party cells. A number of PLGA commanders and fighters from the basic, main and secondary forces too have sacrificed their lives in the ongoing Protracted People's War during this period. In addition, the martyrs include a large number of leaders and members of the revolutionary United Fronts and the revolutionary mass organisations, be it the revolutionary people's committees, peasant's and worker's organisations, women's organisations, revolutionary and democratic mass organisations active in rural and urban areas. A number of supporters of the revolutionary movement belonging to the masses too have lost their lives in enemy repression in the struggle areas across the country.

Internationally, many comrades belonging to fraternal parties and organisations have been martyred in the last six months while carrying forward revolutionary movements in their respective countries. Large numbers of national liberation fighters have been martyred in armed resistance movement against imperialist and reactionary armies in many countries of Asia, Africa, South America and Eastern Europe. Hundreds of people gave the highest sacrifice in fighting against fascist, right-wing and reactionary ruling-class forces across the world to uphold justice, democracy and social progress.

Central Committee Member Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan (Vijay, Vishnu) breathed his last after suffering a massive heart attack in one of the Maoist guerrilla zones on 18 August. He was 57. With his death, the oppressed masses of the country and particularly of Maharashtra have lost an exemplary communist leader who worked steadfastly and untiringly to advance the Indian revolution for the last 35 years. His death at a time when he had just come out of the enemy prison after years of incarceration and was ready to actively rejoin the movement is a big loss to the Party and the Indian revolution.

Comrade Chalasani Prasad, a veteran communist intellectual of Andhra Pradesh, a founding member of Virasam (Revolutionary Writers' Association), a prolific literary critic and a mass leader passed away due to age-related illness on 25 July in Visakhapatnam at an age of 83. He was associated with the country's communist movement for several decades from the days of the undivided Communist Party and steadfastly championed the line of Naxalbari armed agrarian revolutionary struggle throughout his long political life. His contributed immensely to the country's revolutionary literary and cultural movement.

Comrade P A Sebastian, a well-known people's lawyer and leader of the country's democratic rights movement breathed his last in an old-age home in Goa on 23 July at the age of 67 due to a heart attack. He was a founding member of International Association of People's Lawyers (IAPL), Committee for the Protection



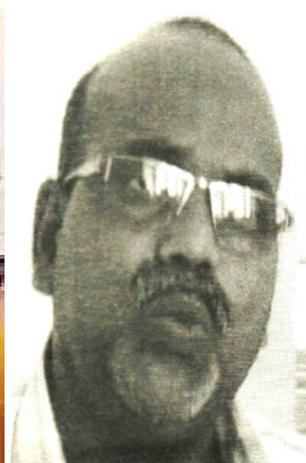
Comrade Sridhar



Comrade Chalasani



Comrade Sebastian



Comrade Maddileti



Comrade Surya



Comrade Shruthi



Comrade Vidyasagar



Comrade Navatha

of Democratic Rights (CPDR) and Committee for the Release of Political Prisoners (CRPP). He served as the general secretary of CPDR since the Emergency for many decades. He was an exemplary communist who dedicated whole of his life to the service of the oppressed masses.

Comrade Pulimamidi Maddileti, revolutionary mass leader and President of Telangana Praja Front (TPF), passed away on 14 October due to a heart attack at the age of 49. Starting his revolutionary life as a member of AP Radical Students' Union (APRSU), he was associated with the revolutionary democratic movement of AP and Telangana for several decades. He was an activist and leader of Telangana Jan Sabha, Democratic Teachers' Front, TPF, etc. After the martyrdom of TPF President Akula Bhoomaiah in 2013, he had become the new TPF president.

Comrade K Kanakaiah, a teacher by profession, died of age-related illness at an age of 78 in Parchur of Prakasham district, AP. He had studied law to help the oppressed people fight legal battles. He was influenced by Naxalbari and became a close associate of the martyred leader of Srikakulam movement Dr. Chagati Bhaskar Rao. He worked in many revolutionary and democratic mass organisations of AP including APCLC. At the time of his death, he was state Vice President of CRPP. During times of severe state repression, he boldly faced difficulties and stood on the side of the people and revolution.

Comrade Anushuyamma, a dedicated communist who served the revolutionary movement for several decades from the days of Telangana armed struggle, died of old age in AP. She was active for some time in a number of revolutionary mass organisations in the state including peasant's and women's organisations.

In the last six months, a number of Regional Committee (RC), District/Divisional Committee (DC/DVC) and Area Committee (AC) members laid down their lives while leading the Party in their respective areas of work in different guerrilla zones of the country. Similarly, several CyPC and PPC members of the PLGA too have given the supreme sacrifice. In Bihar-Jharkhand, RCM Comrade Shivnandan Bhagat (Sylvester Minz) was killed in a fake encounter in Chainpur of Gumla district, Jharkhand, on 25 July. Comrade Chandan was martyred while fighting the police on 18 August in Murhu of Khunti district of Jharkhand. In Dandakaranya, Kanger Ghati AC Secretary and Darbha DVCM Comrade Sonadhar along with ACM Comrade Madavi Laxman was killed in a fake encounter on 19 September. In the Western Ghats, senior comrade and DVCM JM Krishna (Jayanth) was killed in an attack by a wild elephant earlier this year.

Among the martyred ACMs, Gangalur ACM Comrade Rakesh was killed in a fake encounter in Muranga village in South Bastar Division, Dandakaranya. Likewise, ACM comrades Akash and Vikas were killed in South Bastar, while Katekalyan ACM Comrade Nandal was martyred in an encounter in Kundanpal village. Dabbakonta ACMs comrades Bhaskar and Jogi were killed in an encounter on 19 November. Madded ACM Comrade Oyam Budri was martyred in enemy attack in Nendra-Gottum village. Senior comrades Navata (ACM, Kistaram) and Kudam Budhral (ACM, Kummadtong) passed away due to serious illness in South Bastar. Bhairamgarh ACM Comrade Hemla Rainu was killed along with three more comrades in an enemy attack in Halwur-Tudem village on 13 November. Nangelgudem ACM Comrade Raame was killed along with three other women comrades in an encounter in Malinger area of Dantewada district 21 November. Two women comrades including ACM Jamli were martyred in enemy attack in Timidi village of Kuvvemari area in North Bastar. ACM and Company-4 Section Commander Comrade Pramod Kachlami (Dalpat) was martyred along with comrade Ranju Majji (Kummi) in an encounter in Phulbodigatta of Dhanora Tehsil, Gadchiroli Division on 3 September.

Comrade Poyami Baman (Dinesh) was tortured to death by the police in Narayanpur town on 16 November after arresting him from Todarbeda village in Orchha of Maad Division. RPC/Krantikari Janatana Sarkar (KJS) President Comrade Pottam Mangu of Pumbad was killed in fake encounter on 26 September. Similarly, KJS President Ramder Salami was martyred in enemy ambush in Temurgaon village of North Bastar. Gram Panchayat Secretary Ghasi Hemla was killed by the government forces in Malkangiri district of Odisha.

In Andhra-Odisha Border (AOB), Comrade Surya was martyred in an attack by the Greyhounds and STF in East Godavari district of AOB.

In Telangana, comrades Shruthi and Sagar were killed by the Greyhound commandos in Warangal district on 16 September.

In Odisha, Comrade Sangram and another PLGA fighter were martyred fighting the enemy forces in Chandiposh area of Sundargarh district on 11 November. Comrade Drika Kedruka, a leader of the revolutionary peasant's organisation and Niyamgiri Suraksha Samiti in Niyamgiri area of Rayagada district committed suicide due to continuous police pressure and harassment. A youth named Chhittaranjan Sahu was beaten to death by the SOG commandos in Sunabeda area of Nuapada district on 16 August suspecting him to be a Maoist. A Dalit couple Duba and Bubudi Nayak were shot dead by the anti-Maoist SOG-CRPF forces in Madaguda of Kandhamal district. Three villagers Jai Majhi, Jaishankar Nayak and Sukru Majhi were shot dead by the government anti-Maoist forces on 15 November in Nisanguda village of Kalahandi district in Odisha.

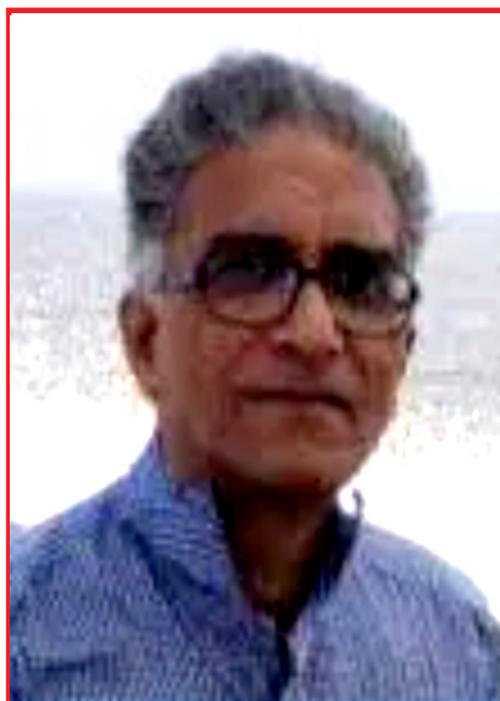
Dr B D Sharma, a veteran social worker, founding leader of Bharat Jan Andolan and a friend of the Indian oppressed masses passed away on 6 December 2015 at Gwalior due to illness at an age of 85. As a bureaucrat and a social activist, he raised his voice on behalf of the oppressed and poor multitudes of the country and earned their love. Even while remaining committed to legal and constitutional methods of struggle, he unhesitatingly recognised and supported the Maoists as a democratic force fighting on the side of the people.

MIB pays its red homage to all the martyred comrades.

Red Homage to Central Committee Member and Leader of Indian Revolution Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan

[This is an abridged version of the life history of Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan issued by the Central Committee, CPI(Maoist), in September 2015]

Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan (Vishnu, Vijay), Central Committee Member of CPI(Maoist) and former Secretary of the party's Maharashtra State Committee, passed away at 9.45 am on 18 August 2015, minutes after undergoing a massive heart attack. He breathed his last among the party leadership comrades and cadres and PLGA guerrillas in one of the Maoist movement areas. He was only 57 years of age. It is a testimony to his indomitable revolutionary spirit that no consideration of health could dissuade him from taking up the arduous journey to join his comrades in a movement area when the opportunity finally presented itself after waiting for it for one and a half years since his release in the end of 2013. It was in the midst of this journey that he passed away. Several leadership comrades, a large number of comrades from different committees and many PLGA units working in the area performed his last rites with party honours.



Comrade Sridhar grew up in a liberal-progressive family of Bombay (now Mumbai) which was quite unconventional in its outlook. He was the youngest of five siblings in this urban middle class family. Deeply influenced by MLM and Marxist-Leninist politics, he began to actively participate in a Marxist study circle in Elphinestone College where he was a graduate student. He soon started organising the students of different colleges as an activist of Vidyarthi Pragati Sangathan (VPS). Sridhar was one of the leaders of the historic takeover of Bombay University by the college students against fee hike

in 1979. Later he left his studies to join the revolutionary movement as a professional revolutionary (PR) in the newly formed Marxist-Leninist (ML) party. It was in 1979 that inspired by the Jagityal peasant movement under the leadership of the APPC of CPI(ML), Bombay City Committee of the newly formed ML party in Maharashtra came in contact with it. In May 1980, the Bombay City

Committee-ML merged with the recently formed CPI(ML)(People's War).

Comrade Sridhar worked among the labouring people of Mumbai under the banner of Naujawan Bharat Sabha (NBS) which was formed in 1981. As revolutionary work expanded to the slums and among the workers of Mumbai, a trade union organisation named AMKU was formed in 1981. AMKU and NBS wholeheartedly supported and joined the historic textiles strike of Bombay in 1982 and participated in many militant mass protests of the textile workers and others. Comrade Sridhar was one of their organisers who contributed to the advancement of the movement. He was involved in militant actions during the strike period.

To propagate agrarian revolutionary politics among the peasantry, particularly the landless and poor peasants of Vidarbha, VPS organised 'Go to Village' campaigns. During one such campaign in early 1980s, Sridhar along with ten to twelve other students were arrested in Sironcha of Gadchiroli district by the police. His mother travelled all the way from Bombay to bail out the arrested students. Sridhar was once again arrested with other students on their way to attend the First District Conference of the revolutionary peasant organisation (the present Dandakaranya Adivasi Kishan Mazdoor Sangh – DAKMS) in Kamlapur village of Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district in 1984.

Internal struggle broke out in the party in early 1985 about certain ideological-political questions and organisational issues, and Maharashtra state unit got separated from CPI(ML)(PW) in early 1987. The second state conference was held in this backdrop in September 1987. The conference rejected the documents presented by the State Coordinator and adopted alternative documents prepared by Sridhar and some other comrades. A new State Committee (SC) was elected for the first time and Sridhar became its Secretary. But this internal crisis of the party had badly impacted the comrades of Maharashtra. As a result, most of the plans for growth and expansion prepared after the state conference became non-implementable. In spite of this, Sridhar along with some comrades did not get demoralised, stood firmly by the party line and fought all the wrong tendencies. He stood in the forefront of the comrades who remained steadfast even amidst such a difficult period. The comrades who continued in the party decided to safeguard it by courageously swimming against the

tide and strove hard to build the movement in the state.

For the first time after the separation of the Maharashtra unit from CPI(ML)(PW) in early 1987, APSC delegation and Maharashtra delegation re-established relations in late 1988. Since then a cordial relation was maintained between the two state units. In September 1990, a central plenum was conducted with the delegates from the AP, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu State units and a COC of the CPI(ML) (PW) was elected. The COC continued the relations that were established with Maharashtra State Committee.

Comrade Sridhar shifted the main area of his activity to the Vidarbha region in 1992 to guide the coalmine workers' movement and other movements. He led two action teams to punish police informers in urban areas of Vidarbha. A Special Plenum of the Maharashtra State Committee was held in September 1992 and two years later, it joined CPI(ML)(PW). Comrade Sridhar was part of this entire process and played a very crucial role in it along with some other members of the Maharashtra State Committee.

After Maharashtra State Committee became the state unit of CPI(ML)(PW) in 1994, all state units conducted their state conferences in a run up to the All India Special Conference (AISC) held in 1995. In this conference the delegates from Maharashtra including Comrade Sridhar played an active and important role.

The Ninth Congress of CPI(ML)[PW] held in 2001 has a very important place in the history of the Indian revolutionary/ML movement. Comrade Sridhar actively participated in the deliberations of the Congress. He played a positive role in defeating the 'left'-adventurist line that came up in the Congress and in enriching the party line as a part of this struggle. Sridhar was elected to the CC in this Congress. He also became a member of the newly constituted South Western Regional Bureau (SWRB) of the party.

In the Maharashtra State Conference of 2001, enriching and immediately implementing the Vidarbha Perspective was adopted as the one of main tasks of the party in the state in the new conditions. To facilitate the implementation of this perspective the CC handed over the responsibility of Balaghat-Gondia division to Maharashtra unit from DKSZC. Sridhar as the State Committee Secretary (SCS) and a CCM took charge of guiding this rural movement. The movement in that Division was facing severe state repression and



Last rites of Comrade Sridhar in one of the Maoist guerrilla zones

some serious internal problems at that time. Sridhar strove to boost up the morale of the cadres and put efforts to the extent possible to sustain, consolidate and steadily advance the movement.

The historic merger of CPI(ML)[PW] and MCCI took place on 21 September 2004 and the unified CPI(Maoist) was born. A Central Committee (Provisional) of the new party was constituted to lead the revolution and Sridhar was elected as one of its members. Even though the movement in Maharashtra was weak at that time, some social movements came closer to the party in the state. Dalits in particular rallied under the banner of the militant anti-caste organisation which expanded rapidly in the state. Units of the organisation were formed in several districts and Dalit students and youth started to associate with the movement in considerable numbers. All these factors contributed to the creation of a favourable condition for the development of the revolutionary movement in Maharashtra in the first few years of the new millennium.

The Unity Congress-9th Congress of CPI(Maoist) was successfully held in early 2007. Sridhar put forward his difference of opinion clearly

for discussion and actively participated in the polemical debates in the Congress, criticised the 'left'-adventurist line that emerged in it and contributed to the defeat of the wrong line. The Congress elected him to the Central Committee of the party. He subsequently became a member of its SWRB. Alarmed by the success of the Congress and the advancement of the revolutionary movement in the country, with the guidance of the imperialists particularly US imperialists the state cracked-down on the Maoist movement even more ferociously. Many leadership comrades at different levels were killed or arrested by the enemy all over the country. Maharashtra too faced the brunt of this counter-revolutionary attack and resulted in the heavy loss of subjective forces. It pained Sridhar to see the movement getting weakened. His own arrest in mid-2007 came as a big loss to the movement of the state.

Comrade Sridhar was arrested from outside his den in a joint operation by the Mossad-type APSIB and the notorious Anti-Naxal Team of Mumbai Police late in the night of 18 August 2007. He faced days of intensive and continuous interrogation and mental torture by APSIB, Anti-Naxal Team and various

intelligence agencies of the centre and several states. More than 60 false cases were foisted on him by the police of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, etc. who are adept at cooking up false cases. With such a large number of cases, the state tried its best to prolong his incarceration. It even managed to convict Sridhar in a trumped-up case based on false evidence and hand down a sentence of six years.

While waiting for his freedom, Sridhar continued to educate and inspire young cadres who were in jail with him. Never to rest, he utilised his time in reading books and studying the domestic and international situation. He interacted with different Islamic activists and tried to understand their movement. Early morning hours were spent in writing long letters and political notes to comrades in different jails. He and other comrades carefully studied the charge-sheets, made notes, and helped their lawyers in preparing the defence. While in jail, they helped prisoners in getting bail and small relieves. He also strove hard to keep himself healthy through regular physical exercise. He and other comrades of Maharashtra conducted class struggle in the jail for their just rights as political prisoners as well as of other prisoners. For this he participated in many jail struggles and undertook several hunger strikes along with other jailed comrades. In the process he and a few other comrades studied jurisprudence and the legal system, Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), etc., and deepened their learning.

Comrade Sridhar was released from prison in 2013, after six and a half years of incarceration. It was his wish to go into the main class struggle areas at the earliest. But he had to wait for another one and a half years to undertake this journey due to the high-level of state surveillance, the danger of his re-arrest and the severe repression in these areas. While waiting, he utilised this time in acquainting himself with the developments in the domestic and international situation. Particularly, he tried to clearly understand the changes in the conditions of the revolutionary movement and that of the enemy and to get updated about the current thinking of the country's intellectuals, writers and different oppressed sections. He also studied the growth of Brahmanical Hindu-fascism in the recent past. Moreover, he busied himself in preparing jail reports and formulating concrete proposals to place before the CC. It is with such painstaking preparations and high hopes for the future of the movement that he undertook the difficult journey to one of the main struggle areas in 2015. It was during

the course of this journey that our beloved comrade Sridhar breathed his last in the morning of 18 August 2015.

From the late 1970s till 2006, starting as a student activist and taking various party responsibilities at different levels – as a PR, State Committee member, Maharashtra State Committee Secretary and CC member – Comrade Sridhar tried to effectively lead the party for over two and a half decades. He stood steadfast in every critical juncture and in all the ups and downs of the movement and firmly defended the party line and strove to creatively apply it. He upheld MLM as the only scientific ideology of the world proletariat to successfully accomplish the World Socialist Revolution. When wrong ideological and political trends raised their head in the party at the central and state level, he fought against them and contributed to advancing the movement by overcoming them. He stood firm even when the movement faced adverse conditions, particularly in Maharashtra. In CC meetings, lower committee meetings and discussions with fellow comrades, he clearly kept his opinion and did not waste time in unnecessary debates or discussions. He set an example before us with his personal qualities such as extensive reading, adherence to proletarian discipline, firmness, commitment, simplicity, an ever-smiling disposition and warmth in relating to his comrades. He did not hesitate to take up and fulfill whatever responsibility the party entrusted him with a spirit of learning by doing in spite of his health problems. Most of his time and efforts during his long revolutionary life was directed towards developing the party and the working-class, student, youth and anti-caste organisations in urban Maharashtra. Therefore his role in developing revolutionary urban movement will remain particularly significant for the party. In this way, he acquired maturity and emerged as a tried and tested revolutionary leader through decades of continuous political-organisational work.

For over three and a half decades he led the life of a committed revolutionary, worked untiringly for the development of the new democratic revolution in Maharashtra and India, willingly went through all hardships that came in the way and gave the highest sacrifice by laying down his life. Though he is no longer with us, Comrade Sridhar has left unforgettable memories with all of us – be it his comrades, family or friends. Everyone who knew him will cherish and value these memories. His work and his memories will continue to serve the struggle for liberation.

Call on the Occasion of the 11th Anniversary of Party Formation

**Hail the 11th Anniversary of the Formation
of Communist Party of India (Maoist)!**

**Consolidate and Expand the Revolutionary
People's Committees by Strengthening the Party!**

**Celebrate the 11th Anniversary of the Formation of the
Party from 21 to 27 September throughout the
Country with Revolutionary Spirit!**

*Call of the Central Committee on the Occasion
of the 11th Anniversary of Our Glorious Party!*

15-08-2015

On 21 September 2004, a new chapter was added to the history of the country's revolutionary movement. On 21 September 2015, our new party Communist Party of India (Maoist) is completing eleven years of its formation. The tenth anniversary of the party was celebrated in a revolutionary atmosphere throughout the country during the last year. In an unprecedented manner a large number of revolutionary organisations across the world conveyed their messages of revolutionary solidarity to the party. Revolutionary intellectuals, writers, artists, journalists, students, lawyers as well as the sympathisers from various sections of the society who support the revolution participated in the tenth anniversary celebrations of the party with great joy and responsibility in the midst of the suppression campaigns of the enemy. We convey revolutionary greetings to all of them on behalf of the Central Committee of our party.

The central committee pays its red homage to the founding leaders of our party comrades Charu Majumdar and Kanhai Chatterjee and the thousands of heroic martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the New Democratic Revolution. In the last one year, more than a hundred of our beloved comrades were martyred in the brutal

attacks being carried out by the enemy (including comrades belonging to the revolutionary rural masses). A few senior comrades who have been active in the movement for a long time have also passed away during this period and their physical absence has been felt quite a lot by the Party and the revolutionary movement. We used to benefit much from their vast experience. Comrade Chalasani Prasad who passed away on 25 July this year was one of them. By holding high the banner of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism from the days of the former CPI up to the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Maoist Party, he dedicated himself till his last breath and sacrificed his life to new democratic, socialist literary culture. Though he and comrades like him are now no longer physically present amongst us, their ideals and aspirations are motivating us every day. On this occasion our Central Committee with lowered heads pays its humble revolutionary red salutes to the comrades whose physical presence is no longer with us. We take pledge to continue the fight till our last breath to realise their dreams.

The exploitative ruling classes have further intensified their multipronged attack with renewed intensity with the intention of wiping out our entire party and the revolutionary movement. This kind of counter-revolutionary actions, attacks and campaigns are nothing new in the revolutionary history of the world. Our party is carrying forward the people's war by preparing tactics on the basis of the strategic understanding that the revolution will be successfully completed only by defeating several such enemy attacks en-route. We already have the experience before us of a small spark igniting a prairie fire from the post-Naxalbari countrywide expansion and continuation of the revolutionary movement. It is natural that difficult situations come up in the advancement of revolutionary movements. It is inevitable for the revolutionary movements to overcome them by fighting. We know that with this process only victory-defeat-final victory has become a principle. We will have to comprehend the difficult situation the party is facing for the last few years in the light of this understanding. In spite of our party suffering some more serious losses in the process of overcoming this difficult situation, we are achieving positive results by overcoming the disadvantages by mainly depending upon the advantages and by improving our work style. We are increasing the favourable aspects and overcoming the unfavourable ones. The efforts put by our party are helped by the growing favourable objective revolutionary conditions in our country and the world. In such a situation, our Central Committee member

Comrade Muralidharan (Ajith, Vasant) was arrested along with another comrade in the month of May 2015 from Maharashtra's Pune city. The arrest of three Western Ghats Special Zonal Committee members along with SZCM Comrade Praveen and his life partner Comrade Shaina only a short while before is a big loss to the Party. This has inflicted serious loss particularly to the emerging movement in the Tri-junction of the Western Ghats.

Our Central Committee gave a call to conduct a Bolshevisation campaign of our party in order to advance the revolutionary movement by strengthening the party. Following Mao's directive of 'telling by doing', the strategic leadership comrades went deep among the masses. They spent time with the cadres. Accepting the many challenges that are going to be posed by the third phase of Operation Green Hunt initiated by the enemy, our comrades are building multipronged resistance to it by participating in the people's war through the application of their energies in all spheres. Planned efforts have been made to prepare the cadres as per the principle of 'good communist and good expert' by giving first priority to ideological, political issues. The following are the successes achieved during the last one year by our party in the rural areas which are the centre of its revolutionary activities:

1. There were some positive changes in the ideological-political level of the leadership comrades and the cadres.
2. More than 80 jawans of the police-paramilitary forces were wiped out and more than 175 jawans sustained injuries in the tactical counter-offensive attacks by the PLGA. Over 30 weapons and nearly 4,500 bullets were seized.
3. The elections to a majority of the Revolutionary People's Committees at different levels have been completed in the process of consolidating people's political power in the course of developing the people's war. Led by the Revolutionary People's Committees (RPCs), the peasants who are dependent on agriculture for their livelihood participated in their thousands by contributing voluntary labour for many days in land-levelling, plot-making, constructing irrigation systems, etc. 1,70,000 workdays of work was completed in these where party ranks and people's guerrillas too participated.
4. Conferences were held and new executive committees were elected in some forms as a part of strengthening the revolutionary mass organisations.

5. The masses in the guerrilla zones, guerrilla bases and other rural movement areas carried out struggles in their thousands against displacement, against the land acquisition ordinance of the central government, against state violence, etc.

6. A large number of new recruits have joined the growing people's war and the revolutionary mass movements in the areas where the movement is strong.

If succeeding in getting the above-mentioned achievements which are favourable for the revolutionary movement is one aspect, the other aspect is the new military battle-front which is being reopened in the south-western parts of our country where the revolutionary movement has set foot in the tri-junction of the Western Ghats. Many successes were gained by conducting a politico-military campaign there for three months till January 2015. The message of armed revolution was taken to the region's oppressed masses – particularly the youth – through the propaganda and resistance actions in the tri-junction by guiding them in the right direction. The Kabani River that flows by holding high the legacy of martyred Comrade Varghese who acquired the respectful epithet of 'Dada' from the Adivasi masses of Wayanad that was at the centre of the revolutionary struggle in Keralam during the glorious Naxalbari armed agrarian uprising, is once again raising the red banner of struggle recalling her past experiences.

The revolutionary struggle in Karnataka's Malnad forest region (a part of Western Ghats) which has been facing the armed campaigns of the counter-revolutionaries, renegades and the enemy forces since the last decade, has got a new lease of life from the tri-junction movement. The tri-junction struggle which is dedicated to the aspirations of the 20 martyred comrades including comrades Saketh Rajan and Sande Rajmouli who had shed their warm blood in the Malnad movement and the movement in the country's southwest is continuing its efforts to advance the democratic revolution of India following the path shown by the martyrdom of Comrade Shinoj. In the south-western region of the country – mainly in the tri-junction and Keralam – the ruling classes are intensifying Operation Green Hunt and suppression campaigns. As the police in Keralam is branding even foreign tourists as Maoists and are persecuting them, the Operation Green Hunt was severely condemned in our country and abroad as well. The people of tri-junction will certainly advance on the path of struggle by defeating the Operation Green Hunt unleashed against them.

Comrades,

The exploitative ruling classes of India are making big efforts at completely wiping out the revolutionary movement which is advancing by strengthening under the guidance of our party and its leadership. They are receiving full assistance from the imperialists in this. Looking at the last eleven years it becomes amply clear that the deployment of the police-paramilitary forces is being increased every year in the Maoist movement areas. The intensity of the military attacks conducted on the masses in such areas is also being steadily increased. The Unity Congress-Ninth Congress of our party took the decision to build base areas. Dandakaranya and Bihar-Jharkhand have become the main centres of the enemy's attacks. The enemy is arresting and throwing a large number of the people of these areas into prisons under the draconian acts without allowing them bail. There has also been an increase in the instances of pronouncing harsh punishments and even life imprisonment to the accused lodged in prisons based on false accusations. The repeated rejection by the courts of the bail applications of the Delhi University professor and leader of Revolutionary Democratic Front (RDF) Comrade Saibaba who is 90% disabled was opposed. How grave the situation has become can be understood from the fact that he was kept in a Maharashtra jail for 14 months and was recently granted bail for three months for treatment. The C-60 commandos of Gadchiroli arrested Comrade Hem Mishra, a student of Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University after foisting a number of false charges under fabricated cases. He has been subjected to brutal torture in jail and is still being kept behind the bars without bail. In the meantime, the SPOs of Awapalli took into custody and terrorised Vani, a research student from Delhi who came to study Adivasi life in Madded area, and this made the people throughout the country and abroad aware of the manner in which Operation Green Hunt is being conducted. It has become a habit of the police forces to kill people in fake encounters and to float the story of gunning down 'Maoists'. The police massacred 12 persons including one 4 year old child, one teacher and women in Palamu district of Jharkhand in June 2015 after deboarding them from a vehicle. In Lankapalli of Madded area of Dandakaranya too, the police killed Comrade Vivek, a law student of Osmania University associated with the Telangana revolutionary movement along with two adivasi women comrades. There has also been a significant increase in the cruel atrocities committed by the police and paramilitary forces on women. This can be understood from the

Pottem incident (8 October 2014) in Bijapur district. There has been a competition between Jharkhand Police and Chhattisgarh Police, among the central paramilitary forces to leave one another behind on the issue of getting revolutionaries to surrender. The police forces who are in the forefront in corruption are harassing the masses by arresting them after terming them as Maoists and are cornering a lot of money. Police officers are embezzling lakhs of rupees announced as awards by the government on surrendered people and are appointing renegades into the police forces as SPOs in order to earn promotions and money. We are observing on a daily basis the attempts by top police officials to boost the morale of the forces working under them by issuing regular statements through the media that “the Maoists are surrendering and their struggle is on the verge of collapse”. On the other hand the Union Home Ministry is saying in its report that even though the Maoist party is in a difficult situation it is achieving successes in struggle under the leadership of the Party’s General Secretary by trying to establish unity with other revolutionary organisations of the country.

We will have to celebrate the 11th anniversary of the formation of our party amidst the preparations made by the Indian government and various state governments on the basis of this analysis to launch another big attack on our party. The paramilitary-police forces are readying themselves to attack on us at any moment by selecting over 80 places within the Maoist movement areas in the country. All the preparations of the police at present are in this direction. They are intensifying cordon-and-search attacks by expanding carpet security and sealing off the state and district borders. After sending more than 108 battalions of the paramilitary forces already deployed in the Maoist struggle areas into the interiors of the forests, this time they are deploying large numbers of Indian Reserve Battalions. They are flying UAVs everyday to locate the guerrillas. They are intensifying the attacks by giving all kinds of help to the ground forces from the skies by using helicopters. Military helicopters are conducting exercises in night operations to carry out attacks on villages at night. We will have to fight against them in the coming days. The enemy is taking us towards that direction. Let us make all preparations to defeat the enemy attacks by using correct tactics on the basis of the successes achieved by the party and by taking lessons from the losses. Let us prepare the masses and the revolutionary mass organisations. Let us prepare PLGA for the security of the masses by winning their confidence. Let us consolidate the system of people’s alternative political power by

securing from damage the Revolutionary People’s Committees that are functioning in the guerrilla bases. Let us appeal once again to the intellectuals, writers, artists, patriots, journalists, environmentalists, democrats and well-wishers of the Adivasis who are helping the revolutionary movement of the masses by terming the Operation Green Hunt as a ‘war on people’ to stand more firmly by the masses. The situation is completely in our favour at present. We should not forget that we will have to put conscious effort. The successes that are being achieved by our party in the Bolshevisation campaign is clearly demonstrating it.

Comrades,

The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government led by BJP has completed more than one year in power at the centre. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is shamelessly serving the imperialists and the country’s comprador bureaucratic bourgeois-landlord classes as their chief servant. Modi rule is giving enormous energy for the atrocities and violent actions of the Hindu fundamentalist forces. Brahmanical Hindu fascist forces regulating the people’s norms and customs related to food and drink as well as religious freedom. Modi has toured 23 countries within a short span of time after becoming PM and is constantly repeating crying ‘Make in India’ everywhere he goes. He has signed dozens of agreements worth hundreds of billions of dollars after conducting meetings with big corporations of the imperialist countries in particular. He is visiting many places of the country in order to implement these agreements by hoodwinking the masses. He is showing dreams of employment to the country’s youth who constitute its 65% population. He is deceiving the people by announcing so many schemes with attractive names. But in reality, all the schemes announced and initiated by the Modi government were prepared during the time of the previous United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government itself. No matter which exploitative government comes to power in the country, to implement these schemes they will have to follow the diktats of the international institutions like World Bank, IMF and WTO which are the architects of these schemes as per the agenda of ‘neoliberal economic policies’. PM Modi is working as per this agenda aggressively and at a breakneck speed. The attempts made by the Modi government to pass the land acquisition bill during the last one year is an example of this attitude. After Modi climbed the throne of Delhi, a public show was enacted with expansionist designs by inviting the leaders of the South Asian countries to

his oath-taking ceremony to demonstrate his hegemonic attitude.

Narendra Modi who came to power by making false promises and giving fake assurances is acting like a reliable servant and representative of foreign and domestic big capitalists, forcibly implementing policies which have not only failed to resolve people's problems of the UPA rule like unemployment, price rise etc. but have made them more serious. As a result, the illusions among the masses about BJP-Modi which existed before the elections is fast receding. The embarrassing defeat which BJP (which now is coterminous with Modi) had to face in Delhi elections has proved to be an example of this. The corruption which came up during the Lalit Modi issue exposed the nature of the Modi government before the people. Sharp conflict and squabble is going on among the ruling-class parties. This squabbling was displayed clearly before the masses during the monsoon session of the parliament in a manner which had no precedence during the last fifteen years. The President said in his address to the people on the eve of the 69th Independence Day that the parliament has become akin to a fighting arena and not a single bill could be passed. On the other hand, the squabble between the members of the ruling parties and the opposition has opened the eyes of the 125 crore people of the country about its 'great democratic' system. Even at the time when the present ruling party BJP was in the opposition, the people of the world knew very well that the condition of the legislative bodies was no better. The people are day by day coming to understand the fact that the legislative bodies of the exploitative systems which cannot resolve the life and death problems of the people of the country cannot do more than this. All these factors will be very helpful to us in bringing the masses towards revolution. The people are aspiring for an alternative revolutionary politics. The responsibility is upon our Party to lead them. By correctly working in the prevailing current situation we can protect and develop the revolutionary movement. We can materialise the people's conviction that only our Party has the strength to carry out this responsibility.

The present situation in the country and the world is highly favourable for the revolutionary movement. The imperialist countries have not yet been able to overcome the financial-monetary crisis which began in the US in 2008. This crisis has now seriously engulfed Greece. It is now trapped in a debt crisis. The country's Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and other leaders of Syriza party, a coalition of left-reformist organisations which came to power in early 2015 by making hollow

promises, at last surrendered to the 'Troika' (IMF, EU, ECB). The Greek parliament has also ignored the clear verdict given by the majority of the country's people against surrendering to the conditions attached to the bail-out package offered by the Troika. In the conditions of the growing 26.2% unemployment, the doors will be opened for the die-hard right-wing national chauvinist parties to come to power if the working class do not take the revolutionary road. The economy of the aggressor US has declined seriously as a result of the stiff resistance it is facing in Afghanistan and Iraq for over the ten years. On the other hand, its competition with China is intensifying in all the regions and spheres of the world. In opposition to the institutions (Breton Woods organisations World Bank and IMF) so far under its control, the BRICS countries have started a new bank (New Development Bank) with an investment of 100 billion dollars and with Shanghai as its headquarters. Russia's approach on the question of Ukraine is not pleasing the US-NATO and they have put sanctions on it as a result. Intervention in Syria in the last four years, US presidential elections to be held in the coming two years, the double-dealing tactics of the US towards the ISIS which is ruling the border regions of Iraq and Syria are displaying the growing contradictions among the imperialists. On the issue of nuclear weapons, the US, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China at last had to conclude an agreement with Iran which remains a powerful country in the middle-east. Mired in financial and monetary crises, all the imperialist countries are reeling under severe problems. In this situation, the struggles of the working is intensifying in these countries and the formation of Maoist organisations there can be seen as a highly favourable factor for the international communist movement.

Comrades,

The economic and political crises of the world are intensifying. In such conditions the ruling classes in any country are not tolerating the erupting people's struggles. They are suppressing the people's struggles violently. However, such repressive actions are proving to be counterproductive. The position of our exploitative ruling classes is not at all different. The central and state governments are allotting a lot of money from their budget to suppress the countrywide Maoist movement. Military experts have estimated that the exploitative ruling classes are spending 80 crore rupees in killing each Maoist through its khaki forces. Union Home Ministry is allocating one-fifth of its budgetary expenditure on crushing the Maoist movement. On the other hand, corporate capital

invested in the Maoist movement areas where the natural resources are enormous could not be utilised for so many years, due to which the corporates are becoming anxious and restless. Modi's 'Make in India' is facing stiff resistance in the movement areas. That is why deceptive Modi is advising the Maoists to pick up the plough on their shoulders by laying down the gun. However, the conditions for the cultivating peasants to take up the gun for their land, forests and dignity have been created by the ruling classes themselves. In spite of the peace agreement reached and extending the 'ceasefire' by Northeast organisation NSCN (IM) after leaving the struggle permanently which has conducted more than 100 rounds of talks in the last 18 years with the central government, the people of that region and struggling organisations have made their attitude clear by ambushing and wiping out 18 jawans of the Indian Army this June and announcing their decision to continue the just struggle for national independence by fighting the Indian government and its army. On the other hand, a historic condition has been created for conducting a united struggle against the Indian ruling classes by our Party and the recently formed Maoist Communist Party of Manipur. Kashmiri guerrillas are continuously carrying out attacks on the Indian Army after the formation of the Mufti Mohammad Sayyed government with the help of BJP. In such a situation we must courageously carry forward the protracted people's war according to correct tactics by extensively mobilising the vast masses. We must fight unitedly with the democratic and secular organisations, religious minorities, national

liberation struggles against the Brahmanical Hindu-fascists presently installed in power. We should fight on different people's issues in the country by uniting with the leftist forces that are prepared to join and fight. On this occasion our central committee is appealing to the leftist forces once again to join with us in the people's movements against Brahmanical Hindu-fascism and imperialism.

Revolutionary organisations of many countries which are a part of the international communist movement are sending their strong solidarity messages for advancing the people's war in India. They are stating that they are presently with us even more firmly than before. On the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the formation of our Party, our central committee conveys revolutionary red salutes to all these revolutionary organisations. We have to carry forward the people's war with even more courage! We call upon the entire Party, PLGA, revolutionary mass organisations, revolutionary people's committees and the revolutionary masses of the country to celebrate the 11th anniversary of the formation of our Party from 21 to 27 September 2015 with revolutionary determination and spirit as a means to strengthen the countrywide Party.

Take this call of the central committee to the vast masses with firm conviction and confidence. The final victory is of the people. The victory of the people's war and the defeat of the exploitative ruling classes is inevitable.

Celebrate the 11th anniversary of the Party with Bolshevik spirit! Build the Party by safeguarding it from the prying eyes of the enemy and defend it!

Consolidate the Party, PLGA and the mass base in the course of defeating Operation Green Hunt! Strengthen people's political power!

Fight against the Brahmanical Hindu-fascist and pro-imperialist policies being implemented by central and state governments by uniting with the vast masses and democratic, secular, progressive, patriotic forces and organisations, Dalits, Adivasis, women and the religious minorities!

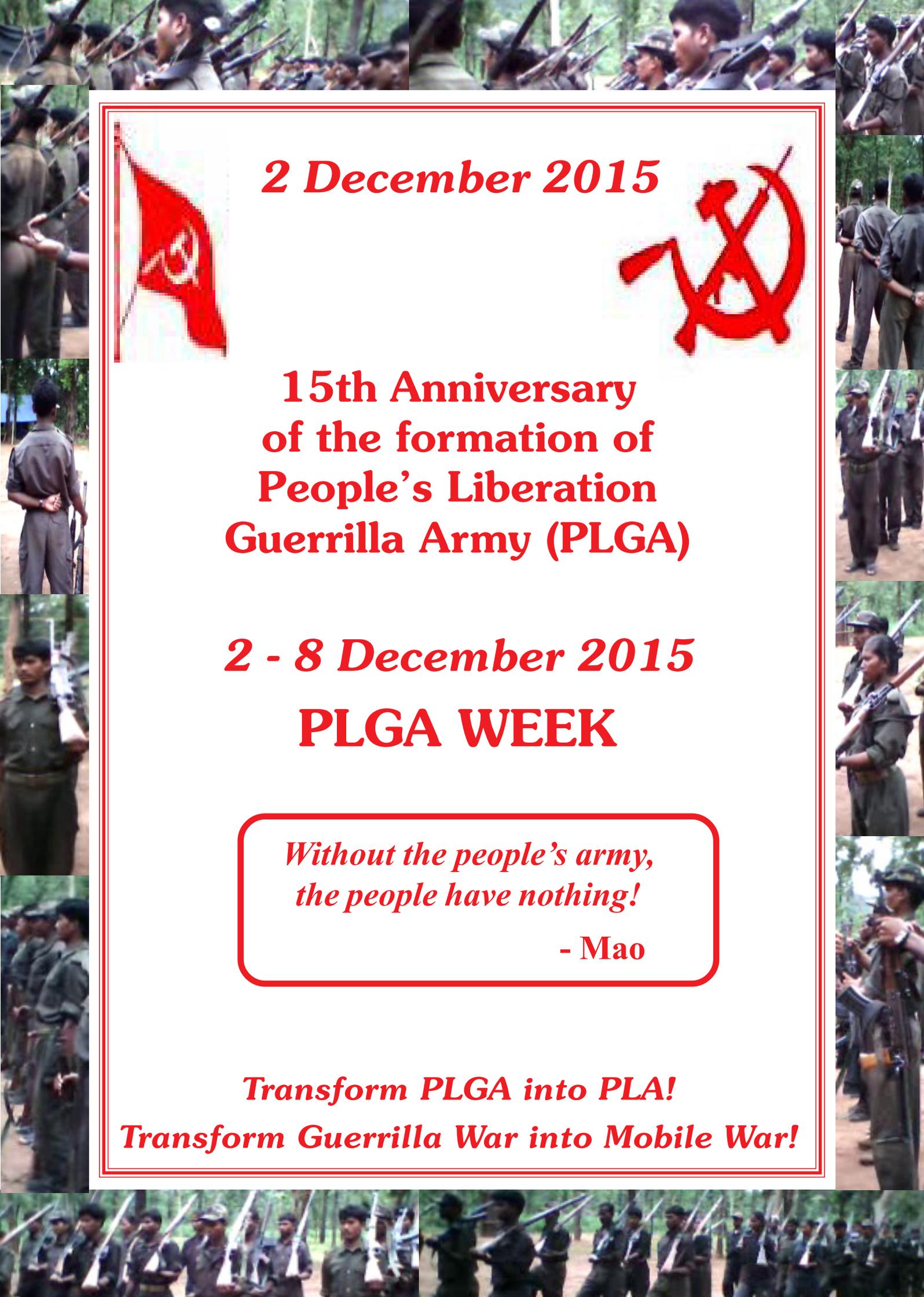
Long live the unity of genuine revolutionaries!

Unite against Indian expansionism! Unite with the liberation struggles of the oppressed nationalities fighting with the aim of secession!

Long live Marxism-Leninism-Maoism!

Red salutes to the immortal martyrs! Advance to fulfil the aspirations of the immortal martyrs! Long live CPI(Maoist)!

**Abhay
Spokesperson,
CPI(Maoist)**



2 December 2015



**15th Anniversary
of the formation of
People's Liberation
Guerrilla Army (PLGA)**

**2 - 8 December 2015
PLGA WEEK**

*Without the people's army,
the people have nothing!*

- Mao

**Transform PLGA into PLA!
Transform Guerrilla War into Mobile War!**

News from the Battlefield

July - December 2015

Andhra-Odisha Border

AOB Special Zonal Committee (AOBSZC) of CPI(Maoist) called a Protest Week in the entire AOB guerrilla zone starting from 1 July. This was to oppose fake encounter killings of Maoists and the revolutionary masses by the government forces, illegal arrests and detentions, atrocities and harassment against the people and particularly against women in the name of anti-Maoist operations. The Party also opposed fake surrender of 'Maoists' orchestrated by the police, looting of people's property as well as setting up of additional police and paramilitary camps in the Adivasi areas of the zone. Maoist cadres put up banners and posters in several places appealing to the people to observe the protest week. With the positive response and cooperation of the masses to the Maoist call, a two-day bandh was successfully observed at the end of the protest week during which administrative offices, commercial establishments, markets and schools were either closed or had very thin attendance. Vehicular traffic came to a halt while no state transport buses of Odisha plied during the period.

AOBSZC called a two-day bandh on 6 and 7 July in the zone. Several public meetings were conducted and posters and banners were put by the Maoists during the two days. On the first day, people from thirty villages attended a meeting organised by Malkangiri-Visakha-Koraput Divisional Committee.

The handful of villagers who were working as foot soldiers of the ruling classes and causing damage to the movement by working as police informers and vigilante forces were warned to desist from their counter-revolutionary anti-people activities. The bandh was total in almost all parts of Malkangiri district as vehicular traffic came to a standstill and offices, educational institutes, commercial establishments etc. remained closed.

Martyrs' Week was celebrated from 28 July to 3 August in the zone with the participation of the masses. New martyrs' memorial columns were constructed at several places in the Visakha Agency Area while the old ones were renovated. Four martyrs' columns were erected between GK Veedhi and Koyyuru. Posters and banners were put up in Chintoor and adjoining mandals of East Godavari as well amidst intense combing operations by the government mercenary forces. All party committees, PLGA units and revolutionary mass organisations observed martyrs' week and remembered the dedication and self-sacrifice of the comrades who laid down their lives for the liberation of the oppressed masses. Pedabayalu Area Committee organised a rally and a mass meeting on 28 July attended by hundreds of villagers. They paid red homage to comrades Narender, Mahender, Sharat, Ganapathi, Laalu, Jugal and Sonu who were martyred in their region and also

to other martyrs of the Indian revolution. Comrade Chalasani Prasad of Virasam was also remembered.

On 11 August, residential quarters of three employees of the Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) at Jerrela village in GK Veedhi mandal in Viskhapatnam district were destroyed by the Maoists against attempts by the company to undertake bauxite mining in the region disregarding the opposition from the masses led by the Maoist party. These employees were earlier asked to quit their jobs but as they failed to do so this action was carried out.

Black Day was observed by the Maoists in Malkangiri, Koraput, Visakhapatnam and Srikakulam districts under AOBSZC during the so-called Independence Day of the country on 15 August. Black flags were hoisted and banners were put up on behalf of CPI(Maoist) with messages such as “Independence not for the Adivasis but for the imperialists, landlords and rich industrialists who are plundering the country’s wealth”. The Maoists also demanded the withdrawal of paramilitary forces, stop to Operation Green Hunt, basic rights for the Adivasis and other oppressed people, etc. East Divisional Committee too issued an appeal to the people to observe Black Day to mark their opposition to the country’s fake independence and to fight for establishing real independence.

Three personnel of the 104th Battalion of Border Security Force (BSF) were wiped out in an ambush by the PLGA near Palangarai Ghat of Balimela reservoir under Chitrakonda Police Station in Malkangiri district, Odisha on 26 August. Six BSF jawans were also injured in the ambush in which the guerrillas first blasted an IED and then fired upon the enemy troops. The BSF men were alighting from the boat after returning from patrolling in the ‘cut-off area’ when they were trapped in the ambush. The ambush site is close to the site of the proposed bridge on the Gurupriya River that the government is planning to construct as a part of its anti-Maoist strategy.

Opposing the ‘surrender’ of alleged Maoists orchestrated by Odisha administration and the police in Malkangiri district, CPI(Maoist) called a Malkangiri bandh on 25 September. The Party appealed to the people to be alert to the attempts being made by government to hoodwink them in the name of ‘surrender’ and ‘rehabilitation’ to wean them away from the path of struggle.

The party’s 11th formation day was celebrated on 21 September across the Maoist movement areas of the AOB zone.

Three local leaders of the ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP) were arrested and taken away by the Maoists on 5 October from their homes in Kothaguda village of GK Veedhi mandal, Visakhapatnam district. These included the TDP mandal President, a district committee member and another senior leader. They were involved in the AP government’s recent efforts to open up the Visakha Agency Area for bauxite mining. The Maoist party issued a statement the next day addressing TDP that their leaders would have to face the ire of the people if they did not quit the anti-people party and if the government persisted with the proposed plan for mining. They were released on 14 October after presenting them in a people’s court where they undertook to quit TDP and refrain from facilitating the proposed mining project. They were handed over to Girijan Employees Association which was making efforts the release of these leaders.

CPI(Maoist) called a two-day bandh in the Visakha Agency Area on 12 and 13 October against the proposed bauxite mining in the area.

On 26 October Maoist cadres set ablaze to battery-operated vehicles of the Indian Railways between Kamaluru and Bansi railway stations on the Kothavalasa-Kirandul line after allowing the drivers and railway staff to leave. Walkie-talkies and mobile phones were seized from them.

A one-day bandh called by DKSZC on 25 November was successfully observed in Malkangiri district. The bandh was called to protest against the ongoing anti-Maoist operations in Odisha-Chhattisgarh border, the brutal killing of Maoist revolutionaries in real and fake encounters, proposed air strikes against suspected Maoists, etc.

Andhra Pradesh-Telangana

Protest Week was observed from 1 to 7 July in many parts of AP and Telangana close to the Chhattisgarh and Odisha inter-state borders. Posters and banners were put up in many villages of north Telangana calling upon the people to make the protest week a success.

Bihar-Jharkhand

Karimnagar-Khammam-Warangal (KKW) Divisional Committee of Telangana State Committee, CPI(Maoist) called a one-day bandh of the three districts on 28 September to protest against the cold-blooded killing of comrades Sruthi and Vidyasagar by Telangana Police on 15 September. This was stated by Secretary of the committee Comrade Damodar in a press release.

Venkatapuram Area Committee of CPI(Maoist) in the first week of September has demanded the distribution of Bhadrachalam temple land in different places of the Visakha Agency Area among poor and landless peasants including the Adivasis, distribution of land deeds for podu lands (land on which Adivasis carry out shifting cultivation), scrapping of the Polavaram and Kanthanapally projects. Posters making this demand were put up in many places including on Botigudem-Anjanapuram road in Cherla mandal of Khammam district, Telangana.

On 17 November, CPI(Maoist) in a press release called upon the people to boycott the upcoming Warangal by-elections. Jagan, spokesperson of Telangana State Committee of the party, said that in the last 16 months of its autocratic and anti-people rule, TRS government led by the Telangana CM K Chandrashekhara Rao (KCR) has shown its true colours as loyal servants of the Indian ruling classes. Coming to power on the crest of the people's movement for Separate Telangana, the government of the new state have followed the old path of previous AP governments in denying the rights of the people, stifling their aspirations and carrying on repression. The Maoists stated that TRS government has carried out a series of autocratic and anti-people measures that include the resumption of cold-blooded killing of Maoists in fake encounters with the murder of Comrades Shruthi and Vidyasagar, taking repressive measures against the struggling people such as terminating the jobs of 1,200 municipal and Panchayat workers for going on strike, implementing neo-liberal policies that are abating farmer's suicides, handing over the state's rich natural resources to big Indian and multinational companies and a number of similar acts. This government is led by the same turncoat and hypocrite KCR who once declared that "The Maoist agenda is my agenda", recalled the Maoist leader. Asserting that there can be no solution to the people's basic problems within the present political set-up, the Maoists appealed to the people to teach the treacherous TRS a lesson by boycotting the Warangal by-elections.

Three government buildings were razed to the ground by Maoist cadres in Chainpur of Giridih district, Jharkhand on 10 July.

On 20 July, Maoist cadres set on fire several vehicles at a bridge construction site in Banka district of Bihar. The burnt vehicles of the construction company included SUVs, tractors, earthmovers and excavators.

BJSAC of CPI(Maoist) called a daylong Bihar-Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh bandh on 6 August to protest against the dastardly killing of Regional Committee Member Comrade Shivnandan Bhagat (Sylvester Minz) by the police in a fake encounter in Gumla on 25 July after catching him unarmed and when he was sleeping.

Maoist cadres destroyed two BSNL mobile phone towers near Tisia village of Kisko block, Lohardaga district of Jharkhand during the daylong bandh on 6 August. The bandh was observed in several districts of Jharkhand including Gumla, Latehar, Giridih, Dhanbad, Dumka, Chatra, Palamu, West Singhbhum etc. and in some districts of Bihar, particularly in the Magadh region which include Gaya and Aurangabad districts. Few vehicles plied on the roads including the State and National Highways passing through these districts. Transport of minerals in Jharkhand too came to a halt. Offices, schools and markets remained closed in large parts of these districts.

Maoist cadres attacked a canal construction site and set ablaze excavators and tractors in Banka district of Bihar on 8 August.

On 4 September, PLGA fighters injured one jawan of CRPF's CoBRA battalion in an encounter in the forests of Budha Pahar under Baresarh police station in Latehar district of Jharkhand when these troops were conducting an anti-Maoist operation.

Maoists put up posters and banners in several districts of Bihar and Jharkhand calling upon the people to celebrate the 11th anniversary of the formation of CPI(Maoist) on 21 September.

On 28 September, Maoists set ablaze a construction machine in Palamau district of Jharkhand engaged in building a bridge for facilitating faster troop movement during anti-Maoist operations.

Two jawans of SSB were eliminated by PLGA guerrillas in an ambush near Katahaldih under Sundar Pahari Police Station in Godda district of Jharkhand on 10 October on the eve of Bihar assembly elections when a joint team of SSB and district police force were conducting an anti-Maoist combing operation. Maoists also put up posters and banners calling upon the people to boycott the Bihar assembly elections.



“Boycott the Bihar Assembly Elections - CPI(Maoist)”: Poster ahead of Bihar elections

On 15 November, Maoist cadres burnt down three iron-ore laden dumpers near Kolbonga village in Saranda forest of West Singhbhum district in south-eastern Jharkhand after asking the drivers and occupants to get down. The vehicles were carrying minerals from Chiria mines operated by SAIL.

Maoist cadres locked the houses of four policemen in Mayapur village under Naudiha Bazar police station of Palamau district in Jharkhand in

November to retaliate continuous police atrocities against the people of the area. In a poster pasted on one of the houses, the Maoists warned the policemen to refrain from harassing the people in the future.

Dandakaranya

On 12 July, PLGA injured an STF personnel in an encounter with the government forces in Kukanar of Sukma district of Chhattisgarh when they were conducting a joint anti-Maoist operation.

Maoist cadres blasted an IED on 13 July in Sukma district injuring two CRPF personnel.

On 15 July, Maoists arrested four former Special Police Officers (SPOs) who later got appointed as auxiliary constables of Chhattisgarh Police in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district. Three of them were posted in Kutru police station while another was in Vedire police station. They were produced in a people's court and later executed as per the people's verdict. Declaring this, the party warned that no policeman who had committed atrocities against the people during Salwa Judum or Operation Green Hunt will have to face the consequences.

Maoists arrived at Kaklur railway station in Bastar and damaged wagons of a goods train on 25 July. They also put up posters and banners appealing to the people to observe the Martyrs' Week from 28 July to 3 August.

On 22 August, PLGA forces attacked a mine operated by the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) on Bailadila Hills under Bacheli police station in Dantewada district. Several dumpers and drilling machines engaged in the mining work were set ablaze.

An action team of PLGA annihilated a former Salwa Judum goon named Pidu Korsa inside

The people of the village of Kushmahat in Begusarai district of north Bihar militantly counterattacked a team of Special Armed Police (SAP) who raided the village and arrested a Maoist cadre on 26 October. One police personnel was beaten to death by the people while six others, including the Station House Officer (SHO) of Nima Chandpura Police Station under which the village is located, were injured. Fighting heroically with mere stones against the armed police who were carrying arms and were firing upon them, the villagers managed to free the arrested Maoist from the clutches of the enemy.

Nayapara Relief Camp in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh. He was actively involved in committing atrocities against the people during the fascist Salwa Judum campaign that lasted from mid-2005 to 2009.

An Assistant Commandant of CRPF's 111th Battalion based in Palnar village of Dantewada district, who was also a Company Commander, was seriously injured in an attack by people's militia members in Palnar weekly market on 4 September.

Maoist cadres annihilated an Auxiliary Police Constable of Chhattisgarh Police on 5 September after arresting him on his way to Polampalli from Dornapal in Sukma district on 31 August and presenting him before a people's court. Pila Das, the dead constable took active part in Salwa Judum after joining this fascist campaign as an SPO in 2006.

One constable of Chhattisgarh Police was injured by a pressure bomb planted by the PLGA on the road to Bhopalpatnam five kilometres from Bijapur town on 10 September. The joint government forces were patrolling the road under construction.

On 11 September, PLGA cadres set ablaze a diesel tanker belonging to a private construction company going to Awapalli in Bijapur district.

Maoist cadres burnt down mixers and other construction machinery used for building a government poultry farm in Murki village of Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh on 17 September, leaving behind pamphlets and banners at the spot explaining the action.

A jawan of the 206th CoBRA Battalion was seriously injured after stepping on to a pressure bomb planted by the Maoists near Timilwada village in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh on 24 September.

Maoists burnt and destroyed a JCB machine six kilometers away from Bijapur town on 26 September

Maoist cadres numbering close to 70 attacked a construction site near the Chargaon mines in Kanker district of Chhattisgarh and set ablaze 29 vehicles. The people of the area around Chargaon mines are protesting against the mining as it threatens the region's environment and their livelihood. They are also opposed to the plunder of natural resources for private profit by big mining in collusion with the ruling BJP party.

when it was being brought to Kongupalli of Bijapur district for the work of installing a mobile tower.

Maoist cadres arrested an Auxiliary constable of Chhattisgarh Police Kudium Pandu posted in Farsegad police camp in Bijapur district on 28 September when he was returning to his base from Talmendri village on a motorcycle with two students after attending a family ceremony. The students were allowed to leave while Pandu was taken away. He joined the Salwa Judum as an SPO and was later appointed as an Auxiliary Constable in 2011. He was presented in a people's court and was annihilated as per its decision. His dead body was left on Talmenbdri-Farsegad road on 30 September.

One Chhattisgarh Police was annihilated by the Maoists in the evening of 1 October in Burgum village of Bastar district when he came to offer prayers at a local temple.

On 3 October, a CRPF personnel was injured in a bomb explosion triggered by the Maoists in Gorgunda village of Sukma district under Polampalli police station limits.

On 8 October, Maoist cadres engaged the CRPF in a gun battle in Tetri forest under Bhejji police station of Sukma district and injuring three jawans. Another CRPF personnel was injured in a booby-trap blast in Chintaguppa area of the district on the same day.

On 10 October, two CRPF personnel were injured by an IED planted by the PLGA in Murdanda village of Awapalli in Bijapur district, Chhattisgarh.

A jawan of CRPF's 74th Battalion was injured in an IED blast in the forests between Chintaguppa and Burkapal of Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on 13 October when a CRPF team went to secure a nearby helipad for the landing of choppers.

Two CoBRA jawans were injured by the explosion of a booby-trap set by the PLGA near Basaguda in Bijapur district on 19 October.

On 23 October, PLGA cadres torched 35 vehicles deployed for road construction at Tarlaguda in Bijapur district while five trucks were burnt near Geedam in Dantewada district engaged by the railways.

On 24 October, Maoists burnt down a passenger bus in Bijapur district after asking all the passengers to get down.

On 28 October, three personnel of CRPF's 74th Battalion were injured in an IED blast near their camp at Burkapal in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh when a CRPF team was on road-opening duty.

One Chhattisgarh Armed Police (CAP) personnel was killed in an IED exploded by the Maoist guerrillas in Pandemurga village in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh on 29 October while conducting an anti-Maoist combing operation. Five vehicles were set ablaze by the Maoists in Gumda village of near Geedam in Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh on the same day.

DKSZC of CPI(Maoist) called a bandh on 25 November to protest against the recent killing of Maoist cadres by the mercenary government forces during anti-Maoist operations in the southern Odisha-Chhattisgarh border. The bandh was successfully observed in the districts of DK and also in Malkangiri of Odisha.

On 25 November, during the bandh (general strike) called by DKSZC of CPI(Maoist), PLGA cadres set ablaze 22 heavy vehicles transporting iron ore from the Hahaladdi mines in Kanker district in protest against continued mining in the area. It is one of the three operational mines in the district.

Maharashtra

Maoist cadres blasted a forest range office in Decchli village in Aheri tehsil of Gadchiroli district on 8 July. The building was completely destroyed along with the documents stored in it. In a notice left by the Maoists at the site, the forest department was asked to stop its activities in the area.

On 16 July, a forest department office was burnt down by Maoist cadres at Malewada village in Gadchiroli district.

PLGA cadres set ablaze a Gram Panchayat office in Durgapur of Pendhri, Gadchiroli district on 9 September to protest against the fake encounter of comrades Dalpat and Kummi. CPI(Maoist) also called a day-long Dhanora bandh on 10 September as a mark of protest.

The people of Dhanora tehsil of Gadchiroli district observed one-day bandh on 10 September to protest against the killing of Maoist revolutionaries by the police in fake encounters. Maoist cadres burnt down

On 17 September a range forest office and a departmental vehicle were set ablaze by Maoist cadres at Jinganoor in Sironcha area of Gadchiroli district. This is the fifth such forest office destroyed by the Maoists in the last two months in the district. Previously, forest offices at Perimili, Dechilpeta, Malewada and Gatta were destroyed, all except Malewada located in south Gadchiroli. The Maoists are opposing the formation of the so-called *Van Hakka Samitis* (Forest Right Committees) by the forest department in these areas and this is one of the reasons for these actions.

a forest department range office and an inspection room at Perimili on the Bhamragarh-Alapalli road on this day.

Maoists attacked a group of C-60 commandos carrying out combing operation in Naingunda forest of Etapalli taluka in Gadchiroli district on 19 September in which one Sub-Inspector (SI) of Maharashtra Police was injured.

A Special Police Officer (SPO) working with the Maharashtra Police was annihilated by PLGA cadres in Mallumpodur village in Bhamragarh tehsil of Gadchiroli district on 9 October.

On 19 October, PLGA guerrillas eliminated a police warden at Ghotpadi village in Bhamragarh tehsil of Gadchiroli district.

Odisha

An exchange of fire took place between PLGA guerrillas and government forces in Pangabaju forest of Kalahandi district on 24 July. After half an hour of firing, PLGA cadres retreated to safety. There was no casualty on either side.

Posters were put up by Balangir-Bargarh-Mahasamund (BBM) Divisional Committee of Odisha State Committee (OSC), CPI(Maoist) at several places ahead of the Martyrs' Week starting from 28 July. In the posters pasted in Jharanmunda on Padampur-Paikmal road in Bargarh district and Mahakhand village Turekela block of Balangir district, the party opposed the policies being pursued by the

Narendra Modi led Government at the centre and accused Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh of handing over natural resources to corporate houses.

Odisha State Committee of CPI(Maoist) observed Black Day on 15 August, the so-called Independence Day of the country. Black flags were hoisted in many places in Rayagada and Bolangir districts.

Bansadhara-Ghumasar-Nagabali (BGN) Divisional Committee of Odisha State Committee, CPI(Maoist) called a daylong bandh of three blocks in Kalahandi district on 23 November to protest against the killing of three villagers of Nishanguda by the government forces on 15 November.

One-day bandh called by the Darbha Divisional Committee of DKSZC on 26 November on several issues including to protest against the ongoing counter-revolutionary Operation Green Hunt and the decision to conduct air strikes against the Maoists was

observed in Malkangiri district too. On the eve of the bandh, Maoist cadres blocked several roads by felling trees and digging up earth to restrict vehicular traffic.

Western Ghats

PLGA guerrillas and a team of Kerala Police exchanged fire near Kadukummana village near Mukkali in the forests of Silent Valley in Palakkad district of Kerala on 17 October. 30 personnel of Kerala Police including its anti-Maoist commando force Thunderbolts were carrying out a search operation when they were fired upon by the Maoists. There was no casualty on either side.

On 9 November, CPI(Maoist) cadres destroyed two sheds belonging to the forest department in the Silent Valley National Park in Palakkad district, one near Aanavari and the other close to Thudukki – two tribal villages within the Park.



CPI(Maoist) poster in Jharkhand on 11th Party Formation Day; Road blockade during a bandh in Dandakaranya

(Contd. from p.15)

The Unity Congress - 9th Congress of the CPI(Maoist) calls upon the revolutionary masses, all democratic forces and the oppressed religious minorities to unite in a struggle against the Hindu fascists. The worldwide experience of the struggle against fascism teaches that the fascists can be defeated only by militant class struggle in the streets, factories and in the rest of the countryside. The fascists can be defeated only by isolating them from the people and smashing their organizational forces, and by developing and intensifying protracted peoples' war with the aim of new democratic revolution, then socialism and ultimately establishing communism. The CPI (Maoist) pledges to fight resolutely against each and every instance of the trampling on the democratic rights of the oppressed minorities and others by the Hindu fascists. It pledges to do its best to defend the sections of the population targeted by the Hindu fascists. Our party is willing to unite in a broad front with all the genuine democratic forces which would be willing to fight back the Hindu fascist offensive." O

Voices against War on People

Plan to set up new BSF camp opposed by the people in Malkangiri

More than four thousand people from five gram panchayats of Mathili block in Malkangiri district of Odisha gathered at Kartanpalli to protest against the proposed camp of Border Security Force ((BSF) in the area. The government had decided to set up a new camp either in Kartanpalli or Tentuligumma villages of Mathili as part of putting in place its 'Carpet Security' against the Maoist movement. However, the people of the two villages along with those of the adjacent gram panchayats such as Kiang and Palimi

came together to strongly oppose this plan and asked the government to withdraw its decision. The reason for this vocal opposition is the atrocities and harassment the people have to daily face at the hands of the jawans of BSF and other government forces. Such atrocities are more regular and pronounced around their camps. Apart from compelling the villagers to perform forced labour in the camps at the beck and call of the jawans, the villagers are also worried that they will have to face physical assaults



and abuse, arrest and loot of property, etc., while the women may face sexual violence. Protests against police-paramilitary camps for similar reasons are quite common in all the Maoist guerrilla zones of the country. In some areas of Bihar-Jharkhand and Dandakaranya, the masses themselves have taken initiative to destroy concrete buildings including schools – often the only concrete building around in the forested Adivasi areas – to prevent the government forces from occupying them and setting up their camps.

Maoists oppose false propaganda and counter-revolutionary actions of Malkangiri SP Mitrabhanu Mahapatra

Malkangiri Secretary of Malkangiri Divisional Committee of CPI(Maoist) Comrade Venu has accused Malkangiri SP Mitrabhanu Mahapatra of indulging in false propaganda against the Maoist movement. In a statement released to the press in October, Venu said that the SP is spreading the Goebbelsian propaganda that Telugu leaders of the Maoist party is responsible for the death of “innocent Adivasis”. Venu challenged the police officer to provide any proof of this baseless allegation, retorting that it was the SP who has been involved in the systematic killing of revolutionaries and Adivasi villagers in order to weaken the Maoist movement by spreading white terror.

The Maoist leader held the directly responsible for several police-perpetrated cold-blooded killings including the torture and murder of 13 teenaged People’s Militia members in Silakota forests in September 2013, the killing of Podia Area Committee Member Comrade Jugal after capturing him in a state of illness, illegally arresting his brother and pushing him to death by denying proper treatment and medicines in detention, extra-judicial killing of three PLGA squad members in Tondapi when they were taking rest, the killing of an Adivasi villager in Nerangipani who had gone out for fishing and later fabricating the story of a ‘Maoist’ killed in encounter and similar other incidents of systematic extra-judicial killing of Adivasis in Malkangiri.

In addition, the SP is knowingly thrusting many Adivasis into the jaws of death by recruiting them for building clandestine informer network through the use

of threats and allurement of job and money, said Venu. Policemen engaged in anti-Maoist operations in the district die more of Malaria than in Maoist attacks while the SP moves about in helicopter unconcerned. The officer is also responsible for the death of the policemen whom he has deployed to protect the Essar mining company’s pipeline after pocketing huge amounts of money as kickbacks. Therefore SP Mahapatra is responsible for pushing his own men to the jaws of death.

Protest against the killing of Comrade Surya in a fake encounter

Civil and democratic rights organisations have demanded a judicial probe into the killing of 23 year old Maoist cadre Comrade K. Surya who was shot dead by AP Police at Kurisapadu in the Agency Area of Viskahapatnam district on the Andhra-Odisha border. The police had shot him dead in an one-sided firing on 20 June and subsequently floated the story of an “encounter” and “firing in self defense” to mask their culpability for extra-judicial killing. Speaking at Surya’s funeral near Visakhapatnam on 28 June, revolutionary writer G. Kalyana Rao observed that even though the Kerala High Court had recently said that being a Maoist was no crime, the police were regularly killing Maoist revolutionaries in false encounters. Amara Veerula Bandhu Mitrula Committee leaders Anjamma and Padma, Committee for Release of Political Prisoners State vice-president K. Kanakaiah, OPDR State vice-president Sudhakar, Civil Liberties Committee leader K. Annapurnaamma, Progressive Democratic Movement district president Bathula Mohan Rao and many others attended Surya’s funeral and demanded a judicial killing into the false encounter to identify the police personnel responsible for the killing.

Massive protest in Telangana demanding a stop to fake encounters

Comrades Shruthi (Mahitha) and Vidyasagar (Sagar) were shot dead by the fascist anti-Naxal Greyhounds forces in the morning of 16 September in Rangapur forest of Govindaraopet Mandal in Warangal district – an area that comes under the Karimnagar-Khammam-Warangal (KKW) Division



Above: Cremation of Comrade Surya; Protests during Surya's funeral, 28 June 2015, Andhra Pradesh
 Below: Protests against fake encounter of Comrades Shruthi and Vidyasagar, 30 November 2015, Telangana



of Telangana State Committee, CPI(Maoist). The police as usual came up with the fiction of a “fierce encounter” with the Maoists. In fact, there was no encounter or exchange of fire on that day. The Greyhounds, which had laid an ambush, fired indiscriminately and one-sidedly upon a group of Maoist guerrillas which was passing through that area. Contrary to the claims of the police, revolutionary mass organisations and civil liberties organisations have said that Shruthi was molested, brutally tortured and raped before shooting her down in a cold-blooded manner. Those who saw her dead body said that her tormentors twisted her elbow by 180 degrees and tore her apart with bayonet, poured acid on her stomach and shot from point blank range. This is the typical Greyhounds way of torturing and eliminating revolutionaries extra-judicially with scant regard for rule of law or the Constitution. The people of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have seen too many assassinations of this kind over the last decades to believe in the tell-tale lies of the police.

But the murder of Shruthi and Vidyasagar has enraged the people of Telangana to no ends because it was orchestrated under the directions of the government headed by the TRS party – the same party which rode to power by promising to fulfill the aspirations of Telangana’s people, particularly its youth. Now the same party is following the footsteps of Congress and TDP in murdering the youth of Telangana, while K Chandrashekhar Rao is repeating the same sordid act of drenching his hands with the blood of revolutionaries like his predecessors Chandrababu Naidu, Rajashekhar Reddy and other fascist murderers.

The people of Telangana were already agitated over the killing of revolutionaries that preceded this – be it the killing of Comrade Vivek or of Comrade Surya. It was hardly surprising therefore that the people of Telangana responded to the murder of Shruthi and Vidyasagar with unprecedented mass outrage. Condemnations and protest statements poured out against KCR government from a wide section of democratic organisations and progressive intellectuals from the very day the news of the fake encounter became public. Protests began at the hospital itself where the bodies of the martyred comrades were brought for postmortem. These early protests snowballed into what could perhaps be the biggest mass movement in the short history of Telangana state, the likes of which had not been

witnessed since the end of the separate statehood movement. In a show of unprecedented and historic solidarity, a total of 372 organisations representing a broad spectrum of social forces came together to form Telangana Democratic Front (TDF) with the main slogan of ‘No more fake encounters!’ These organisations gave a joint call of ‘Chalo Assembly’ (‘March to the Assembly’) on 30 September demanding a judicial probe into the so-called encounter and filing of cases against the guilty police officials.

TRS government mobilised its police and intelligence forces and carried out mass arrests and detentions all over the state to suppress the march. The leaders of the march were put under house arrest and thousands of protestors were taken into custody from bus stands and railway stations in all the districts. In Hyderabad itself, scores were kept under preventive detention, students and youths were picked up from their hostels and prevented from coming out of their campuses, barricades were erected around the assembly and a massive security cordon was put in place in the city to foil the march. Though a frightened TRS government took refuge behind the police and came down heavily on the protestors, the massive mass movement sent a strong warning to the governments of Telangana and AP as well as the NDA government at the centre that the murder of revolutionaries will not be tolerated. MIB salutes the masses and the people’s organisations of Telangana for this unprecedented show of unity and solidarity against state repression.

Protests against rape and sexual violence on women by anti-Maoist forces in Dandakaranya

The paramilitary and police forces have added one more gruesome chapter to the history of the fascist counter-revolutionary war launched by the Indian rulers on the revolutionary masses of Dandakaranya. From 19 to 24 October 2015, several batches of a joint force consisting of CRPF, DF and SAF went on a rampage in Chinnagelur, Peddagelur, Burgicheru, Rajapenta, Pegadpalli and Gundam villages of Basaguda area in Bijapur district of Dandakaranya. They subjected several Adivasi women to sexual violence including gang-rape and molestation. One of the gang-raped women was a 14 year old minor. Another woman who was subjected to gang-rape

succumbed to injuries. At least 15 women of Peddagalur and Chinnagelur were subjected to sexual assault, molestation, stripping and beating. The government forces destroyed and looted property and money belonging to the villagers, beat them up indiscriminately and burnt down one house in Burgicheru. In this way, the mercenary forces spread mayhem and terror in Basaguda area for nearly a week.

When the women of the villages got together to go to Basaguda Police Station to lodge their complaint, the police stopped them midway, physically assaulted them and forced them to turn back. But such efforts to suppress the horrific news of this large-scale sexual violence and state repression did not succeed. The villagers – particularly the women who bore the brunt of this repression the most – came forward courageously to narrate the heinous atrocities committed by the fascist police goons to the media, fact-finding teams of women’s organisations, social activists and opposition parliamentary parties. With their help, the women lodged FIRs and recorded their testimonies in front of senior police officers and a magistrate. Although some of these officials gave a patient hearing and appeared responsive to the women complainants, quite expectedly the police did little to apprehend the culprits. In fact, the entire state machinery jumped into action to deny or trivialise the seriousness of the atrocities committed by the forces. It cannot reasonably be expected that the government armed forces which commit such acts of repression quite deliberately in implementing ‘counter-insurgency’ policies of the Indian ruling classes in the movement areas will be brought to justice through the legal system of the same ruling classes. It is the ongoing revolutionary struggle of the masses of DK which will ensure a befitting response to the atrocities of the ruling classes.

Opposition to continued fake encounters in Dandakaranya

The government forces continue to kill Adivasi villagers of Dandakaranya in fake encounters in a premeditated manner as per its plans to weaken the mass base of the Maoist movement during the third phase of Operation Green Hunt. On the night of 28th July 2015, a joint force of more than 500 personnel accompanied by some renegades launched a combing operation in Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh.

Assaulting, beating up, burning and looting on their way, they reached Nahadi village the next morning. There the forces conducted a house-to-house search, beating and abusing anyone whom they found. Villager Hemla Podiya who was at his home, came out hearing the commotion. He was barely out in the open when a single bullet fired by one of the armed men named Badru – a former Maoist who had earlier worked in the area but surrendered and became a pointsman of the police – killed him on the spot in front of the villagers. Badru was one of the three renegades who had accompanied the police that day, the other two being Kiran and Hurra. The police forces prevented the villagers from coming close to the dead body and even beat up Podiya’s mother and wife who tried to protest. After digging up and throwing away the bloodstained earth to remove evidence of the killing, they took away Hemla’s body with them. Later the police-paramilitary forces issued a statement to the media claiming that they had carried out a successful operation whereby hardcore Maoist commander Hemla Podiya was shot dead in a ‘fierce encounter’ in Nahadi forest.

The villagers of Nahadi and its surrounding areas have strongly condemned the government forces for killing Hemla in an unprovoked manner and the subsequent arrests, assaults and threats to suppress the truth about the manner in which he was killed. Democratic organisations, civil liberties and social activists, opposition leaders of some parliamentary parties and others too have voiced their opposition, demanded justice and an end to the ongoing police repression in the pretext of anti-Maoist operations.

Opposition to increasing enemy attacks in Maad

Hundreds of government forces consisting of CRPF, Cobra, STF and DRG committed atrocities during anti-Maoist joint operations in Kodiler, Vedmametta, Gattakal, Dumnar and Oyenger villages of Orchha block, Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh. They killed two Adivasi youths Varda Motu of Alveda and Kuhram Rengu of Vedmametta in indiscriminate firing and took away their dead bodies to Narayanpur town. There they spread the ‘news’ that they killed two Maoist cadres in a fierce encounter. During the same operation the government forces one-sidedly fired upon PLGA Company-2 member Comrade Podiyam Dula leading to his death. They also detained

two women PLGA cadres comrades Neela and Sataru, tortured them brutally and took them away. They have not yet been produced in court and their whereabouts remain unknown. The forces opened fire arbitrarily on the Adivasi villagers of Dumnar when they were busy in agricultural work. The troops also looted many houses in the villages they attacked.

As the enemy forces are still continuing their combing operations in the forests near Nelnar, Kalmanar, Pokkanar, Kustirmetta and Ullispara villages, the people there are living under white terror and are unable to venture into the forest for their daily necessities. Because of the deployment of more forces in Maad and continued operation by them in the third phase of Operation Green Hunt, the lives of the Maadia Adivasis have got badly affected. They are demanding that the ongoing repression on the people under the garb of counter-insurgency operations be stopped and the paramilitary-police camps in and around Maad be withdrawn.

Revolutionary women's struggle in Nelnar Area of Maad

The women of Dandakaranya have been in the forefront in resisting the armed forces of the country's reactionary ruling classes who are carrying out a fascist campaign to crush the Maoist revolutionary movement with brutal state terror. Dandakaranya's revolutionary women's movement led by the Krantikari Adivasi Mahika Sangathan (KAMS) is an important constituent of the country's Maoist movement and actively participates in the people's war. Time and again, they have displayed great courage, determination and resilience in confronting the well-armed police and paramilitary forces – at times with bare hands. Recently on 27 August, the police took away seven men on suspicion of being Maoists. The women of the village followed the policemen, argued and fought with them and got all the detained persons released. On 11 October when Orchha Police caught and took away a fellow villager Jaiman from the forest between Batbeda and Oyenger villages suspecting him to be a Maoist, the women of the villages followed the police team all the way to Orchha Police Station demanding his release. As the police did not pay heed, they gheraoed the police station and took out a rally. They even went to Narayanpur – the district headquarters – but Jaiman was not released. Instead, he was transferred to Jagdalpur prison.

On 17 November, police arrested nine villagers of Rainar on the suspicion of being Maoist supporters. This time too the women followed the policemen, agitated for two days in front of Orchha Police Station and got all the arrested men released. Similarly, three persons on their way from Orchha to their village Asnar were arrested on 26 November. Hearing the news, the women and men of Asnar went to the police station and sat on a spontaneous dharna, refusing to leave without the arrested men. The policemen abused the agitators and informed them that the accused were sent to Narayanpur. The next day 14 women went to Narayanpur, but the police informed that the arrested persons were already sent to Jagdalpur jail. The Adivasi women, who had hardly ever ventured out of their areas to the towns, did not lose hope and followed their arrested kith and kin to Jagdalpur with the objective of freeing them from the clutches of the enemy. In this way, the revolutionary women of Nelnar Area and of entire Dandakaranya in general are boldly resisting the fascist police forces, SPOs and state-sponsored vigilante gangs to defend and advance the revolutionary movement.

A child's courageous resistance to the enemy's armed forces

Frisking, beating-up, harassment, intimidation, detainment and arrest by the police and paramilitary forces have become a daily affair for the people of Dandakaranya. The forces stationed in Orchha of Narayanpur district in Chhattisgarh are no exception to this. They regularly frisk the people who come to Orchha in large numbers to attend the weekly market, question them under any pretext and even subject them to physical assaults and detainment. If any villager is found buying any commodity in large amount, the forces often presume that this is being supplied to the Maoists and the owner is subjected to intense interrogation, his or her belongings confiscated and the person even faces arrest on the allegation of being a Maoist sympathizer.

Such being the common practice of the government forces, when a group of armed policemen lying on an ambush in the forest path accosted and frisked Dada Durva of Garida village returning from Orchha market with his little son on 2 July, the child thought that his father was being arrested and whisked away to jail by the uniformed goons. He lifted a stone and threw it at a policeman, striking his gun and

breaking its magazine. The bullets from the broken magazine fell on the ground. Enraged policemen beat up the child mercilessly. When his father protested and the policemen calmed down, they offered the crying child a packet of biscuits. But displaying exceptional dignity and self-respect, the child refused to take the biscuits. The people of the area who later heard about this incident heartily praised the exemplary courage of the little child.

Journalists and advocates raising voice against the state's war on people come under attack from the police and state-sponsored goons

Journalists, advocates, doctors, academics, researchers, social activists and individuals in any other field of work who try to present the ground realities of the war zones in the country's Maoist movement areas or raise voice against the repression of people by the state and state-sponsored fascist gangs invariably face threat, intimidation, harassment, physical assault and other forms of persecution. With the beginning of Operation Green Hunt (OGH) in 2009, the intensity of such attacks was increased in order to prosecute the war on people as a hidden war. After the launching of the more vicious and deceptive third phase of OGH by the Modi government, the ruling classes and their running dogs like Kalluri have become particularly brazen and ruthless in suppressing the dissenting voices.

Conscientious journalists who dare to truthfully report the ground realities and refuse to reproduce the lies handed out by the police-administration are being subjected to persecution. As a part of this suppression campaign, journalists like Somaru Nag and Santosh Yadav have been threatened, arrested, tortured and put behind bars. The police first tried to persuade him to work for them, and when he refused, he was arrested and even threatened to be killed in fake encounter. Santosh Yadav is charged under the draconian Chhattisgarh Public Safety Act and is denied bail by the court. Moreover, his defense lawyers from Jagdalpur Legal Aid Group (JagLAG) too have been targeted not only by the police and the police-supported goons, but faced hostilities from an influential section of the Dantewada Bar Association. Journalists of Chhattisgarh have come out in protest against the growing state repression of journalists in

Dandakaranya and have carried out many rallies, demonstrations and protest meetings under the banner of 'Sanyukta Patrakar Sangharsh Samiti'. Journalists' unions, civil rights organisations, democratic mass organisations and social organisations and opposition parliamentary parties have censured the BJP government for its witch-hunt of journalists in the Maoist movement areas.

People of Nuapada protest against the barbaric act of killing and secretly burying a youth by the SOG jawans

Atrocities on the people living on the Chhattisgarh-Odisha border by the government anti-Maoist armed forces have become rampant in the last few years. The government have increased the number of paramilitary-special forces camps along the border and these forces have created a reign of terror and insecurity among the inhabitants. Physical assault, arrest, destruction and loot of property and even extra-judicial killings are committed by these forces in the name of fighting Maoism. Such a recent incident of brutal killing by Special Operations Group (SOG) commandos of Odisha Police in Nuapada district led to widespread protest demonstrations.

Three youths of Khotiyal area of Nuapada who had gone to the Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary on 15 August 2015 for attending some work were detained by the SOG jawans the next evening suspecting them to be involved in the Maoist movement. All of them were taken to Sosenga SOG camp. One of them, who was a minor, was released that evening itself. The other two – Chittaranjan Sahu (22) and Nutan Nayak (20) – however, were kept in illegal custody, tied up to a tree inside the camp and beaten up the whole night mercilessly. On the morning of 17 August, Nutan was taken to Komna hospital at Burla in a critical condition and was transferred the next day to a hospital in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. But there was no news of the whereabouts of Chittaranjan. As days went by, mass anger against the SOG and the inaction of the police started to mount. Sensing that their involvement in the murder had got exposed, the SOG filed an FIR in Komna Police Station on 21 August claiming that the youth had gone 'missing'. Chittaranjan's father, himself a police department employee, also lodged an FIR stating that the SOG

had murdered his son. Based on his complaint, an FIR was lodged against unknown SOG jawans.

As the news of Chittaranjan's death spread, thousands of people came out to the streets in protest against SOG and police's inability to arrest the guilty. During the six days in which the police could not find the whereabouts of the missing youth, the district of Nuapada saw a series of militant protests. As per the decision of an all-party meeting, a one-day Nuapada district bandh was observed on 21 August. More than a hundred people blockaded the National Highway passing through Komna town and *gheraoed* the police station. The bandh was spontaneous and total in entire Nuapada. All the schools, the college, shops and markets were closed. All government and non-government offices were closed. Normal life was thrown completely off gear. At Ekta Chowk of Nuapada town the protestors burnt tyres to close the NH. Likewise, hundreds of people protested in front of Komna PS in the presence of all political parties. These included district-level leaders of BJD, BJP, Congress, etc. After the daylong bandh and *gherao*, the police promised to the protestors to find the missing youth within two hours. The Odisha Human Rights Commission too directed the ADG of Odisha Police's Human Rights Cell to investigate the incident.

Gauging the anger of the masses, the police and administration started looking for the missing youth. The police arrested four SOG jawans and brought them to Nuapada and interrogated them. During the interrogation some of the jawans admitted that they had killed Chittaranjan and buried his dead body in the forest. Based on this information, the police exhumed the body from Sunabeda forest five kilometres away from Sosenga SOG camp. A tense situation prevailed in Komna town after the dead body was brought. The protestors demonstrated outside Komna Police Station for a prolonged period and presented a 5-point charter of demands. The family members refused to accept the dead body until these demands were fulfilled. The district administration and police officials held meetings with the representatives of the protestors and declared that a compensation of 10 lakh rupees would be given to the family of the deceased along with a government job. Along with this, it was also declared that 10 thousand rupees would also be given by the district Red Cross fund. After these measures were declared and the SP

promised to ensure appropriate punishment to the guilty SOG jawans, the agitation was withdrawn. The body was handed over to Chittaranjan's family after post-mortem and was cremated in the presence of a large number of people.

Opposition to the arrest of Bhagban Majhi and other leaders of Kashipur movement

The people of Kashipur in Rayagada district of Odisha have been opposing the bauxite and alumina plant of the Aditya Birla group of companies for many years by facing severe state repression. Bhagban Majhi, one of the prominent leaders of Kashipur people's movement led by the Prakritik Sampad Suraksha Parishad, was arrested in May 2015 by the policemen of the Dorguda Police Station newly set up in the area for the security of the alumina plant. He was arrested based on six fabricated charges including dacoity, loot, possession of firearms, etc. These criminal cases were filed by the police and the company's henchmen way back in 2004 when the struggle was very sharp. At that time the police and the paid agents of the company lodged a large number of false criminal charges against the participants of the Kashipur people's movement, particularly targeting the leadership. Now a fresh round of state repression has been started by Odisha government fearing an escalation in the ongoing movement against the mining company. In the three to four months before Bhagban Majhi's arrest, other leaders of the movement like Manohar Jhodia, Nath Jani, Limo Majhi, Trinath Majhi, Uma Majhi and Rabi Jhodia have been arrested and sent to jail. Similarly, Sumanta Parida – a leader of Nagavali-Jhanjhavat Nadi Suraksha Samiti – has been repeatedly targeted by the police for his alleged association with the Maoists. The police questioned him about the Maoists, pressurised him to show Maoist hideouts and even attacked his house. The people of Kashipur and civil and democratic rights organisations of the state have strongly condemned the government's persecution of the mass leaders and activists based on trumped-up charges.

Film-makers, writers, academics and concerned citizens protest against framing Debaranjan Sarangi in fabricated charges

Several prominent film-makers, writers, academics, social activists and concerned citizens of the country as well as civil and democratic rights organisations have condemned the foisting of false charges against Debaranjan Sarangi, a well-known film-maker and activist of Odisha by the Malkahngiri Police. Sarangi was detained, interrogated and framed on fabricated charges while he shooting for a documentary on Adivasi peasants in Malkangiri in early August 2015. In a letter written to Odisha Chief Minister on 22 August 2015, the concerned citizens termed it as a part of the concerted effort by the governments to muzzle voices of dissent that expose the anti-people policies of the rulers and the acts of state repression on people's movements. They said that Sarangi has been involved for a long time in various people's movements as an activist and film-maker. He has been part of several fact-finding investigations into incidents of state repression including extra-judicial killings targeting the revolutionary and democratic movements, Hindutva fascist attacks on Christians, Adivasis and Dalits, etc. The letter termed such acts by the police as an assault on the democratic space and demanded that the false charges on Debaranjan be withdrawn immediately and unconditionally. Sarangi has become the target of the government forces particularly after he participated in a recent fact-finding investigation that exposed the killing of Ganga Kirsani, an Adivasi peasant of Koraput district, by the BSF engaged in anti-Maoist operations. The investigation forced an official enquiry which in its report to the state Human Rights Commission exposed the lie of the BSF that Kirsani was a Maoist killed in an encounter. It is obvious that the paramilitary and police forces did not take kindly to such exposure and have resorted to concocted charges to intimidate, harass and silence Sarangi and others like him.

Protests in Kandhamal against the killing of a Dalit couple by the CRPF

A Dalit couple Duba Nayak and Bubudi Nayak of Pangalpadar village of Kalahandi district in Odisha

were brutally murdered by a CRPF-SOG team of anti-Maoist government forces while conducting combing operation in Madanguda forest on 26 July. To cover up the heinous killing, the paramilitary forces and the district police officials on that evening floated the story of a 'fierce encounter' with Maoist guerrillas wherein they claimed that a Maoist camp was destroyed and heavy arms and ammunition was seized. They however refrained from mentioning anything about the two killed persons. But the villagers who had accompanied the couple and the couple's son who was talking to them over the phone when the incident took place exposed the lies of the CRPF-police. They testified that CRPF jawans caught hold of the two, tried to rape Babudi and when both Babudi and Duba resisted, the two were shot dead in cold blood fearing that the diabolical act would be exposed if the couple survived to tell the tale. The paramilitary-police forces tried to counter the truth by claiming that the encounter had in fact led to the death of two 'Maoists' from whom arms were seized. But when the attempt to brand the couple as 'armed Maoists' soon collapsed, the forces came up with the new story that the couple had died in crossfire! In spite of all such attempts, field investigations by civil rights organisations, democratic individuals and the media corroborated the eye-witness accounts and completely took the lid out of the lies of the armed forces.

The killing led to widespread mass protests in Kandhamal district. More than a thousand people, mostly Adivasis and Dalits, gheraoed the Kotagada Police Station on 27 July as the police refused to file an FIR against the perpetrators or hand-over the dead bodies which bore the tell-tale marks of custodial rape and murder. The protestors demanded filing of criminal cases against the guilty personnel and adequate compensation to the family of the deceased. As the government and the police did not respond to the demands even after 24 hours of protest, the agitators blockaded the main road passing through Kotagada town as well, thus paralyzing vehicular traffic on Baliguda-Muniguda main road. Under pressure from the unyielding mass agitation, the police finally handed over the dead bodies to the family members after 36 hours. The government also had to declare a compensation of Rs2 lakh. Incidentally, taking cognizance of the widespread protests and condemnations, Odisha Human Rights Commission asked the state government to conduct two separate

probes into the incident. The protestors also demanded a halt to the combing operations and the withdrawal of CRPF-SOG camps from their areas as the jawans stationed there carry out continuous repression and atrocities on the people under the garb of fighting Maoism.

Protest against the killing of four villagers in Kalahandi by the SOG

Jawans of Special Operations Group (SOG) commandos of Odisha Police fired upon a group of five villagers of Nisanguda in Karlapat forest of Jugsaipatana Gram Panchayat under Bhawanipatna Sadar Police Station in Kalahandi district, Odisha on 15 November. The villagers had entered the forest in search of their lost cattle. Immediately after noticing the villagers, the police started shooting indiscriminately and without provocation leaving Jaya Majhi, Sukru Majhi and Jaya Shankar Naik dead on the spot, while seriously injuring the two others. One of them later died in the hospital. The SOG and police tried to wash their hands off the killing by repeating the hackneyed tale that the villagers were caught in the crossfire between the government forces and the Maoists. Nobody, however, could be hoodwinked by this cock and bull story as the youths who had survived the firing testified to the true sequence of events.

The killing gave rise to massive protests in Kalahandi. Ten thousand protestors gathered in the district headquarters Bhawanipatna to demonstrate against the government and demanded justice. In a large protest meeting that followed, all political parties active in the area except the ruling BJD and BJP took part and condemned the growing police repression on the people as part of anti-Maoist operations. People's protests continued for a week in different parts of Kalahandi. Several protest meetings were held in Jugsaipatna. People erected road blockades in Thumel Rampur. On 20 November the people held an 'Adivasi Mela' to oppose state repression in which many peoples' organisations of the area took part. More than three thousand people participated in the 'Mela'. The SP of Kalahandi tried to dissuade the masses of Jugsaipatna through the police agents from joining these protest programmes and meetings. These agents propagated among the people that the police would also kill those who went to join the protests. But such tricks failed to discourage the people from

voicing their opposition to the fake encounters, killings and growing state repression.

Bansadhara-Ghumusar-Nagabali (BGN) Divisional Committee of Odisha State Committee, CPI(Maoist), called a one-day bandh in three blocks of Kalahandi on 23 November in protest against the Karlapat killing. Comrade Umakant, secretary of BGN Division, clarified in an audio clip released to the media that there was no exchange of fire from the Maoist side in the Karlapat forest as claimed by the police. He said that the police had fired at the villagers to create terror among the people and to dissuade them from associating with the revolutionary movement. The Maoist leader demanded punishment for the guilty policemen and Rs. 10 lakh for the family of each of the deceased as compensation. The bandh called by the Party was observed successfully with the active support and cooperation of the masses.

En-masse 'surrender' of 'Maoists' in Malkangiri questioned by civil rights activist

Advocate and civil rights activist Biswapriya Kanungo has questioned the veracity of government claims about large number (over 700) of surrenders by 'Maoists supporters' in Malkangiri district including women and children. In an open letter addressed to the Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, he posed a number of questions to the government and asked it to clarify its stance.

The letter asked whether the police and paramilitary forces are vested with any authority of law to make the citizens 'surrender'. The letter pointed out that it is questionable whether the villagers presented as 'surrendered Maoists' are eligible for the 'Surrender and Rehabilitation' rules of the government since there is no proof that they were in any way involved in activities outlawed by the state. The surrender scheme or policy of the government says that it is applicable only to 'Militants'/'Extremists'/'Naxalites' who either have "criminal records" or are known to be important office-bearers/cadres of "banned organizations" and are "willing to surrender". The relevant government rules stipulate that such persons are to be categorized according to their rank and "crime record".

None of these rules, however, is being followed in the case of mass ‘surrenders’ in Malkangiri district. Mr. Kanungo wrote, “As per the media reports we have gathered information that the hundreds of people who “surrendered” before Malkangiri Police were only “Maoists Supporters”. As a student of law, I fail to appreciate the act of Malkangiri police and other Para-military Officers, who report in the media that “Maoists supporters” “surrendered” before the police”. The advocate pointed out that the people have the right to know under what rules these surrenders are being conducted and wondered if these were not mere political stunts enacted by the anti-Maoist forces desperate to manufacture “success” in their counter-revolutionary war.

Judicial probe into the killing of Comrade Kishenji demanded after TMC leader admits that Mamata government had killed him

Abhishek Banerjee, TMC MP and nephew of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, proudly declared at a meeting in Belpahari of West Medinipur on 17 July 2015 that it was the TMC government which tortured and killed Comrade Kishenji – politburo member and ERB Spokesperson, CPI(Maoist) – in Burishol forest on 24 November 2011. He said, “During the four year rule (of Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool government), only one person has died (in Jangalmahal). He is Maoist leader Kishenji. By killing him the Mamata Banerjee government has proved that people will have the last word”.

Though his intent was obviously to take credit for the crushing of the people’s upsurge in Jangal Mahal, he inadvertently let the truth out that Mamata Banerjee was directly involved in the decision to extra-judicially execute Kishenji. Mamata Banerjee has so far denied her involvement in this decision which involved top government functionaries including the then Union Home Minister Chidambaram and CRPF DG Vijay Kumar, among others. Though unintentionally, Abhishek Banerjee has exposed the hypocrisy of the fascist Mamata who had once demanded probe into Comrade Azad’s murder from the same Jangal Mahal terming it a fake encounter. But that was before she became the CM of Bengal. After coming to power, she tore away her ‘Maa-Maati-Manush’ mask and

proved to be as loyal a servant of the ruling classes as the likes of Manmohan and Chidambaram by colluding in the brutal killing of Kishenji. No doubt, she will sooner or later face the wrath of the fighting people of Jangal Mahal and Bengal as has been the case with all the fascist dictators in history who had once considered themselves to be invincible. Following the revelation, civil rights organisations of Bengal have held protest programmes and rallies demanding the reopening of investigation into Kishenji’s murder

Villagers of Purulia in Bengal oppose forced relocation

Following on the footsteps of the counter-revolutionary war tactics of ‘strategic hamleting’ devised by the British colonial military officer Harold Briggs to fight communist guerrillas in Malaya, the Mamata Banerjee-led West Bengal government is planning to implement it in Jangal Mahal area as a ‘pilot project’. It is planning to shift 32 families Kalabera village from the Ayodhya Hills in Purulia district to government-built one-room concrete ‘houses’ in the plains two kilometers away. The government considers the villagers of Kalabera to be supportive of the Maoist movement. By relocating the village to a place where it can be kept under surveillance, the government plans to cut the line of communication between the Maoist guerrillas and the villagers. The villagers, however, have staunchly opposed this plan of forced relocation as they will be torn away from their homes, land and forests and confined to jail-like enclosures.

Mother takes her own life after denied a meeting her arrested son

The government’s countrywide counter-revolutionary offensive Operation Green Hunt has claimed yet another life, this time of a 70 year old woman. The elder son of Chellamma, a resident of Muthupilakkad village in Kollam district of Kerala, was charged under UAPA and arrested on 12 May for allegedly helping a Maoist leader to get a mobile phone connection. She had lost her younger son in an accident a few years earlier, and the arrest of her elder son Anandan dealt a severe blow to her. Her request to even meet her son in judicial custody was cruelly denied. Dejected and in utter contempt of the

government, she set herself ablaze on 8 August by drenching herself in the kerosene that she collected from the villagers going door to door. Before the villagers could realise what she was doing, the flames engulfed her. She was critically burnt and died on the way to hospital.

In a display of rare ‘magnanimity’, the court permitted the bereaved son to see his dead mother for one last time. But the police, which first pushed the mother to death by arresting her only surviving son and the only support for her existence, did not allow him more than 10 minutes to remain by her body. One of the hundreds of villagers who gathered at her funeral to pay their last respects observed, “His handcuffs were removed only when he stood near her body. He could spend barely 10 minutes there. He was taken back to the jail,”. Such is the level of class-hatred of the uniformed henchmen of the rulers. What better can anyway be expected from the mercenaries of the reactionary ruling classes than such acts of sadism?

Cultural resistance in Kerala faces police repression

Thiruvananthapuram Police detained five young activists of a cultural organisation called ‘Njattuvella’ on 14 August alleging “Maoist links”. The police termed Njattuvella as “one of the frontal organisations of the CPI(Maoist)” – a frequently used excuse of the police under LDF government to unleash persecution of radical and democratic organisations of the state in recent times. The police had nothing to justify their the ‘preventive detention’ and hence came up with the outrageous ‘charge’ that the activists had been sticking posters in the city and were planning to distribute anti-government pamphlets during the upcoming Independence Day celebrations organised by the state government at the Central Stadium. In ‘the largest democracy of the world’, one can easily get arrested for distributing leaflets, putting up posters or just for attempting to stage a street-play! It is indeed ironic that in this ‘independent’ India, while the ruling-class political organisations including Hindutva fascist forces get a free hand to run amok with as much posters, banners, hoardings, wall-writings etc. as they want to advertise their reactionary propaganda, the police consider it a “violation of the law” and even smell ‘Maoist links’ if any people’s

organisation put up a few posters or distribute a few leaflets criticizing the status-quo! Apparently, the police had found a state-wide signature campaign by ‘Njattuvella’ in June titled ‘Independence is a Lie’ to be a sure-sign of its purported Maoist links!

In fact, the group had come to the capital to stage a street play in front of the Secretariat to protest against the growing incursion of the police into campuses and state repression. However, the police immediately swung into action and picked them up and detained them till the evening, disrupting their plan for the play. Protesting against this arbitrary police action, Njattuvella Joint Secretary Prashant said, “We had no intention of distributing pamphlets. We were protesting the infiltration of police into school campuses and various walks of public life. During our signature campaign we were detained at Kasargod and Kannur. Policemen verbally abused us and confiscated our personal diaries.” With such desperate attacks on the right to democratic dissent and freedom of expression, the Kerala government and its uniformed goons have merely ended up corroborating the assertion of ‘Njattuvella’ that the so-called Independence of the country is indeed a lie! With each act of state repression, more and more people of Kerala will be convinced of this fact.

Mass organisations of Tamil Nadu protest against police witch-hunt of alleged Maoists

Activists from more than 20 mass organisations including political parties, civil rights groups and democratic organisations came together under the banner of the Organisation for the Protection of Democratic Rights to oppose the police witch-hunt of individuals in the name of countering the threat of Maoism in Tamil Nadu. They submitted a petition to the Police Commissioner of Coimbatore that individuals belonging to oppressed classes and communities are being persecuted and arrested merely for their conviction in ideologies that are inimical to the ruling classes. In the petition, they complained that ten persons associated with various people’s movements and organisations from the city were booked under the draconian Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act after the arrest of five Maoist leaders near the city in May 2015. Looking for suspected

(continued on page no.92)

People's Struggles

Growing opposition to the threat of Brahmanical Hindu fascism

When the Modi-led BJP rode to the helm of Indian government after the parliamentary elections of 2014, the jubilant Sangh brigade could have hardly imagined that its good days will begin to turn sour so soon. But this is precisely what has happened in the intervening period. The mounting opposition to the BJP-led NDA government and the Brahmanical Hindu fascist Sangh Parivar in general has done much to spoil their plans. Be it the anti-people, country-selling policies of the Modi government or the renewed attacks of Sanghi terrorist gangs on revolutionaries, democrats, rationalists, secular individuals, Muslims, Christians, Dalits, Adivasis, Backward Castes, women and people of other oppressed genders, etc. with the connivance of the government – the comprador-feudal fascists are confronted by resistance from the broad democratic, secular and patriotic sections of the society. Same is the case with the desperate attempts by the Sangh Parivar to impose its fascist, fundamentalist, communal and monolithic ideological-political-cultural agenda on the diverse sections of the country's people by using state power.

A recent expression of this resistance was the 'Award Wapasi' campaign against the "growing intolerance" in the country which escalated into a veritable movement. It took place in the backdrop of the recent killings of Dr Kalburgi in Karnataka, Mohammad Akhlaq in UP and a spate of attacks by the Hindutva fascists against writers, actors and other dissenters in connivance of the Hindu-biased state. The spontaneous returning of government awards by writers, artists, actors, academics, novelists, scientists and a number of prominent intellectuals was a unique and unprecedented protest which also questioned Modi government's silence over these attacks. Scientists, historians and the people of other professions have collectively expressed their concern for the growing assault by the Hindu fundamentalists on the democratic rights including freedom of expression and right to dissent, increasing government interference in autonomous institutions like universities and academic bodies to further the saffron agenda, threat and intimidation targeting intellectual, artistic and cultural freedom, and so on. Muslims, Christians,

Dalits and Adivasis have protested against attempts to interfere with their cultural practice through the imposition of such right-wing policies such as prohibition on the slaughter, sale and consumption of beef, etc.. Thousands of Adivasis, for instance, publicly slaughtered cows in front of a police station in Gadchiroli district to protest against the ban imposed in Maharashtra. A considerable section of students and teachers of universities and institutes like IIT Madras, FTII, etc. have been vocally resisting attempts at saffronisation of education and educational institutions. Modi's much-publicised visits to the US, Canada, UK and some other countries were met with angry protests reminding him of his role in the Gujarat pogrom. The more the Sangh Parivar and the governments in the states or the centre at its beck and call try to impose its fascist worldview, the more the people of the country will rise up in resistance. Already the struggles in the last few months is creating the necessity and the conditions for a broad-based united front of all democratic, patriotic and secular forces and the exploited and oppressed social groups against Brahmanical Hindu fascism.

Protests against the judicial murder of Mohammad Yakub Memon

Mohammad Yakub Memon, a chartered accountant from Mumbai, was hanged early in the morning of 30 July 2015 in Nagpur Central Prison after 21 years of incarceration. From the framing of fabricated charges accusing him of involvement in the Mumbai blasts of 1993 to his arrest, trial and hanging, the Indian state has ensured the prolonged persecution of Yakub solely because of his identity as a Muslim and his close relation to Tiger Memon – one of the main accused of the blasts. He was framed without any credible evidence, hounded and deceitfully arrested by the police after the Indian government induced him to return to India and give himself up, assuring him of a fair trial in return. Instead of a fair trial, however, he was handed out a death sentence at the end of a farcical judicial process that began at the trial court and went all the way up to the Supreme Court and the President of India, each one of them playing the role of the hangman. The central government led by the Brahmanical Hindu-fascist BJP showed unusual eagerness in carrying out the execution flouting all due process of law with the Supreme Court providing it the shroud of legality to

this murder. Like in the case of Mohammad Afzal and numerous other instances in the past, the Hindu-biased Indian state and its judiciary has once again demonstrated that no just, fair and equal treatment can be expected from it by the religious and national minorities, Dalits, Adivasis, the poor or any other oppressed social group.

But this blatant murder of justice at the hands of the dictatorial ruling classes of India has not gone unchallenged. The best proof of this was the large gathering of people who joined the funeral procession of Yakub Memon in Mumbai in spite of unprecedented prohibitory orders imposed by the Maharashtra government to dissuade the people from expressing their protest. Civil rights organisations, democratic organisations and individuals, organisations of Muslims and other religious minorities, revolutionary organisations of the country etc. have condemned and opposed the hanging of Yakub and demanded the abolition of the death penalty from the statute books. In spite of the threat of the saffron-terror state-terror combine, the people in many cities such as Mumbai found ways to express their opposition in various forms – holding public meetings, rallies and protest demonstrations, writing articles and issuing pamphlets and statements, etc. For instance, protest demonstration was held in Mumbai and symbolic hanging of secularism, democracy, justice and human rights was organised in Kerala. Maoist political prisoners carried out a day-long hunger strike in Nagpur jail against the killing of their fellow inmate. CPI(Maoist) too have joined the country's revolutionary, democratic and secular forces in condemning the murder of Yakub Memon. These voices of opposition to Yakub's hanging have become a part of the larger resistance movement in that is building up the country against the white terror of Brahmanical Hindutva-fascism carried out by the Sangh Parivar with the patronage of the Hindu-biased state.

Casteist attacks on the Dalits continue unabated

Emboldened by the victory of the BJP in the last parliamentary elections, the landed gentry belonging to the Brahmanical dominant castes have increased their attacks on the Dalits, particularly in the country's rural areas. Atrocities in the form of assault, arson, rape and murder, etc. are being committed by the

Brahmanical forces with the patronage and protection of the state and various ruling-class political parties. In one such incident, on the night of 14 August 2016 members of the dominant caste attacked the Dalits of Seshasamudram village in Villupuram district in Tamil Nadu setting ablaze their houses. The attack came in the wake of the struggle by the Dalits to participate in the local religious procession and the right to pull the chariot of the deity Mariamman. Instead of taking action against the perpetrators, Jayalalitha-led AIDMK government have imposed prohibitory orders under Section 144 and stopped fact-finding and solidarity visits by democratic and civil rights organisations. On 20 October, dominant caste goon poured petrol and set ablaze the house of a Dalit family in Sunped village of Haryana's Faridabad district, less than 40 kilometers from Delhi. Two toddlers Vaibhav (two-and-a-half year old) and Divya (11 months old) were burnt to death while their parents Jitendra and Rekha survived with burn injuries, the latter sustaining 70% burn and was left battling for her life. This happened in spite of a posse of seven policemen posted at the family's residence in apprehension of such an attack. Earlier, on 22 May a 15 year old Dalit girl Snehalata was raped, burnt and brutally killed in Sargipalli village of Khaprakhol block in Balangir district, Odisha but the police failed to arrest the culprits even after days of protests by the people of Khaprakhol. Dalit, progressive, democratic and revolutionary mass organisations are protesting in various forms against these growing incidents of atrocities against the Dalits by the casteist forces.

Sikhs protest militantly against desecration of their holy book

News of desecration of the Guru Granth Sahab – the holy book of the Sikhs – from several places of Punjab in October led to militant protests by the Sikhs all over the state. The desecration is widely perceived by the Sikhs as a threat to their religion and identity. It added to the accumulated anguish of the Sikh masses who were already infuriated by some of the actions of the present leaders of Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee (SGPC) – the most important socio-religious organisation of the Sikhs – and the ruling Shirolmani Akali Dal (SAD) closely associated with it. The pardoning of Dera Saccha Sauda head Gurmit Ram Rahim by the SGPC for his alleged

disrespect for the Sikh religion in particular has met with vehement criticism and opposition from the community. Infuriated people demonstrated on the streets in large numbers and even attacked some of the SGPC and SAD functionaries. The fury of the masses was such that many leaders and members of the SAD including its General Secretary resigned from the party. A Congress MLA also resigned from the assembly. The SGPC had to bow to the public outcry and revoke its decree pardoning Ram Rahim.

The government resorted to brutal police repression to quell the protests which turned more and more militant. In Kotakpura, two protestors were shot dead by the police. Hundreds of people including the leaders of the movement have arrested. Paramilitary forces were deployed in several districts. The movement, which was largely a spontaneous outpouring of mass anger emanated from the economic, political and social crises that the Punjab society is going through at present, continued for ten days. In fact, the movement against desecration gave expression to the growing disaffection – particularly of the peasantry, rural and urban workers, students, youth, the unemployed and other sections resulting from the crises. In recent times, the people of Punjab have carried out several mass movements against the SAD-BJP government, at times clashing with the police and the local bullies, observing shutdowns and strikes and paralyzing road-rail communication. Though the latest movement is built around a religious issue, it is deeply political in essence and has shown that the tenor of the people's movements in Punjab is becoming increasingly sharper. The rebellious note in the resolutions passed by the 'Sharbat Khalsa' – which was held in the backdrop of this movement and attracted Sikhs from Punjab and abroad in tens of thousands – is another portent of the days to come. It is clear that the all-pervasive crises in Punjab society will bring all its contradictions in sharper relief, including those that had given rise to Punjab's unresolved nationality question.

Anti-mining struggle in Visakha continues amidst increasing state repression

The Adivasi people of the districts of Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, East Godavari and Vijayanagaram in Andhra Pradesh have been opposing

the agreements that the successive AP governments had signed with domestic and foreign mining companies. Back in 2005, Y S Rajashekhar Reddy-led Congress government signed a MoU with the Jindals to set up an aluminum refinery and smelter to process bauxite that was to be supplied by the government-owned APMDC from mines to be opened in the Agency area. Based on the same pattern of government-supplied bauxite, another MoU was signed by the government with a UAE-based company Anrak two years later to set up a refinery and smelter for the production of aluminum. Given the staunch people's resistance to land acquisition by private companies for industrial projects across the country, the government-owned APMDC was given the task of mining the bauxite and supplying it to the private refineries. It freed the private companies of the difficult task of taking government permissions and clearances such as the mandatory public consent and environmental clearance. Due to the strong protest from the people, the previous Congress government could not start the actual mining work even with the use of massive police and paramilitary force in the name of fighting the Maoist movement. After the TDP led by Chandrababu Naidu came to power in the bifurcated Andhra Pradesh, the government renewed efforts to revive the pending MoUs and kick-start the mining work in Visakha Agency Area in blatant violation of the provisions such as the 5th Schedule and the PESA Act of the Constitution of India which the ruling-classes themselves swear by. Ironically, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu declared his government's plan to revive the plan for bauxite mining on the World Tribal Day in 2014 and repeated the same this year. The government has also decided to deploy a battalion of AP Special Police in Srikakulam district to facilitate this plan.

These efforts have given a fresh impetus to the ongoing anti-mining people's movement of the region. Recently, the Maoist party which is leading the people of Visakha in the anti-mining struggle, detained three local leaders of the ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP) of Kothaguda village in G K Veedhi mandal of Visakhapatnam district on 5 October. The Party demanded that the TDP government withdraw its proposed mining projects and stop the combing operations by its armed forces in the region. East Division of CPI(Maoist) spokesperson Ramana demanded through a press note that the state government stops attacks on the Adivasis in AOB

areas. He alleged that the Visakha Rural police had illegally arrested 35 Adivasis from Gillelabanda, Sabbapalli and Taddipalli in Balapam area and clamped trumped-up cases against them for participating in the anti-mining agitation. Ramana further demanded that the state government stop setting up police outposts at Korukonda, Jerrela, Sapparla and Darakonda villages in the Agency. "All these efforts are nothing but to benefit bauxite companies and not the Adivasis," he said. Two-day bandh called by the Maoist party in the region against the proposed mining was successfully observed on 12 and 13 October.

The three detained TDP leaders were produced before the people in a Praja Court (people's court). They were asked to join the people against these projects after resigning from TDP and were released on 14 October. But within weeks the AP government issued Government Order (GO) No.97 dated 5 November permitting the mining of Bauxite in the Agency Area, drawing widespread condemnation and protests. On the face of such stiff resistance, AP government was forced to declare that it is putting the plan on hold, thereby deferring the beginning of mining. The people are angered by the TDP government's nefarious designs to start the project and demanded the scrapping of the GO. A section of the local TDP leaders and members too are opposing the government's plan and are siding with the agitating masses including teachers and other government employees. Dharnas, rallies, meetings are being organized to register their protest. The fragile ecology of the Eastern Ghats will be seriously jeopardized by the mining.

Visakha SP Koya Praveen in nexus with big mining companies to open up Adivasi areas for bauxite mining

Comrade Kailasam, spokesperson of the East Division of CPI(Maoist), has stated in an audio tape circulated to the media that Koya Praveen, the Superintendent of Police (Visakhapatnam Rural) is working as a paid agent of the big mining companies to facilitate bauxite mining in the Agency area of the district by suppressing the people's movement. He said that the SP is propagating that the Maoists are 'instigating' the Adivasis to resist the proposed bauxite mining, though in reality it was a tribal people who

have themselves rose up against bauxite mining as they know from experience that it will spell doom for their land and their lives. The spokesperson said that the government forces led by the SP are trying to establish its control over the region by intimidating the Adivasis in the name of Area Domination Exercise. He also debunked Koya Praveen's claim that the recent bandh called by the Maoist party in the Agency area protesting against the proposed bauxite mining was unsuccessful. "Running buses under armed escort cannot be justified as a success measure against the bandh call," he said.

Maoists warn Telangana and Andhra Pradesh governments against fake-encounters

On 18 November, six local leaders of Bhadrachalam division of the ruling Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS) were taken away and detained by Maoist cadres in Cherla Mandal of Khammam district as a mark of protest against the series of fake encounters carried out by Telangana police in recent months. Several revolutionaries have been murdered in cold blood by the Khaki goons in the recent months at the behest of KCR-led TRS government which came to power at the crest of the movement for separate Telangana. Now it is implementing the same fascist policy against the Maoist revolutionaries. A letter issued by Comrade Jagan demanded stringent action against police officials involved in fake encounters, an end to fake encounters and immediate halt to the combing operations in the entire Adivasi area spanning Adilabad and Khammam districts. Accusing the TRS government of repressing people's movements and pursuing feudal and pro-imperialist policies, the Maoists warned of serious consequences if their demands were not met. The six leaders were subsequently released on 21 November following appeals by family members.

Peasants of Bihar oppose the proposed 'Industrial Corridor' and 'Dedicated Freight Corridor'

Peasants of Gaya district of Bihar held a protest meeting in Gaya who face the threat of eviction from their land due to the proposed 'Industrial Corridor' project pushed through by the successive UPA and

NDA governments at the centre in collusion with the state governments. Large areas of agricultural land are to be acquired by the government from the peasants for the upcoming Amritsar-Delhi-Kolkata Industrial Corridor (ADKIC) which will be set up around the 'Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor' (EDFC). – project primarily backed and financed by the World Bank. This is among the tens of Industrial Corridors planned for the country. Many peasants of Bihar's Gaya, Jehanabad and other districts along the route of the EDFC have already received eviction notices from the EDFC authorities.

The peasants have complained that these big infrastructural projects are meant to benefit the economic interests of a handful of big capitalists and their local collaborators at the expense of a large section of the peasantry. They have demanded an immediate stop to these projects that will ruin the peasants and a large number of rural people who depend on agriculture. In addition, it will seriously damage the ecology and environment affecting even a larger number of people than those who will be directly affected through displacement. They have vowed to continue and expand their resistance by uniting with the peasants and democratic forces of other states who are to be affected by the project.

Revolutionary masses of Dandakaranya are building bridges in Indravati area

Indravati Area of Maad Division is bestowed with a large number of rivers and streams that emanate from the hills of Maad and drain themselves in Indravati River – one of the major tributaries of Godavari. Every year during the monsoon season the people face great difficulty in crossing these fast-flowing rivers to attend their daily chores. So starting from June 2015, six Krantikari Janatana Sarkars of the Indravati Area came together to build temporary bridges over these rivers with collective labour. They used wood, bamboo, boulders and other locally-available construction material and know-how to successfully fulfill the target of building eleven bridges in the Area. It resolved the problem to a great extent as the bridges fully met the modest requirements of the Adivasi villagers, most of whom are poor and middle peasants. More than 1,400 persons – both men and women – armed with spades, crowbars and

DKSZC of CPI(Maoist) extends support to the struggle of BALCO workers and employees against the closure of the company

The multinational Sterlite-Vedanta Corporation owned by the British billionaire industrialist Anil Agarwal has closed down its subsidiary BALCO (Bharat Aluminum Company) in Chhattisgarh rendering over a thousand workers and employees jobless. This was done with the approval of the governments at the centre at the state run by the BJP – which has emerged as the foremost servants of big foreign and domestic corporations. Workers' and employees' unions of Balco had opposed this anti-worker step but the government did little to concede their demands or safeguard their interests. But they are continuing their struggle with the demand of reopening BALCO and their reinstatement in job. DKSZC of CPI(Maoist) has extended the Party's support for this just movement of the workers and employees and called a one-day Chhattisgarh Bandh in solidarity.

COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) DANDAKARANYA SPECIAL ZONAL COMMITTEE

24 Hrs Bandh on 10 October 2015 against the Closure of BALCO

03 October, 2015

We strongly oppose and condemn the closure of BALCO-Bharat Aluminium Company (presently Sterlite-Vedanta) by its management and appeal to workers and employees to wage a decisive struggle against the management's illegitimate decision. Against closure of BALCO, our Party gives a day's call for Chhattisgarh Bandh on the forthcoming 10 October, 2015 and appeals to the people, democratic, patriotic and progressive forces, students and youth to come forward to make this statewide Bandh a success.

Anil Agarwal, one of the Domestic Corporate Houses, has sent BALCO's closure report to Central government, which by hastily approving it has brought more than a thousand workers and employees on to the streets. Naturally Raman Singh's BJP government in the state has not opposed it. Approval to the closure of BALCO is the result of the ruling bhramhanical hindu fascist government's at the Centre and State's anti-labour policy and pro-domestic and foreign Corporate Houses' economic and industrial policies. It is appropriate to note that in 2001, the then ruling BJP government at the Centre itself has sold 5 thousand crore worth BALCO's 51 percent share for a meager 550 crores i.e. at a throwaway price to Anil Agarwal's Sterlite-Vedanta company. Since then, hundreds of workers' and employees' retrenchment continued unabated and now for fulfilling their selfish interests the company has been closed down completely. It is the same Vedanta Company, whose legal adviser was Chidambaram, who was the former Home Minister of the Congress. It is the same Vedanta, which is trying to snatch Niyamgiri's bauxite hills from the Kondh tribals.

Our Party calls upon countrywide progressive, patriotic and democratic forces and trade unions, intellectuals and general public to come forward to demand to restart closed down BALCO, to ensure livelihood of the workers, to see to it that they get their due wages unhindered, to declare null and void the anti-worker agreement with Anil Agarwal's Vedanta, which permits to close down within 12 years of transfer and take back its complete shares unconditionally without further delay. We also appeal to build a broad and united struggle. In support of the above demands we appeal the people of the state to make it a success a day's Bandh on 10 October, 2015.

(Gudsa Usendi)
Spokesperson,
DKSZC, CPI(Maoist)

other household tools enthusiastically took part in the construction which took the form of a mass campaign. This was the first time that such an initiative was undertaken in the Area. Encouraged by the success, the Janatana Sarkars and the people have resolved to undertake more such projects of people's welfare in the coming days.

Peasants reclaim their land inside Navegaon National Park in Maharashtra

Over 357 families from the villages of Kawlewada, Zankargondi and Kalimati in Navegaon of Gondia district, Maharashtra were relocated from Navegaon National Park to Srirampur near Saundad in 2013 as a part of establishing the Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve (NNTR). Each of the families was given a cash compensation of Rs 10 lakh but the villagers thought that it was too paltry a price for getting evicted from their ancestral land. Therefore, the displaced villagers have been agitating for a rise in the compensation money, appropriate rehabilitation and resettlement, government jobs and agricultural land as was promised to them earlier.

But as is usually the case, the government turned a deaf ear to the villager's demands and did little to address their concerns. Betrayed, deceived and unwilling to wait any longer for the government to respond, a section of the agitating villagers decided to return to the reserve forest and take back their land. On 11 June, around 125 families entered the reserve forest, took over a school building and converted it into their makeshift residence. Simultaneously, they started cultivating paddy in their old agricultural land. Talks between the villagers and the forest department have failed as the government is not ready to concede to the demands of the displaced families. Instead of taking steps to address their genuine concerns, the forest department is preparing to forcefully evict the people whom it has declared as 'squatters'. The people too are determined to resist their displacement once again and have vowed to confront the forest department and the police by all means to protect their land.

Students of Scheduled Tribes (ST) Hostel in Panvel on hunger strike

The students of the government-run Adivasi hostels in Maharashtra have long suffered discrimination, ill-treatment and willful neglect from the successive state governments and the hostel administration. The living conditions in the hostels are dismal, lacking in proper provision of even basic amenities like clean drinking water, hygienic food, lack of space, overcrowding, etc. – a result of the gradual cuts in the government spending on public education as per the pro-imperialist neo-liberal policies. The Dalits and Adivasi students have been particularly hit hard by this cut in government funding of public education and reduction of facilities.

This utter lack of concern for the Adivasi students once again came to light when Maharashtra government failed to clear the rent of a private building which was hired in Mumbai's Kolavde for setting up a second hostel, after which the landlord issued an eviction notice to the students in April this year. Nearly five hundred residents were asked by the government to shift to the hostel in Panvel in another part of the city which was already overcrowded. After over three hundred students of the Panvel hostel protested by petitioning the government against such ill treatment, rather than addressing their problem the local Tribal Development Officer registered cases against nine leading students in the police station, falsely alleging them of destroying public property such as computers. Sections 341, 141, 147, 149 and 506 of the IPC were foisted on them. Against this highhandedness and injustice, more than two hundred students of the Panvel ST hostel sat on an indefinite hunger strike from 31 August demanding the withdrawal of the FIR and an immediate resolution of their demands. Similarly, students of tribal hostels in other cities and towns of Maharashtra such as Karjat, Neral, Mahad, Pali, Pen, Thane, Ulhasnagar, Kalyan, Bhiwandi, Jawajar, Talasari, Wada, Vikramgad, Goregaon, Shahpur, Murbad and Bordi too carried out hunger strikes in protest against the denial of facilities in their hostels. Though the government and the corporate media have largely ignored these protests, the students have shown their determination to continue the struggle until the government is forced to address their genuine demands.

Struggle for the punishment of Hindutva-fascist perpetrators of Kandhamal anti-Christian carnage

It has been nearly seven years since the large-scale anti-Christian violence unleashed by the RSS-led Hindu-fascist Sangh Parivar with the backing of the state in August 2008 in Kandhamal district of Odisha. It was one of the most horrendous attacks on the religious minorities in the country, in which the goons belonging to RSS and its affiliated organisations killed over 90 members of the Christian community including elderly persons and children, raped several women including nuns, damaged more than 600 villages, burnt or looted over 6,500 houses, destroyed 395 churches and 35 community institutions including schools, leprosy homes and sanatoriums and rendered over 56,000 people homeless. Christians of three Gram Panchayats who were displaced have not still been able to return to their villages. Over 10,000 students were forced to discontinue their studies.

Even after such a large-scale, pre-meditated and organised carnage of saffron terror, the government has done precious little in the last seven years to bring the perpetrators to book. The administration and the police first of all allowed the violence through its inaction and passive support, and thereafter registered only a handful of cases against a few RSS hooligans, made a few namesake arrests and willfully conducted shoddy investigation and closed most of the cases (33 out of 35 murder cases were closed for ‘lack of evidence’), making sure that the guilty continue to enjoy immunity. The very fact that only one among the hundreds of these Hindu-fascist hooligans presently remains in jail while the others have managed to secure bail – including ten persons who have been convicted of murder and were given life sentence – is a glaring proof of the complicity of the government, the police, the judiciary, i.e., the entire state machinery, with the Sangh Parivar. This is in total contrast to the prompt arrest, conviction and life imprisonment of seven innocent Christian persons – four Adivasis and three Dalits – accused of killing Laxmanananda which was used by the RSS as the pretext for carrying out this massive attack on the Christians.

The Christian community, however, has refused to abandon their struggle for justice. Under the banner of ‘Kandhamal Nyaya, Shanti o Sadbhabana Samaj’

(Kandhamal Society for Justice, Peace and Harmony) they are continuing to fight. To commemorate the seven years of Kandhamal communal carnage, over five thousand Adivasi and Dalit Christians assembled at Raika in Kandhamal district on 25 August and organised a protest rally and meeting. They demanded judicial enquiry to bring the perpetrators to justice, enquiry by a Supreme Court judge to look into the failure of the criminal justice system, reinvestigation of the cases that were arbitrarily closed by the police, action against police and administrative officers who colluded with the saffron terrorist gangs, adequate compensation for the loss of life and property, government jobs and livelihood opportunities, security from future attacks and intimidation by the Hindu fascists and return of the displaced persons to their villages. They have even met and appealed to the President to intervene on their behalf. But it is unlikely that the Christians of Kandhamal will ever get justice in the present political system which is controlled by the very forces which had carried out attacks on them and continues to do so even today in various forms. Not mere appeals to the rulers or legal battles will bring the perpetrators of Kandhamal violence to justice. It will take a powerful revolutionary and democratic united movement of the masses – both unarmed and armed – to punish the perpetrators, bring succour to the persecuted people of Kandhamal and provide security from the future violent attacks of the Hindutva gangs.

Niyamgiri people demand removal of Vedanta Refinery from Lanjigarh

Niyamgiri Suraksha Samiti held public meetings in Lanjigarh and Bissamcuttack of Rayagada district in Odisha in the months of September and October demanding the removal of the Vedanta Refinery from Lanjigarh on the foothill of Niyamgiri Hill. Nearly five thousand people participated in it. The people are also opposed to the attempts by the government to lease out Niyamgiri to Orissa Mining Corporation (OMC) – a public sector company – after its nefarious design to hand it over to Vedanta was frustrated by resilient people’s resistance. Naveen Patnaik government is conspiring to hold another round of public hearings for this as the people unequivocally rejected the leasing of Niyamgiri to Vedanta in the last round of public hearings – a move bound to meet with equally vehement people’s resistance.

People oppose BJD government's renewed efforts to open Niyamgiri for mining

Rebuffed by the determined resistance of the people of Niyamgiri against the attempt to takeover of their land for bauxite mining by the multinational giant Vedanta Alumina in cohorts with the ruling BJD since 2002, Naveen Patnaik-led Odisha government has recently come up with a fresh attempt to acquire Niyamgiri Hills for mining. The people of Niyamgiri – mostly Dongaria Kuvi Adivasis who number over 8,000 – had overwhelmingly rejected the proposal for bauxite mining by Vedanta and the government-owned Odisha Mining Corporation in all of the 12 Supreme Court-monitored Gram/Palli Sabhas held in July-August 2013. This prevented the government and Vedanta from going ahead with the project at that time. Odisha government has therefore come up with a new plan to hold Gram Sabhas afresh in the villages of Niyamgiri. The obvious aim is to get a different verdict this time – a verdict approving the proposed mining project. In addition to intensifying state repression in the name of anti-Maoist operations, the government had introduced many of its 'social welfare' programmes in the Niyamgiri area in the last two years with the objective of winning the consent of the people for the mining project. The latest proposal to reconvene Gram Sabhas has exposed the real reason behind the government's sudden keenness for the 'welfare' of Niyamgiri's Adivasis after decades of apathy and neglect and particularly after they had rejected the government-backed Vedanta project. The people of Niyamgiri are bracing themselves to beat back this latest assault too.

Not only in Niyamgiri, Vedanta is facing resistance in other parts of Odisha too. After it was awarded a prospecting license at Malimunda-Kanhai Hills, the peasants of the region – mostly Adivasis – have recently formed Malimunda-Kanhai Hill Surakshya Samiti (MKHSS) to resist the company.

Workers of OCTL Company fight against dismissal from job

Some 500 workers of the Oil Country Tubular Limited (OCTL) at Narketpally in Nalgonda district, Telangana, have been protesting against their dismissal from the company nine months back. The reason for their removal was that some workers had taken the initiative to form a trade union – their basic democratic right to get organised. The mass dismissal that followed was the company's way to punish the workers for trying to unite and fight against the highly exploitative working conditions. The workers continuously protested during these nine months and also met the state Home Minister, Irrigation Minister and the local MLA belonging to the TRS without any result as the latter refused to do anything against the company.

In fact, the company is notorious for its exploitation of workers. It never followed the basic labour laws the last 30 years such as the payment of minimum wages, allowing holidays, etc. The workers feel that

the TRS-led Telangana government has refused to come to their aid and is siding with the company and because TRS has secret understanding with the industrialists from Andhra. They allege that the TRS government has colluded with management of the OCTL in its anti-worker move to dismiss them en-masse. In spite of the hostile attitude of the government, the workers are continuing their struggle.

Successful people's resistance stall bauxite mining in Mali Hills

The people of Similiguda block of Koraput district in Odisha have been staunchly opposing the proposal to start mining work in Mali Hills by Hindalco owned by the Birlas – one of the biggest comprador bureaucratic capitalists of the country. Mali Hills are revered by the Adivasi people who inhabit the hill and its surrounding areas. It has many of their places of worship and is the venue of many of their religious and cultural festivals. It is a source of water for the region as 41 rivers originate from this hill. Mining

activity in this ecologically sensitive region is a threat to the lives of the people and the environment.

The corporate-friendly Naveen Patnaik government had issued a 15-year license to the Hindalco to mine 1,700 acres of Mali Hills in 2003. This threatened the existence of 20,000 residents of 44 villages. In the mandatory public hearing organised to take the people's consent, more than 90% of the people rejected the project. But after winning the license, Hindalco has used all the tricks of the trade to lay hand on the bauxite. It hired goons and bribed some villagers to support the project, arranged fake public hearings and produced fake approvals, sponsored the formation of local gangs to terrorise the protesting villagers and managed to start mining with the active support of the pliant government and its police.

By 2007, the company had managed to mine and transport several trainloads of bauxite to its refineries in UP. The people, threatened by displacement and destruction, had formed the 'Committee to Save the Mali Hills' and put up an organised resistance to the company, its paid henchmen and the government at its service. They organised rallies, dharnas, protest meetings etc. and petitioned the government against the project. Simultaneously, they put up stiff resistance against the company on the ground by preventing it from transporting the mined ore. Many clashes ensued between the police and the paid goons of the company on the one hand and the protesting villagers on the other. State repression intensified too. Several people were arrested and false cases were foisted on many more.

Yet the resilient people's struggle successfully stalled the mining operations and the loot of bauxite by fighting back the company's gangs and destroying company vehicles. Along with many democratic and civil rights movements, the Maoists too supported the movement to save the Mali Hills and carried out armed actions against some paid agents of the company who were working against the people. As a result of the struggle, mining remains suspended at Mali Hills and loads of bauxite is still lying around. This is undoubtedly a great success. Nevertheless, the people are apprehensive that the company in cohort with the government can attempt to resume mining at any time and are keeping vigil against any such misadventure.

Militant anti-liquor struggle confronts AIDMK government in Tamil Nadu

The ongoing people's struggle against the sale of liquor in Tamil Nadu has taken a militant turn in early August with a large number of students and youth, women and men coming out on the street to oppose the state government's liquor policy and to shut down its liquor outlets. A number of people's organisations including student, youth and cultural organisations are leading this struggle which has acquired statewide prominence. Jayalalitha-led AIDMK government has continued the policy of earlier governments of selling liquor through its retail outlets run by the government-owned TASMAL (Tamilnadu State Marketing Corporation). The government is augmenting its own treasury and enriching the liquor barons by selling liquor through over 6,800 outlets and 4,500 bars which is impoverishing and destroying a large number of households. Since it constitutes a lucrative source of revenue for the government (more than a quarter of tax revenue is derived from liquor sales) and profit for the big liquor companies, successive state governments have refused to withdraw from this monopoly trade, to close down the TASMAL outlets or to prohibit its sale. This is in spite of the longstanding demand by a considerable section of Tamil society.

As part of a widespread campaign across the cities and villages of the state starting from June 2015, peoples' organisations put forward a set of demands related to prohibition and gave an ultimatum to the AIDMK government to close down its liquor outlets by 31 August. On that day, hundreds of people came out to close down some of these shops themselves as the government paid no heed to their demands. Some of these shops were attacked and damaged by the agitators. One of them lost his life during one such protest in Kanyakumari district. The militancy and wide appeal of the struggle has forced most of the parliamentary parties in the state to take up the issue of prohibition, though they are more interested in weaning away the masses from the path of militant struggle than in fighting for prohibition. Nonetheless, the struggle with its active resistance to liquor sale is gaining increasing support from the vast majority of the labouring masses of the state.

As the popular movement has refused to die down, a jittered Jayalalitha government has responded with heightened state repression. It has arrested a number of activists and agitators, slapped numerous trumped-up charges against them and put them behind bars for weeks. The desperation of the Indian ruling classes and their loyal servants like Jayalalitha can be gauged from the fact that a revolutionary cultural artist and popular singer Kovan associated with People's Art and Literary Association (PALA) was arrested on 30 October. His only 'crime' was to write, perform

and circulate the songs "*Moodu Tasmac-i Moodu*" (*Shutdown TASMAL*) and "*Oothi kodutha uthami*" (*The lady who served liquor makes merry in Poe's garden*) exposing the anti-people character of the rulers who are destroying the lives of the people with liquor. He was charged with serious offences including sedition. But Kovan had to be released by the court on bail after his arrest only helped in further fueling the anti-liquor struggle. Tamil Nadu's democratic and revolutionary forces too came out strongly against the muzzling of dissenting voices by the state.

Naga people protest against killing of two youth by Assam Rifles at Wuzu

Naga people have protested the killing of two youths by Indian armed forces in indiscriminate firing in Wuzu village of Manipur in the evening of 16 July 2015. On that day, the villagers of Wuzu had gathered on the roadside when they saw a convoy of vehicles carrying Indian Army commandos and Assam Rifles troopers passing through their village. It was transporting the dead bodies of two NSCN cadres killed in a gun-battle the previous night. Since one of the killed NSCN men – Captain Puhachu – was a native of the village, the village elders requested the commanding officer of Assam Rifles to hand over the dead body for a proper burial as per Naga customs. Just as the discussion was going on, the soldiers in the convoy opened indiscriminate and unprovoked fire targeting the gathered mass of people, killing two school-going teenagers Aso and Tuzali, aged 13 and 14, respectively. Some other villagers too sustained gunshot injuries.

In an attempt to cover up this dastardly killing, the armed forces tried to hide behind the lie that it was the NSCN which had fired upon the gathering which led to the deaths. However, nobody with their right senses believe in such white lies by the Indian armed forces which have a long history of perpetrating innumerable massacres and atrocities against the freedom-loving people of the North East. Naga organisations and democratic forces of the region have strongly protested against this killing which is nothing but a part of the continued occupation of the Naga territories by the Indian armed forces and the war waged by the Indian ruling classes against the Naga people to deny their inalienable right to self-determination including secession.

Protest against rape of a Bodo woman by Indian Army jawans in Kokrajhar

Protests were carried out in Bodoland and Delhi against the rape of a pregnant woman by Indian Army jawans engaged in counter-insurgency operations in Kokrajhar district of Assam on the night of 9 August. This is the latest act of violence against women committed by the Indian Army in Bodoland which is deployed throughout all the districts of Bodoland Territorial Council to crush the Bodo national liberation movement. Since December 2014, Indian Army has been carrying out an intensive military campaign named 'Operation All Out' targeting mainly the NDFB led by Sangbajit and its mass base. These mercenary forces have perpetrated many killings and fake encounters, a large number of arrests, atrocities against the Bodo people, rapes and violence against women. Bodo organisations and several democratic organisations of the North East have organised protests and demanded strict punishment for the guilty army personnel.

News from Behind the Bars

A few reflections on religion from behind the bars

[Excerpts from a letter by Central Committee Member of CPI(Maoist) Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan (Vishnu, Vijay) written from Nagpur Central Prison on 22-05-2011 to another Maoist political prisoner incarcerated in a different jail. Comrade Sridhar was martyred on 18 August 2015. We are publishing these excerpts as a tribute to the beloved martyred comrade - MIB]

“...Jails probably have the highest density of religiosity in the world (probably closer levels are found only in religious congregations). And you will find that religiosity in jail tends to be mostly ritualistic. And at the individual level the intensity of religiosity tends to increase as the important court dates or judgment day gets nearer. Hindus, Muslims, Christians – everyone pray, the petty thief prays, the white-collar criminal prays and political prisoners in the form of those from the Islamic and nationality movements pray. (The organised criminals of course balance their personal prayers with their preying activities). Religion has many practical benefits in jail. You can get small benefits from jail officials if you can disguise it in some sort of religious requirement. And open, ritualistic and visible religious activity and symbols are essential to draw the benevolence of the good lord. For most it is a great way of whiling away the time. A good devout Muslim can manage to spend a good 5-6 hours of the waking day free from the agony and mental torture of incarceration. We have had the experience of Hindu gangsters of Gawli and Rajan gangs, the Muslim gangsters of D-company and Islamic militants with us. And a Syrian Christian DIG caught in a drug matter. He too had his Bible out before him for a big part of the day. The rest of the time he played scrabble with the others.

The biggest source of inspiration for religiosity is the utter helplessness and insecurity that the jail and judicial system puts a person in. Marx made the most acute observation on religion – “Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the soul of a heartless world, as well as the spirit of a spiritless condition. It is the opium of the people.” Or “Religion, is, indeed, the self-consciousness and the self-esteem of the human who has either not yet won through to himself or has already lost himself again.” (Marx) It is the jail conditions which intensify any sense of religiosity. If not religion in its established forms, then blind faith, belief in absurd things like magic, charms, good and bad omens, etc.”

- Sridhar Srinivasan

US prisons reflect the racism of the world's foremost imperialist power

White racial chauvinism in the US is clearly visible in its prison system as well. The share of US population in the world population is 5% but 25% of all the prisoners of the world are Americans. There were 5 lakh prisoners in the US in 1980; it has gone up to 22 lakhs this year. 30% of the US population is African-Americans and Latin Americans. But they constitute 60% of all the jailed inmates in the US. One in every 35 African-Americans is in jail. Similarly, one in every nine African-American children has its father in jail. 67% of all the US prisoners undergoing life imprisonment are African Americans and 83% of them are in New York. The US government is spending \$80 billion (more than 5 lakh crore rupees) per year to keep the non-whites behind bars. US is claimed to be the home to democracy and development. But the prison statistics of that country exposes how hollow this claim to democracy, development and rule of law is. Racial attacks and discrimination against Blacks in the US is not personal/individual but is systemic targeting of the entire community. The series of brutal murder of Blacks by the white policemen is one manifestation of this racism in promoting which the state controlled by the US monopoly bourgeoisie plays a central role. Ironically, such attacks seem to have gone up during the very years in which the first African-American president in US history has been in office. The Blacks, Latinos and other racial minorities along with the democratic forces of the US are coming out in larger and larger numbers across the country to protest these racist attacks and demanding punishment of the perpetrators.

Indian prisons hold the largest number of under-trials in the world

Figures released by the National Crime Records Bureau have revealed that close to 70% of the total inmates in the Indian prisons are undertrials. Their number is nearly three lakhs – the highest in the world. Most of them are from economically exploited and socially oppressed classes and communities - OBCs, Dalits Adivasis and Muslims. They are forced to undergo long periods of incarceration on petty 'crimes' simply because they are too poor to hire lawyers and fulfil bail conditions such as sureties.

75% of the death row convicts are Dalits, Adivasis, Muslims, oppressed castes and the poor

A recent study of the death-row convicts in India has revealed that over 75% of the death-row convicts belong to the poor – mostly Dalits, OBCs and Muslims. The study carried out by the students of National Law University and the Law Commission based on interviews of 373 death-row convicts conducted in the last fifteen years to collect information about their social background, physical and mental condition under confinement and similar important aspects.

From 2000 to 2015, 1,617 persons were sentenced to death by the trial courts in the country. Three-fourths of them are either Dalits, OBCs or Muslims – the oppressed sections of the society who also happen to be poor, while only a few of the 'upper' castes and the rich suffer similar treatment from the judiciary. Though most of them got their death sentence commuted to life or were acquitted by the appellate courts, many still languish in jail for years.

The study also revealed that 93.5% of the accused receiving death sentence are either Dalits or Muslims. The study is a clear testimony to the Hindu-bias, 'upper'-caste-bias, rich-bias of the Indian state and its judiciary. This calls for a more vigorous struggle to force the Indian state to abolish this class-biased, anti-Dalit, anti-Muslim instrument of death penalty which it uses as a tool of repressing the people. The condemnable hanging of Ajmal Kasab, Afzal Guru and Yakub Memon in quick succession makes a spirited raising of this demand more urgent than ever.

Over two thousand arrests every year to crush the Maoist movement

According to Union Home Ministry figures, 13,657 persons were arrested all over the country between 2008 and 2014 on allegations of being part of the ongoing Maoist movement. This makes an average of 2276 persons per year or close to 200 persons every month. Most of the arrests were made in the Chhattisgarh and Bihar-Jharkhand, where the protracted people's war led by CPI(Maoist) is at its fiercest. However, the arrested persons are mostly villagers – basically landless and poor peasants – who

either support of the movement or have no connection with it whatsoever but are arrested by the police-paramilitary forces and the central or state intelligence departments on trumped-up charges. Such large-scale arrests are aimed at intimidating and harassing the people in the struggle areas as a part of the white terror of the state so as to damage the mass base of the revolutionary movement. Particularly after the launch of the countrywide fascist offensive Operation Green Hunt, such arrests have become more widespread and indiscriminate across the country. Data released by the Home Ministry also states that 992 Maoist cadres were killed by the government's armed forces during the same period.

Comrade Kobad Ghandy's worsening health condition requires his immediate release

The health condition of Comrade Kobad Ghandy, a senior political prisoner who has been in lodged in Delhi's Tihar Jail for the last six years since his arrest in September 2009, is worsening by the day. Alarmed by his condition which has visibly deteriorated during incarceration, the Additional Sessions Judge at Tis Hazari Courts granted him three months of interim bail in August this year to avail the desperately needed advanced medical care. But as he is charged with over 20 serious cases spread over a number of states including Punjab, Jharkhand, AP and others – all of them foisted on him by the police to prolong his detention as much as possible – he has been unable to come out of jail. We have reported in the past about the continuous harassment he has been facing from the jail authorities in Tihar, against which he was forced to go on an indefinite hunger strike, putting his frail health at great risk. The jail authorities have denied him adequate healthcare and falsely reported to the court that he is being properly looked after within the jail itself. In reality, facilities in the jail hospital are poorly equipped to treat the serious multiple ailments Kobad Ghandy is suffering from. The following letter by him sent from inside the prison speaks volumes about the terrible jail experience of senior Maoist political prisoners in the country whom the Indian state is wilfully pushing into the jaws of death for their uncompromising ideological convictions.

[The following letter was written by Comrade Kobad Ghandy from Tihar Jail in Delhi to concerned comrades and friends on 10 November 2015 requesting them to press for his immediate release. It was published in the Mainstream magazine on 28 November 2015]

Just today, in response to an RTI, I was sent a copy of the Jharkhand FIR. It seems, after my arrest in 2009, my name was added to this case which says a mob of about 500 unknown persons attacked a police camp in Bokaro in 2007. This is the first time I have heard about this attack, let alone be a part of it. That I have never been to Bokaro/Jharkhand in my life is another matter. No FIR was put against me when the incident occurred. And now the Jharkhand Police comes to arrest me nine years after the incident.

In Andhra Pradesh the police resorted to the method of making out a fake confession (in Telugu, a language I do not know), and on that basis adding my name to about 15 cases from the 1990s to 2005. No such 'confession' is even pretended to by the Jharkhand Police to add my name to this case. The legality of this is questionable.

The same is about the West Bengal case (I have not yet received the FIR) and the Patiala and Surat cases. In the Patiala case, two persons apparently saw an unknown person giving an 'inflammatory' speech on the grounds of Punjab University (they don't mention the language and I don't know Punjabi) while on their morning walk. At that time no FIR was put against any 'unknown' person. But an FIR was put against me in February 2010, five months after I had been in Tihar. Yet, without any evidence and mere hearsay serious charges have been put.

And because the Delhi LG has put 268 on me, I cannot attend these cases till the Delhi case is over, taking away my constitutional right to speedy trials. None of these cases has even begun after six years in jail.

Now, once the Delhi case is over, I will have to face serial trials—and that too at the age of 69 with serious heart, kidney and arthritis problems. The cardiologist seriously considered I may need a pace-maker if my pulse continued to drop below 40.

Though the Delhi trial is nearing its end, the learned judge, in September 2015, considered my health conditions so serious as to grant me three months interim bail. Let alone avail of this bail to get proper treatment (impossible in jail), I will now be taken from one court/jail to another all over the country, which is nothing but an attempt to kill me.

Given that all the above ‘cases’ (except the one in Delhi) have questionable legal norms, and given that I have been denied my constitutional right to speedy trials, and, most importantly, given my age and failing health, I request that an appeal be sent out urgently to the government to release me on bail on health/humanitarian grounds.

Please consider this as urgent.

Kobad Ghandy

Tihar Jail 3
High Risk Ward
Hari Nagar
New Delhi-110064

Comrade Sheila illegally re-arrested once again

Odisha Police rearrested Comrade Sheila on 5 November from outside Bokaro jail in Jharkhand where she had been incarcerated. She was later brought to Odisha and produced in a court in Rourkela which issued a non-bailable warrant against her. The court sent her to judicial custody. This is the latest of several illegal re-arrests she has been subjected to by the police of Jharkhand and Odisha, most of the times re-arresting her from the prison itself. This is a blatant violation of the legal rights of a prisoner who has the right to face all cases pending against her concurrently. But the warrants are executed by the police serially in a planned manner to prolong her detainment for over nine years even after she has been acquitted or given bail in most of the cases pending against her.

Comrade Sheila was first arrested in October 2006 in Odisha’s Rourkela. When she was finally granted bail after nine months in July 2007, Jharkhand Police re-arrested her from the jail gates and brought to Jharkhand where a number of fabricated cases were foisted on her. She was behind bars for the next nine years in various jails of Jharkhand facing multiple cases. In two of these cases, she was implicated by the police in alleged acts of violence by the Maoists that took place when she was in prison! After she was granted bail by the High Court in four of the cases in Giridih and she was about to be released from Giridih jail, Comrade Sheila was once again re-arrested in February 2012, this time by Dhanbad Railway Police. She was once again re-arrested in January 2013, this time from Dhanbad Jail by Bokaro Police in yet another trumped-up case. She remained locked-up there till 5 November when the latest re-arrest was carried out by Rourkela Police. With such patently fraudulent and illegal methods used by the police repeatedly in all these years, there is no guarantee that more fabricated cases will not be foisted on her and re-arrested if and when she is released from Rourkela prison. Consistent and collective efforts by democratic forces can only prevent such an eventuality and secure the release of Comrade Sheila.

Fabricated cases foisted on Comrade Ajith

The notorious Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of Maharashtra Police which had arrested comrade Ajith – a senior leader and Central Committee member of the CPI(Maoist) – along with comrade Ismail in May last year, is using all tricks up its sleeves to implicate him in a number of false cases. Their objective is to apply the tried-and-tested method of foisting as many false cases as possible so that the accused is faced with the harrowing task of defending himself or herself through a lengthy judicial process usually spanning over several years. Denied bail and detained under horrific jail conditions, even if the accused is pronounced innocent at the end of this process, the person would have already spent many years inside prison.

Apart from foisting charges under the draconian UAPA and the anti-sedition act, the police are also planning to use statements issued by intellectuals, social activists, students and businessmen of Pune against police highhandedness and the arrest of Ajith and Ismail. This preposterous step by the police is an attempt to strengthen their frivolous charges by any means on the one hand and to browbeat the progressive and democratic individuals against voicing their protest against the arrest of Maoist leaders and intellectuals on the other. Such fascist methods used by the police need to be fought back resolutely.

Commission's Report exposes the horrible prison conditions in Bihar

A study commissioned by the senior-most judge of Bihar, Justice V. N. Sinha as the head of the Bihar State Legal Services Authority (BSLSA) on the condition of the prisoners and detainees in the 58 jails of Bihar, has produced a 1,800 page comprehensive report, said to be “perhaps the first of its kind to make it to the public domain”. The report titled *Status Report 2015, Based on Survey, Inspection and Analysis* has been submitted by a committee set up for the purpose which visited all the 58 jails of the state and interviewed 30,070 prisoners, including 26 terminally ill and 102 mentally challenged, and recorded the problems they have been facing. Among other things, the report recorded many cases of custodial torture of prisoners and notes many such instances including rape by jail officials. The prisoners complained of the denial legal representation in courts through lawyers, delay in filing charge-sheet, denial of healthcare and similar issues commonly faced by the prisoners.

Political prisoners of Chaibasa Jail boycott 'Independence Day'

MIB had reported about the heroic Chaibasa Jailbreak in its last issue. While several prisoners

broke free in the attempt, the police shot dead two comrades in a cold-blooded manner after catching them alive. Since the incident, the Chaibasa jail administration began a reign of terror in the prison targeting the Maoist political prisoners numbering around a hundred. While those prisoners who participated in the jailbreak but could not move out were subjected to the most brutal torture and beating, other Maoist prisoners too were not spared. Apart from subjecting many of them to beating, the jail administration kept them chained, refused to let them out of their cells during the daytime as is the norm, carried out frequent raids and confiscated books and other necessities belonging to the inmates, and adopted other such forms of harassment. This continued for several months since the jailbreak, making the lives of the Maoist prisoners more intolerable.

As a mark of protest against this continuous spate of repression, the political prisoners of Chaibasa Jail decided to boycott the upcoming 'Independence Day' celebrations on 15 August 2015, celebrated by the authorities in all the prisons of the country. Learning about this daring declaration of defiance, the jail administration became even more vicious in its attacks and came down heavily on a few select prisoners who took lead in organising the protest. They were beaten up mercilessly. One of them was even issued a death threat through some lumpen prisoners siding with the authorities. Though the prisoners filed written

complaints to the district, state and all-India legal service authorities, these bodies expectedly sided with the jail administration and refused to come to the aid of the prisoners. Nevertheless, the unique protest of boycott carried out by the alleged Maoist prisoner of Chaibasa even while going through such serious repression is an inspiration for revolutionaries inside prison and outside.

Protest and hunger strike by prisoners in Hazaribagh Jail

56 prisoners who have already completed their life terms in Jai Prakash Central Jail, Hazaribagh, undertook an indefinite hunger strike from 6 October demanding that the Jharkhand government immediately start the process of their release. They were protesting against the government's unwillingness to implement Supreme Court directives to constitute a Review Board to recommend the release of prisoners as per the law who have served up to twenty years. Nearly 150 other inmates in Hazaribagh jail also sat on a one-day hunger strike on 8 October in solidarity with the agitating lifers. They also demanded that the Jharkhand government implement the regulations that allows the shifting of lifers to open jails after they serve seven years. Various work in the prison involving the labour of the inmates such as printing press, power-looms, handlooms, agriculture, kitchen, tailoring etc. remained paralysed due to the strike. The indefinite hunger strike was withdrawn on 16 October after Chief Minister Raghuvar Das visited the prison and assured the prisoners that the government will look into their demands.

According to government records, Chhattisgarh prisons are the most overcrowded in the country. Whereas the country's average of overcrowding in jails is 118.4%, in Chhattisgarh it is 261%, or more than double. The stuffing of detainees and prisoners way above their capacity has led to a tremendous strain on the prison resources. In these overcrowded prisons, the inmates are forced to live in inhuman conditions and are put at great health risks. Even healthy persons too easily fall sick and become prey to disease due to the squalor and unhygienic conditions. As nearly three prisoners are being forced to use the resources originally meant for only one, their physical and mental wellbeing is put at severe risk. Moreover, a large majority of them are forced to undergo this harrowing prison experience even before they are pronounced guilty of any crime.

These conditions are allowed to prevail by the government as most of the prisoners belong to the poorest of the poor and in southern Chhattisgarh region of Dandakaranya, they are mostly Adivasis. The penal system in India and in Chhattisgarh in particular where the class struggle is sharp, vividly demonstrates the anti-poor pro-rich class character of the state which punishes the poor and the downtrodden not only legally but also illegally by forcing them to spend years together in conditions unfit for human habitation, thereby considerably increasing the possibility of reducing their lives.

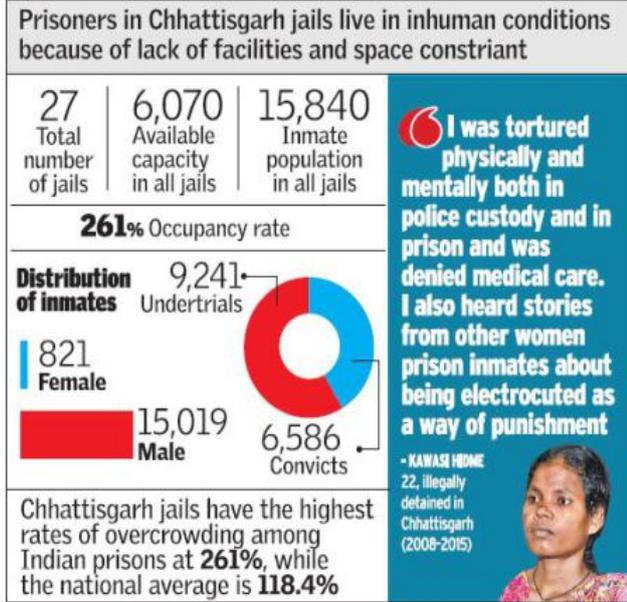
NCW report exposes the horrific condition of jails in Chhattisgarh

A report submitted by a team of the National Commission for Women (NCW) that visited Raipur central jail in December 2012 has finally seen the light of the day, thanks to an RTI application by some organisations working for women's rights in Chhattisgarh. The report had so far been suppressed by the government for its damning exposure of the horrid condition of women prisoners in the jail. According to the report, the women's ward of the jail that has 140 inmates against a capacity of 80 is highly overcrowded.

Chhattisgarh prisons the most overcrowded in the country

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CRAMMED BEHIND BARS



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Comrade Padma's long struggle for freedom from enemy prison continues

Comrade Bellala Padma was arrested in Bhilai town of Chhattisgarh on 3 August 2007. She was kept in illegal custody by the police for ten days before being produced in a court. Since then, she has been in jail for the last eight years. Presently she is lodged in Jagdalpur jail fighting a number of cases. The courts have acquitted her on many cases but Chhattisgarh Police has kept her in jail by foisting additional fabricated charges on her.

Padma wrote a letter on 5 May 2015 to the District Legal Service Authority at Kanker describing how she has been continuously persecuted by the state. We reproduce the letter below which was translated from Telugu by an advocate.

To,
The District Legal Service Authority,
Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh

Sub: Regarding Legal Aid.

Sir,

I am Padma, w/o Balkrishna, presently lodged in Jagdalpur Central Jail as an under-trial prisoner from 13th August 2007.

Sir, I humbly submit that I have been in prison since 7 years and 9 months. On 3rd August 2007 the police arrested me on the basis of mere suspicion. They kept me for long – 10 days – in illegal custody. On 13.08.2007 I was shown as an accused in Crime No. 17/6 and sent to Jagdalpur Central Jail on the same day. The Sessions Court of Dantewada, roughly after 2 years of trial, i.e., on 10.08.2009, acquitted me.

As per rules, immediately after my acquittal, I was to be taken to Jagdalpur jail and after completing the formalities in jail I should have been released on that day itself. But police took me to various police stations and to several courts trying to get a fake warrant on me.

Taking varied pretexts they kept me in their custody for 36 hours.

Meanwhile they managed to get a warrant on 11th August 2009. Instead of taking me back to (Jagdalpur) jail, they took me to Raipur Central Jail on 11th night between 11 and 12 o'clock. The next day they finished formalities in a hurry. No sooner than I stepped out from the low height jail gate, a posse of policemen already present in an encircled position arrested me on a warrant they labored to procure the previous day.

Approximately after a month, on 06.09.2009, the Assistant Sub Inspector of Madded Police Station of Bijapur district came inside the women's jail of Raipur. He began interrogating me regarding an incident of January 2007 and filled up a form.

Gradually, cases began piling up on me. In January 2010, the Session Judge of Jagdalpur issued a warrant wherein I was arraigned in a criminal case of 1989. This case belongs to Bhopalpatnam Police Station of Bijapur district.

By the evening of 17.12.2014, I was acquitted in the last pending case, by the Jagdalpur Sessions Court. The judgment was given at 4.30pm. Despite the fact that I was back well in time (at 7pm) so as to be able to be released that night itself, the jail authorities locked me up before time, denying my release on that evening itself.

After being sure about the police arrival before the jail gate, Jagdalpur prison authorities completed the formalities quickly and released me, the next day. The police present before the jail told my advocate that a 1998 warrant of Narainpur was pending against me. That could be withdrawn if my lawyer could talk to the IG (SRP Kalluri), they said. With this pretext, they kept me in detention unauthorizedly in Jagdalpur Kotwali Police Station.

Police belonging to Narainpur Kotwali PS began asking personal details and filled up papers. Around 1 pm, on 18.12.2014, they showed formal arrest and produced me before a judicial magistrate. They got me to sign on papers saying that two more matters were pending in matters related to 2nd Additional Sessions Court, Jagdalpur.

From there they took me to the 3rd Additional Sessions Court, Jagdalpur, saying that there was a criminal case pending in Benur PS of Narainpur District.

I made an oral submission to the magistrate about the police behavior towards me and about the long remand period that I had undergone so far.

In 2007, I was in illegal detention before my production in the court for 10 days. Apart from Chhattisgarh police, intelligence personnel from various states descended. They rained thousands of questions, verified voluminous records, yet they could not find an iota of solid evidence against me. No villagers identified me. I did not know a single village in Chhattisgarh, not to speak of entering these areas.

But police was determined to send me to jail. They implicated me as an accused in Crime No. 17/06 (Sankapalli, Madded PS).

Raising ones voice against unjustified incarceration seems to be a sin. New cases had been foisted one after another.

On 18.12.2014, it was my third arrest in these seven and a half years. While being in court, the police could create 4 warrants within a few hours of time. Next day, i.e., on 19.12.2014 at 7pm, Jail

administration called me to the warrants branch. There were two unknown persons, who later identified themselves as the ASIs of Farasgarh PS and Madded PS. They said, "On 17.12.2014, Bastar region IG sent a wireless message to all police stations to verify if there are any cases against you." After thorough search these two ASIs found two cases – one of 2004 another of year 2008 of Farsagarh PS; and one of 2010 concerning Madded PS on Padma w/o unknown. I placed my arguments and left to their discretion to register or refrain. I asked them if you don't want to register those cases on me, at least give in writing clearly that you had decided not to implicate me as an accused in these cases now, and even after my release. They replied that they would report it to their higher authorities. Till today, there is no response from them.

On 24th January 2015, when I was in the 3rd Additional Sessions Judge's court, the court was informed by one person that I should be present in the 2nd Additional Session Judge's court too, after the proceedings were completed in the 3rd Additional Sessions Judge's court.

When I was produced in the 2nd Additional Sessions Judge's court, the Hon'ble Judge informed me that the name of Padma was present in a chargesheet concerning two incidents under Mardum PS of Bastar district. I submitted that the name of Padma that was referred to in the charge sheet does not match either with my father's name or with my address. I requested the court to discharge me from these matters.

On 7th Feb 2015, the jail administration called me and showed a production warrant issued by JMFC (Judicial Magistrate First Class) Jagdalpur. According to the warrant, there was an incident in the year 1992 that happened in Usur PS of Bijapur district registered as Crime No. 736/92 under various sections of the IPC.

The accused is Padmakka@ Satyanna, w/o Gopanna, Address Dushangabad, district Karimnagar. The warrant says if Padmakka is in confinement she should be produced in the said court. If she is not in confinement, information should be given to the court.

Except the name, no other details matched. In 1992, I was studying in 12th Standard. I gave all the details regarding my study and on 12.02.2015 I sent an application to the JMFC. There is no reply from the JMFC.

On 19.12.2014, Rowghat PS of Kanker district, sent one message that has reached me through the jail authority. The message says that there is a warrant pending against Padma @Padmakka (woman Naxalite, Keshkal dalam) involved in Crime no. 15/97 under various sections of the IPC and Sec 25, 27 Arms Act. I got this message on 16.02.2015.

Incessant flow of such warrants took toll of my mental as well as physical health. The Hon'ble Judge declared in 2009 that I was arrested in 2007 on the basis of suspicion. Instead of admitting their mistake, even after my acquittal, fake cases were continuously foisted on me, trampling my fundamental rights.

The crime number 17/06 that was foisted on me in 2007; and 5/07 and 31/06 that were foisted on me in 2009 – are from one and the same police station. Incidents too occurred within a span of 4-5 months only. In the Crime No. 31/06, on 25/07/2009 FIR had been registered with the names who were absconding. If I was the said Padma, I was in the custody of the same police station during that period and later I was in judicial custody. The aim of the police is to finish off my freedom.

In 1989 in Bhopalpatnam area of Bijapur district an incident happened. In that incident one Padma of 25-27 years was involved. (The author of this letter would have been 15 in that year.) Police, knowing fully well that these warrants are fabricated are misusing their powers to implicate innocent people. The imprisonment is causing broken families, wastage of lives for years together. Valuable period lost through unjustified prison life can never come back. Not just the physical confinement, it is the daily insult and humiliation that extinguishes any possible development of the prisoners. Of course, being in prison, one must be away from the normal needs of life. Even when your rights are being trampled, you have to keep silent. Asking

for regular court attendance is also a crime in the eyes of the jail and police administration. In these conditions, how can a prisoner maintain a semblance of peace in jail?

This life laden with lament cannot be depicted in an application like this. When a High Court judge states that “whenever injustice or arbitrariness occurs, the court should intervene”, hope lingers on. We feel relieved since we think that someone is there to listen to our woes. We need a modicum of hope to take our struggle against police high handedness and

impunity to the place where justice could be dispersed. I hope you will help in getting justice.

If you are in incarceration beyond a limit, you are sure to end up in agony and tension. I am becoming unwell physically and psychologically, because of the unending confinement in the prison. My family too has to live in anxiety. I have an aged mother to care for.

My concerns revolve around her. She cannot come to meet me because of financial reasons, other reason being language problem. Since years, I am longing to hear my near and dear ones.

Despite spending years as an undertrial, being repeatedly deprived of my freedom after each acquittal of the last pending case by bringing fake warrants, this whole exercise of re-arrests is squashing my human rights resulting in a colossal travesty of justice.

Hence, I request you to take my plea to the High Court for a declaration that the present detention is illegal. Help protect human rights so that confidence in the judicial system gets enhanced. Help me in leading a life with dignity by getting me out from this endless imprisonment. Please take my plea to the High Court. Also see to it that I get all the documents of the cases that are foisted afresh on me.

Looking forward to get a positive response from you,

Sincerely yours,

Sd/-
Padma,
W/o Balakrishna,
Jagdapur,
Chhattisgarh

Hem Mishra finally released from Nagpur Jail

Cultural activist and a student of Delhi's JNU Hem Mishra has finally been released from prison in the first week of September after over two years of incarceration in the Nagpur Central Jail. After his bail application was rejected several times in this period, the High Court granted him bail and ordered his release. He was abducted from Ballarshah railway station in August 2013 by Maharashtra Police and

intelligence officials in plainclothes and was later shown to be arrested from far-away Aheri of Gadchiroli district. A fabricated charge of being a Maoist ‘courier’ was foisted on him by the police and a case was registered under the draconian UAPA, claiming to recover electronic storage devices from his person. As it often happens in the courts in the Maoist movement areas, the lower courts in Aheri did nothing to question the police claims and refused any relief to the accused including bail who was a differently-able person undergoing several ailments.

The courts in those regions of the country where the Maoist movement is strong, consider anyone accused of Maoism by the police to be guilty unless proved otherwise – thereby turning even the principles of bourgeois justice on its head. Hem Mishra was denied bail more than once by the lower court, he was physically assaulted and kept in solitary confinement including in the notorious ‘anda’ cell, refused proper medical care and basic facilities under incarceration. His arrest was also made a pretext to widen the dragnet by the police who had arrested activist Prashant Rahi and later arrested DU assistant professor Dr G N Saibaba on the same case. Hundreds of political activists associated with the revolutionary and democratic movements have been put behind the bars by the central and state governments as a part of the counter-revolutionary Operation Green Hunt – its ‘War on People’.

But facing these acts of repression, he persevered during the period of detention, did not yield to the pressure of his captors and finally won his freedom. The efforts made for his release by students, teachers, intellectuals, writers, journalists, advocates, civil and democratic rights organisations, revolutionary mass organisations and other democratic sections played an important part in securing his release on bail.

High Court releases Maruti Kurwatkar on bail, asks the police to watch the film *Court*

Political activist Maruti Kurwatkar was first arrested by Maharashtra Police in January 2012 for alleged Maoist links from Chandrapur district. He was lodged in the jails of Nagpur, Chandrapur and Gadchiroli for the next three years and eight months during the course of his trial. He was released on 12 September this year after acquittal in three cases and

bail in three others. But the police re-arrested him from the prison gates just after he stepped out and whisked him away, not allowing him to even meet his family members and lawyers waiting outside the prison. It was nothing short of illegal abduction by the so-called upholders of the law. They later claimed that three more cases were pending against Kurwatkar. His advocates filed a writ in the Nagpur Bench of Bombay High Court complaining about this patently unlawful act by the police in which they did not even bother to follow the basic procedure laid out by law including the production of an arrest warrant, non-assignment of an Investigating Officer (IO) and keeping the accused in illegal custody for three days.

The judges, hearing the counsel for the accused on 30 September reprimanded the police for “bringing a bad name to their profession” and warned that they should be ready for punishment in case of failure to come up with valid reasons for Kurwatkar’s re-arrest. While granting bail to Kurwatkar, the High Court asked the government to arrange screening of the acclaimed Marathi film *Court* to all its personnel as a lesson in respecting citizens’ right to liberty and human rights. The film depicts the oppressive, unjust and vicious nature of the country’s judicial system through the story of a singer who is falsely implicated by the police for instigating a person’s suicide. Maruti Kurwatkar’s case is another pointer to the unscrupulous underhand practices such as re-arrest resorted to by the police in India to persecute political prisoners, particularly the alleged Maoists, most often with the approval of the courts which act as their willing accomplice. No wonder that Veera Sathidar, the lead actor of *Court* which exposed the real class nature of the state and its justice system based on injustice, is now being hounded for his alleged Maoist links!

Maoist political prisoner attacked in Jagatsinghpur jail

On 13 September 2015, Prasanna Pal, a political prisoner accused of associating with the Maoist movement was attacked in the Allipingal sub-jail in Jagatsinghpur, Odisha, where nearly a total of 180 inmates are lodged. He was attacked with a broken cement slab by an undertrial prisoner accused of murder. Pal had to be admitted to the district hospital with serious injuries. After the attack, several Maoist

prisoners undertook an indefinite hunger strike demanding a stop to such calculated attacks and punishment of the guilty.

Political prisoners of this jail came under physical attack by inmates in the past too, the last being only a week previously. It is highly unlikely that such repeated attacks on Maoist prisoners can take place without the support and involvement of the jail administration, who are trying to escape their culpability by citing overcrowding in the jail and lack of adequate staff. The demand must be raised that these attacks must stop immediately and that not only the inmates who are directly involved in carrying out the attacks but also the responsible jail officials should be punished. The safety of the prisoners in custody of the state must be ensured.

Political prisoners go on hunger strike in Presidency Jail

From 28 August this year, 30 political prisoners of Presidency Jail in Kolkata including ailing senior citizens Gaur Chakraborty, Sadanala Ramakrishna and Asim Bhattacharya began an indefinite hunger strike. They were forced on such a course of action as the jail authorities were kept confined to their cells for about two weeks and not allowed to meet or interact with others. They were also not allowed to call up their relatives or well-wishers and denied reading and writing material. As a day-long hunger strike with the same demands had failed to elicit any positive response from the jail authorities, the inmates decided to undertake the indefinite hunger strike. It went on for more than ten days as the authorities refused to talk to the agitating prisoners unless they withdrew their strike – an improbable condition that deliberately put the health of the hunger strikers at serious risk. This strike comes in the context of the jail authority's efforts to implicate a Maoist political prisoner Deepak Kumar (Rajesh Kumar Shaw) in an alleged attempt at prison-break on 27 July and punishing him with solitary confinement along with a co-accused for the same. Political prisoners lodged in other jails of Bengal carried out solidarity hunger strikes or expressed their support in other forms.

Maoist political prisoners in Coimbatore Jail go on indefinite hunger strike

Political prisoners Roopesh, Anoop, Veeramani and Shyna went on an indefinite hunger strike from 24 July in Coimbatore Central Jail of Tamil Nadu where they are presently held. They demanded to be recognised as political prisoners, public disclosure of all cases registered against them, repeal of draconian laws like the UAPA and NSA etc. It was by using the provisions of such anti-people laws that Roopesh was kept in continuous police custody for 49 days whereas even UAPA provides for a maximum of no more than 30 days. They also demanded a stop to custodial torture, the right to the access to newspapers, magazines and other literature of their choice without censorship as well as writing material, and the right to access advocates and democratic rights activists. The health condition of Roopesh in particular became serious after nearly three weeks of hunger strike. But the government and jail authorities did little to address the demands they made. It was left to the advocates, intellectuals, writers, democrats and other well-wishers to appeal to them to withdraw the strike with a promise that they will take it upon themselves to pursue the demands raised.

Kashmiri political prisoner on hunger strike in Tihar

Mushtaq Ahmad Lone, a Kashmiri detainee in Tihar Jail whom the NIA has made an accused, went on an indefinite hunger strike in September demanding that his trial be shifted to Srinagar from Delhi. Since most of the 285 prosecution witnesses reside in Jammu & Kashmir, the trial would take inordinate time to complete, thereby denying his right to a speedy and fair trial, he contended. It is indeed a common practice of the Indian state to deliberately delay the trial process of Kashmiri political prisoners accused of serious charges under UAPA, sedition or other draconian provisions of law, prolonging their incarceration for years and even decades in some cases. In such cases, even if the accused is proved cleared of all charges at the end of the judicial process, by the time the person comes out of prison, he or she

(continued on page no.94)

News from the Counter-revolutionary Camp

Air Force all set to use helicopters for air strikes as a part of the third phase of Operation Green Hunt

The central government has made all preparations to use its Mi-17 helicopters for conducting aerial strikes against the Maoist revolutionary movement. When the helicopters were first deployed in anti-Maoist operations, they were primarily used for transportation of troops, logistics, surveillance, etc. in central and eastern India. According to one conservative government estimate, IAF helicopters had flown 15,100 sorties since 2009 to transport 74,000 police personnel, over 1,000 dead and injured and 1,600 tons of material. Subsequently, as the war on people was scaled-up, the central government decided to deploy Air Force's 'Garud' commandos in all helicopters. The helicopters were also equipped with machine guns.

On 13 November, Air Force helicopters carried out an exercise in the Dandakaranya region of Chhattisgarh. As announced by R K Vij, Additional Director General of Police (Anti-Naxal Operations), three helicopters practiced 'strafing' in an unspecified area of Bijapur district to carry out 'retaliatory

attacks' from the air. During the exercise, Air Force commandos practiced firing from the helicopters. While all this is done in the name of 'self-defence', all the while the government and the armed forces hypocritically maintaining that the Army or the Air Force will not be used in combat role against the Maoist movement.

The whole talk about 'retaliatory fire' is a subterfuge to circumvent the law which forbids the armed forces from opening fire except in self-defence. This is the method the government forces routinely employ to justify extra-judicial killings – even though no one really believes such lies. Even now when the air force helicopters are being equipped, prepared and trained for precisely such a role, Chhattisgarh CM continues to deny that there is any proposal to use air strikes.

It is claimed that air cover to be provided by the helicopters to the ground forces will bring a "huge advantage" for the government troops in the ongoing

war. The government's plan is to increase the combat role of the choppers in a phased manner so as to avoid any public criticism or opposition. By using air power, Modi government seeks to tip the balance of its undeclared war on the people in its favour. The 'Limited War' policy of US imperialism and its allies which they are widely adopting in several parts of the world is the role model of the Indian ruling classes to fight its counter-revolutionary war Operation Green Hunt. But counter-revolutionaries and reactionaries often forget that it is not things but the people who are decisive in settling the outcome of any war. Government's attempt to crush the people – whether it is through the air force or the army – will certainly be firmly resisted by the country's broad masses of people.

Central government holds meeting with Chief Ministers of seven states to streamline anti-Maoist strategy

Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh chaired a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Telangana in New Delhi on 3 November to streamline the government's anti-Maoist strategy. The meeting specifically focussed on the policy to be adopted in the 35 'most LWE-affected districts' of these states and inter-state coordination in armed operations against the revolutionary movement. The meeting was attended by the District Collectors (DC) and Superintendents of Police (SP) of these 35 districts, where a detailed strategy was chalked out. The meeting was preceded by another high-level meeting held in September in New Delhi chaired by the Union Minister of State for Home. It was attended by the Union Home Secretary and top government officials of Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar and Maharashtra. It discussed ways to increase coordination between central paramilitary forces and state police, to build infrastructure such as roads and telephone network, time-bound implementation of 'development' work, utilization of funds etc. to tackle the Maoist movement.

PM Modi repeats empty appeal to the Maoists to "shun violence"

Prime Minister Modi repeated his rhetorical appeal to the Maoists to "shun violence" during an

election rally in Banka on the eve of the upcoming Bihar assembly elections. Speaking in the rally held on 2 October – Gandhi's birth anniversaries – Modi invoked the so-called non-violent method of Gandhi to contrast with what termed as the violent method of the Maoists. Associating the bullet with destruction and the ballot with development, he asked the Maoists to join the 'mainstream'.

Home Minister Rajnath Singh claims reduction in 'Naxal violence'

Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, speaking at a CRPF function in a self-congratulatory mode, claimed that due to the efforts of the central paramilitary forces under his ministry, Maoist 'violence' in the country has come down by 35% this year in comparison to the previous one. He made this claim based on the yearly statistics maintained by the central government on Maoist-related incidents. This is in line with regular government claims that the Maoist movement is on the retreat. The Home Minister may well find reason for self-satisfaction in such assertions and rest in his laurels. But people like him will be proven wrong over and over again by the country's revolutionary masses and their Party that have a rich experience of advancing the movement through many ups and downs, twists and turns.

National Security Adviser Ajit Doval visits Bastar to review anti-Maoist operations

Ajit Doval, the notorious former intelligence chief known to be close to the Sangh Parivar and the National Security Adviser of the Modi government made his maiden visit to Bastar in his new role. During his one-day tour on 1 October, he made an aerial survey of Sukma district in South Bastar where the protracted people's war is particularly intense and the government forces have suffered a number of casualties at the hands of the PLGA. Doval also visited Burkapal CRPF camp in Sukma district. Later he held meetings with the Chhattisgarh's top administrative officials and the high ranking officers of the police, paramilitary forces and the intelligence departments.

Gujarat CM demands proactive policy to prevent the spread of Maoist movement

In a Western Zonal Council meeting in Panaji in September where the chief ministers and top officials of Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat and Daman and Diu participated, Gujarat Chief Minister Anandiben Patel claimed that the pro-active 'developmental' work by her government in the tribal areas has prevented the spread of the Maoist movement in the state. Even while claiming the absence of Maoist activities in Gujarat, however, she advocated a proactive policy against the Maoist movement. She said that those states where there is not yet any Maoist presence should be 'equipped' to prevent the introduction of Maoism. She demanded "a specific policy to put in place a mechanism" in such states against the Maoist movement. This essentially means the allocation of forces and funds to the states from the central government in the name of tackling 'Left-Wing Extremism'.

Andhra Pradesh – Telangana

Police-propped 'Telangana Salwa Judum' makes its appearance

Officers of Telangana Police were reportedly circulating on social media a pamphlet in the name of one Yogender, claimed to be the state secretary of the so-called 'Telangana Salwa Judum' – the Telangana unit of the notorious state-sponsored counter-revolutionary organisation of neighbouring Chhattisgarh. A handiwork of the police, the purpose of the pamphlet in the name of this non-existent 'organisation' is to threaten the Maoists, revolutionaries and democrats who have been vocally raising their voice against the Telangana-Andhra Pradesh governments and their fascist police forces that were carrying on fake encounters with impunity. Indeed, the pamphlet made its appearance after the TRS government and Telangana Police came under severe criticism and protest after the murder of comrades Shruthi and Vidyasagar in a fake encounter.

The pamphlet contained a warning of severe action including physical attacks on the family

members of the Maoists if they tried to spread revolutionary activities in Telangana, did not lay down arms or surrender before the police. It contained the usual verbiage against revolutionary intellectuals and civil rights activists who were agitating against the government and exposing the unlawful fascist acts of the police. It repeated the usual ruling-class propaganda that Maoists were 'spoiling' the lives of students by inciting them to join the revolutionary movement. The pamphlet also opposed the statement of some TRS leaders including Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao that the party would implement the Maoist agenda and asked TRS leaders to "stop making such comments for the sake of votes". Interestingly, it castigated the police too for not doing enough to stop Maoist activities in Telangana!

This is a part of the psychological war waged by the police and their political masters fearful of a resurgence of the people's movement in Telangana and AP. In the past too, AP Police had propped-up a number of counter-revolutionary vigilante gangs such as Narsi Cobra which attacked and brutally killed several revolutionary intellectuals, activists and mass leaders in revenge of Maoist actions on notorious politicians and police officers apart from issuing regular threats. It appears that the police are once again resorting to such fascist tactics – this time under the TRS government – giving another proof of how little things have changed even with the formation of a separate Telangana state.

Telangana Police continue their public relations stunts to weaken the Maoist movement

As part of much-publicised PR exercise, SPs and other top district police officials of Telangana are going around meeting the parents and family members of underground Maoist leaders, activists and guerrillas. They are holding discussions with the families showing feigned concern, distributing freebies, making false promises and putting pressure on them to facilitate the surrender of their kin. Recently, Nalgonda SP Vikramjeet Duggal met the parents of a few Maoist leaders of the district, gifted utensils and grocery and shed crocodile's tears for their difficulties in the old age, and appealed to the Maoists to "join the mainstream" for the sake of looking after their parents and "bringing smiles" to their families! Such 'concern'

of the same police officers fall flat on the face of the fake encounters, arrests and persecution of revolutionaries they are ordering in cold-blood. For the families of revolutionaries in AP-Telangana, who have suffered much state repression for their support of the revolutionary movement, it is not difficult to see through such bankrupt psychological war tactics of the police.

Andhra - Odisha Border

‘Operation Blue Moon’ launched in Malkangiri as a part of the counter-revolutionary ‘LIC’ policy

Odisha government has declared its decision to launch ‘Operation Blue Moon’ – a ‘special’ anti-Maoist programme for Narayanpatna and Bandhugaon blocks of Koraput district from 4 August, immediately following the Martyrs’ Memorial Week observed by CPI(Maoist) that ends on 3 August. This eight-week long ‘operation’, which is a part of the third phase of multipronged countrywide counter-revolutionary Green Hunt campaign, has the purported aim of “instilling confidence among the people” and “ensuring all-round development” by strengthening infrastructure facilities like roads, schools, healthcare centres, drinking water facilities, electricity etc. and ‘to address the grievances of people in villages’.

But the real aim of this latest counter-revolutionary measure is a part of the efforts to weaken and crush the heroic revolutionary struggle of the people of Narayanpatna by applying the LIC tactics of ‘Winning Hearts And Minds’ devised by the imperialists. CPI(Maoist) opposed this ‘Operation Blue Moon’ aimed at the revolutionary movement and demanded its immediate withdrawal. Comrade Daya, secretary of the Koraput-Srikakulam Divisional Committee of CPI(Maoist) said in a press statement that the government is trying to construct new roads and set up new BSF camps in the two blocks of Narayanpatna and Bandhugaon under the garb of this new ‘development’ programme in order to uproot the valiant struggle of the Adivasis of the region for land and political power. He appealed to the people to resist Operation Green Hunt and its various avatars like ‘Operation Blue Moon’.

Srikakulam-Koraput Divisional Committee of AOBSCC opposes ‘Operation Blue Moon’

Srikakulam-Koraput Divisional Committee of the Andhra-Odisha Border Special Zonal Committee, CPI(Maoist), has opposed counter-revolutionary ‘Operation Blue Moon’ launched by the Odisha government in Narayanpatna and Bandhugaon blocks of Koraput district. The secretary of the committee Comrade Daya said in a press statement issued on 19 September that the government is trying to construct roads for establishment of BSF camps in the interior areas of Bandhugaon and Narayanpatna blocks to suppress the Maoist movement. The statement said, “The Maoists are fighting for the legitimate rights of people over land, forest and water. The government is trying to suppress it by deploying more forces in the area through ‘Operation Blue Moon’ and is misleading the people with false promises.” The Maoists demanded the immediate withdrawal of ‘Operation Blue Moon’ and a stop to the atrocities on the people by the BSF, SOG and other government forces.

Visakhapatnam Rural SP Koya Praveen working as henchman of mining companies

In an audio statement released to the media, CPI(Maoist) East Divisional Committee spokesperson Comrade Kailsam said that Visakhapatnam Rural Superintendent of Police (SP) Koya Praveen is leading an aggressive repression campaign against the people in the region to facilitate the entry of the mining companies. These companies are intent on exploiting bauxite by displacing the Adivasi people which will also wreck havoc to the ecologically fragile Eastern Ghats.

Mass organisations of Jharkhand under renewed threat from the

The Union Home Ministry has prepared a list of 66 organisations of the country which, it alleges, “indoctrinate rural and urban youths, farmers, labourers, daily wage labourers, the displaced, and women with the Naxalite ideology, stoking feelings of deprivation and resentment against the government and the law of the land”. The reason behind enlisting these revolutionary and democratic mass organisations as “front of organisations” of the Maoists based on the so-called intelligence reports is to prepare the ground for their further suppression. Many of these organisations and their leaders, activists, members and supporters have been already facing severe state repression for quite some time. Many of these organisations have been proscribed; thousands of individuals associated with them have been booked under serious charges, tortured in custody, jailed for long durations without bail, given the strictest of punishments including capital punishment and life imprisonment, etc. Some have even been assassinated by the police-paramilitary forces in fake encounters or state-sponsored killer gangs. Modi government’s recent ‘hit list’ is nothing but a part of the fascist Operation Green Hunt – the war on people – aimed at crushing the militant anti-government people’s movements in the country.

Just a day after receiving this list from the central government in July 2015, Jharkhand Police identified 17 of these organisations as active in the state. These are – Bharat Navyug Sabha, Communist Yuva League, Democratic Students’ Union, Jharkhand Mazdoor Kisan Sangram Parishad, Jharkhand Abhen, Jharkhand Mukti Mancha, Jharkhand Liberation Front, Krantikari Kisan Committee, Krantikari Budhijeevi Manch, Mazdoor Sangathan Samiti, Nari Mukti Sangh, Nari Mukti Sangram Samiti, Revolutionary Democratic Front, Revolutionary Students’ League, Shramik Sangharsh Morcha, Operation Green Hunt Virodhi Nagrik Manch and Visthapit Virodhi Jan Vikas Andolan. Many of these organisations are well-known for taking up agitations and leading struggles on a wide range of issues related to the people of Jharkhand, particularly the Adivasis and the rural poor. Arousing and organising the

exploited, the oppressed and the dispossessed people to fight for their rights or to defend themselves means “fomenting trouble” and “instigating the masses to embrace Naxalism” for the dictatorial BJP governments at the centre and in Jharkhand.

After ‘Saranda Action Plan’, now ‘Parasnath Action Plan’ launched against the Maoist movement

CPI(Maoist) in the first week of September declared its opposition to the proposed Parasnath Action Plan (PAP) announced by Jharkhand government covering parts of Giridih and Dhanbad districts around Parasnath Hills. North Chhotanagpur Zonal Committee of the party distributed pamphlets and carried out programmes among the masses of Parasnath region to mobilise them against this so-called development plan in line with Saranda Action Plan. The pamphlets pointed out that the proposed PAP is nothing but a ploy to hoodwink the people in the name of development under the government’s counter-revolutionary LIC policy aimed at weaning them away from the path of revolutionary struggle. It pointed out that the so-called development plans already announced such as Konar Dam irrigation project have not yet been fulfilled, 69% of the villages and 49% of schools in the state lack even the basic infrastructure.

Boycott of the sham Bihar assembly elections

CPI(Maoist) called for a boycott of the sham assembly elections in Bihar held in many phases starting from 12 October. In a four-page press release, Bihar-Jharkhand Special Area Committee released on 7 October, the party called the elections a mockery of democracy where the contesting parties indulge in rampant use of money and muscle to garner votes with the sole aim of looting the state’s wealth after coming to power. It has also criticised the revisionist Left parties for forsaking the path of revolution and hoodwinking the people with their red signboards. It said, “Take up arms to establish your authority over jungle, *jal* and *zamin* and be a part of the armed class struggle to defeat the feudal and imperial forces robbing the country for centuries.” Apart from the party, the revolutionary mass organisations too had launched an active election-boycott campaign. Some

posters put up by Krantikari Kisan Committee (KKC) had slogans like “*Khadi-kurta-dhoti hoshiyar, Krantikaari janata hai taiyaar* (Khadi-clad politicians beware, the revolutionary masses are ready).””

The elections were held under the shadow of guns with the deployment of over 1.2 lakh central paramilitary jawans in additions to tens of thousands of state police forces. At least 250 companies of central paramilitary forces were deployed, most of which were stationed at the Maoist movement areas. Drones, helicopters, mine-proof vehicles, mounted police etc., were used all over the state and particularly in the Maoist movement areas. In the posters, pamphlets, banners and other material, the Maoist party said that the hypocrisy of the leaders of parliamentary parties is getting exposed before the people – workers, peasants, students, youths and others. The Maoists appealed to boycott these leaders and parties who are carrying out continuous illegal killings, arrests and other forms of atrocities on the people in the name of Operation Green Hunt.

Government redeploying forces on Jharkhand-Odisha border

Jharkhand and Odisha government are redeploying central and state police forces on the Jharkhand-Odisha border along the Saranda forest in order to counter the Maoist movement. Odisha DGP K B Singh and CRPF DG Prakash Mishra emphasised on redeployment of forces while reviewing anti-Maoist operations in the last week of November. Redeployment is going on Rourkela-Sambalpur sector in Odisha and West Singhbhum-Simdega sector in Jharkhand. Redeployment of CRPF is underway on Sundargarh-Deogarh-Sambalpur as well. 18 companies of CRPF have been deployed at 16 locations to cover Saranda and connecting Porahat forest in West Singhbhum district in the Jharkhand. The Western Police range in Odisha has CRPF presence at 10 locations. The redeployment includes relocation of CRPF camps and establishment of new camps by Indian Reserve Battalion, Special Security Battalion and Odisha Auxiliary Police Force. The CRPF camp at Keonjhar is in the process of being shifted to Western Odisha and its place will be taken up by state police forces. Several new locations have been identified for the redeployment.

Dandakaranya

Maoist accused tortured to death in police custody

Police claimed that 26 year old Baman (Dinesh), who was arrested from Tondabeda village in Orchha as a suspected Maoist, committed suicide in the interrogation room in Narayanpur Police Station on 16 November. He was claimed to be found hanging from a window of the interrogation room. The police had foisted a number of false cases on him including PLGA’s Jheeram Ghati ambush of 2013 and Tahkawada ambush of 2014. He was brought from Orchha Police Station on that day and interrogated at Narayanpur, during which he was tortured and killed. Thereafter the police tried to cover up their custodial killing by cooking-up the suicide story. The police department has ordered an enquiry and suspended five policemen, including a sub-inspector in charge of the interrogation cell for “negligence in duty”. Questioned by journalists, Narayanpur SP “assured” that Dinesh was not tortured or harassed in custody.

Chhattisgarh government amends its ‘Surrender Policy’

Raman Singh-led Chhattisgarh government has recently amended its ‘Surrender and Rehabilitation Policy’ for the Maoists. A decision to this effect was passed by the cabinet in November 2015. Its main objective is to broaden the definition of a Maoist to such an extent that almost anyone assumed to be a Maoist by the police will come under the ambit of this policy and will be eligible for availing government ‘rehabilitation’. Not only the members of CPI(Maoist) and its affiliated organisations, but even those who are deemed to have ‘assisted’ them in any form are to be considered Maoist/Naxal and ‘rehabilitated’ under the amended rules. In addition, the inducement of withdrawal of pending cases, cash reward for ammunition apart from weapons, offer of housing and jobs, etc. In real purpose, however, is to make the surrender policy so ‘flexible’ that virtually anybody can be presented as a Maoist by the police, thereby helping the latter to show a large number of ‘surrenders’. This is required for showing successes

in the ongoing Operation Green Hunt – the fascist multi-pronged anti-Maoist offensive – and claiming psychological victory over the Maoists. Police officers like IG (Bastar Range) SRP Kalluri have earned notoriety for staging fake surrender dramas with hundreds of surrendered ‘Maoists’ – a fact exposed by several investigative journalists and civil rights organisations. Moreover, these dramas are convenient avenues for the top police officials to siphon-off government funds meant for running the ‘Surrender and Rehabilitation Policy’. Money-spinning rackets have cropped up around these surrenders under the protection of Kalluri & co. No wonder, such ‘rehabilitation’ will have little real impact on the ongoing revolutionary war in Dandakaranya.

Raman Singh asks for Naga forces for anti-Maoist operations

Even after the deployment of over 40,000 paramilitary jawans in Dandakaranya (DK) and scores of state police forces in addition – making DK the most militarized zone in the country – Chhattisgarh CM Raman Singh is begging for still more forces from the Union Home Ministry. While on the one hand the CM is claiming that the Maoist movement is on the wane, he has sent requests to the central government to allot Naga Armed Police for anti-Maoist operations in the state. This not only exposes the utter falsehood of such claims, but also shows that the presently deployed central paramilitary forces such as the CRPF, COBRA, BSF, ITBP, CISF etc. have proved ineffective against the Maoist revolutionary movement. Several battalions of Naga Armed Police were deployed in Dandakaranya between 2006 and 2008. They perpetrated serious atrocities that earned them the ire of the masses and the pro-people democratic organisations. Finally the government had to withdraw the Naga battalions after they suffered heavy casualty in PLGA attacks and the people of Chhattisgarh as well as Nagalim opposed their continued deployment. Since then, Nagaland government and the Naga Armed Police have expressed their opposition to deployment in anti-Maoist operations. The Indian ruling classes have learnt from their colonial predecessors the policy of pitting one struggling people against another to safeguard their own interests. Here

they want to pit the Nagas fighting for secession from India against the revolutionary masses of DK. This policy had never worked in the long run and is bound to fail once more even if it may appear to be succeeding in the short term.

Police develop mobile app to gather information on Maoists

The ‘Digital India’ campaign launched by Modi government with much fanfare comes down to measures against the revolutionary movement in all Maoist movement areas. On the occasion of the ‘Digital India Week’, Chhattisgarh Police launched a mobile application on 4 July to strengthen its informer network against the Maoist movement. The app ‘Chhattisgarh Police’ is designed to collect information about the Maoist movement while allowing the informer to keep his or her identity secret. The app is developed jointly by the Anti-Naxal wing of the Police Headquarters and Chhattisgarh Infotech and Biotech Promotion Society (CHiPS). Launched by the Director General of Chhattisgarh Police, the application allows a person to share text, photographs, audio-visual material or voice messages with the police while keeping one’s personal identity concealed. The DGP called on people of Chhattisgarh to provide more and more information to police about the Maoists through this mobile app.

Special training to Chhattisgarh policemen for major anti-Maoist offensive in South Bastar

Around five hundred policemen of Chhattisgarh Police, mostly from Sukma and Dantewada districts of Chhattisgarh, were sent to Assam for 45-day special training in guerrilla warfare in June and July this year. The first batch returned in September and was immediately engaged in anti-Maoist operations in Sukma, while the second batch returned in October before the launch of a major anti-Maoist offensive by the government forces in South Bastar’s Sukma district – one of the strong areas of the revolutionary movement in Dandakaranya.

One Side of the Coin: Shifting Narrative

- Aritra Bhattacharya
The Tribune, 11-10-2015

Apka Chinu couldn't stop smiling as he brought out the mango saplings the Central Reserve Paramilitary Force personnel had given him earlier that morning. "What do we do with these saplings?" asked Chinu, one of the panchayat members of Sarkeguda village in Chhattisgarh's Left Wing Extremism-affected Bijapur district. Amazement was writ large on his face for two reasons. All around him were standing fields of paddy and the fringes of the forest. "Why would anyone here gift every village household two saplings each?"

The bigger amazement was, however, the treatment meted out to him and his companions when they visited the CRPF camp that morning. The paramilitary force was engaging in some civic action programme. "At the camp," said Chinu, "they made every villager who was given saplings pose in front of the camera... But when they meet us outside, they beat us mercilessly!"

Chinu's nephew, Kosa Mara, immediately seconded his uncle. "Even working in the fields has become difficult. If they spot us during their patrols, they thrash us," he said.

Every villager you meet in Sarkeguda has this tale to tell of forces harassing them while they go about their daily chores. If they happen to go into the forest with an axe, perhaps because they need some firewood, the forces are "especially merciless". Every time the men in uniform encounter villagers, they pester them with questions, "Where are you going? Why do you need to go there? Whom do you have to meet? When will you come back?"

Patrols and visits to the village have increased in the last three years since a CRPF camp came up along the main road after the 28 June 2012 "encounter" that claimed 17 lives. "Earlier, patrol parties used to come to the village once every 15-20 days. Now they come calling every two-three days," said Kamala Kaka. Residents of Sarkeguda and the two adjoining villages of Rajpenta and Kotteguda said traveling to other villages in the area where the tribals had clan members had also become difficult since the CRPF camp adjacent to the village came up.

In effect, they repeated something that I was told by a CRPF constable four kilometres ahead of

Sarkeguda. "Jahan jahan force jaati hai, saath mein road jaati hai," the CRPF personnel manning the Awapally checkpoint en route to Sarkeguda had said. Bijapur town, also the district headquarters, is 28 km away. At several checkpoints along this route, vigilant CRPF jawans dutifully take down the numbers of every passing vehicle, subjecting some passers-by to a barrage of questions.

The stakes are high in this conflict zone and the security personnel cannot take a chance. "We don't know who is a villager and who is a Naxal," said a senior CRPF jawan at the Awapally checkpoint. "We pass them now and they're standing idle; we turn our backs and they could pick up a weapon," he said by way of explanation.

Suspicious run so high here that even lawyers who take up cases of Maoist-accused in the area are seen as "pro-Naxal". The paramilitary personnel live in heavily fortified, wire-fenced compounds with multiple sentries on guard. At night, large flashlights illuminate 200 metres along the circumference of the camps, all located along the main road.

Although the security personnel get a healthy incentive for serving in an LWE-affected area, some jawans I met en route said more than 80 per cent opted to go out of the area as soon as they got a chance. "We don't like it here, but we have no choice," said a jawan in civil clothes at the Basaguda bus stop. Like his companions, he was wearing a bullet-proof jacket. Most have AK-47s slung over their shoulders; some are busy inspecting a bus while others keep watch on the road, and yet others load items of luggage on to the vehicle.

"Some colleagues who have been allowed to go out will take this bus to Bijapur. Today, there are many civilians on the bus, so our men can go along," a trooper in his mid-20s said. "They (the Maoists) don't attack buses that have many local villagers. If the bus has only one or two villagers, there's no saying what can happen."

Not very far from the spot, the burnt remains of a bus set on fire by the Maoists stand testimony to his fears. No one was injured or killed during that incident but several people from villages close to the spot were picked up in the aftermath, the jawans said.

The bus journey to Bijapur will take an hour or so. Three years ago, this trip would have taken much longer and along treacherous roads. After the 2012 Sarkeguda encounter, the entire road has been relaid, with camps along every three-five kilometres. The last of these, as also the road, is in Sarkeguda, where the encounter happened on that fateful night.

The people in Sarkeguda, Rajpenta and Kotteguda said around 60-70 villagers, including young boys and girls, had gathered in an open field between the villages on 28 June 2012. "We were discussing preparations for Beej Pandum (a tribal festival marking the onset of the sowing season)," said Rita Kamla from Kotteguda. "Suddenly, there was gunfire. When it ended, 17 people were dead." This included seven women and a minor.

The incident caused a major uproar even in the state assembly. Shortly after, the state government ordered a judicial inquiry under a retired high court judge, VK Agarwal. The CRPF, on its part, ordered an internal probe and the Bijapur administration set up a magisterial inquiry under the subdivisional magistrate, RA Kuruvanshi.

Only the judicial inquiry goes on now. All villagers who testified before the inquiry commission said that night the forces killed unarmed villagers in cold blood. The state government and Chhattisgarh police have, on the other hand, claimed CRPF troops, along with the district police, busted a "meeting called by Naxalites" on 28 June in the clearing between Sarkeguda, Kotteguda and Rajpenta. But this story is full of loopholes, some of which was apparent during the inquiry commission hearing on 12 September 2015.

On that day, Ibrahim Khan, the investigating officer in the case, was being cross-examined by defence lawyers from the Jagdalpur Legal Aid Group, who were representing the villagers. Khan was the seniormost in a 25-strong district police team that was accompanying 196 CRPF troops on the night of the encounter.

"I heard a shot and fired two rounds from my gun," Khan told the commission. When the Jagdalpur Legal Aid Group lawyers, who fight most cases of accused "Naxal" villagers free of cost, questioned him about the direction from which the first bullet rang out, he fumbled for an answer. "From the right," he said, after the question was put to him the fourth time. The villagers said no shot was fired from the gathering, and that security personnel opened fire on them unprovoked.

Khan also acknowledged with shamefaced silence that he had not followed protocol several times during the hearing. For instance, the investigating office seal as mandated by law on all seized items was missing; neither had he noted down troop movement details in the mandated diaries.

The other prosecution witness, an important one at that, was surrendered Maoist Irpa Ganesh. He gave himself up in January 2014 and has since been living in Bijapur police lines with his family. "Main shashan ka madad karta hoon...jo kaam bataya jata hai, wahi karta hoon (I help the government... I do whatever is told to me)," he told the commission of inquiry, after stating he was now working as a gopaniya sainik (secret police) for the government.

As per his affidavit submitted in the court, he had availed of two months' leave from the "Maoists" to attend to his pregnant wife, who was then staying in Sarkeguda. It was because of this "leave" that he was present in the village before and during the encounter, and could testify in court about the presence of Maoists in the 28 June 2012 meeting. Ganesh's cross-examination, too, like Khan's, revealed several inconsistencies.

He told the commission that his third child was born in the jungle in August 2012, more than a month after the encounter. But village-level ICDS registers record Ganesh and Radha's third child as having been born on 10 June 2011. The official record, in other words, runs counter to the story of him availing two months' leave to attend to his pregnant wife. In the affidavit, Ganesh claims he videographed the funeral of those killed that night. But when a handycam was produced before him during the inquiry, he said he didn't know how to operate one.

The script Ganesh was living out during the hearing was not his doing. Like other surrendered Maoists, his affidavit presented in court was written by someone else in Sanskritised Hindi. Although he is now part of the system, he remains an outsider in more ways than one.

Sanjay Shukla, counsel for the CRPF and the district police, said the inquiry would go on for another year or so. Once it was complete, the report would be handed over to the government. The government could then, if and only if it wished, act on the commission's recommendations.

Any semblance of justice in Sarkeguda is still a few mahua seasons away.

Maharashtra

Maharashtra CM justifies witch-hunt of ‘Maoist’ activists, artists and intellectuals

Devendra Fadnavis, the Chief Minister of BJP-led Maharashtra government who is also heading the Home Ministry, has justified the ongoing witch-hunt of democratic activists, artists and intellectuals in the state in the name of countering Maoism. He claimed in the state assembly in August that the Maoists are trying to create base in the urban and industrial areas of the Mumbai-Nasik-Pune belt. But he did not furnish any proof to substantiate his claim except naming some democratic mass organisations of the region as Maoist ‘front organisations’ and mentioning the arrest of some revolutionary and democratic intellectuals and activists. This is nothing but a justification of the ongoing witch-hunt against the democratic and revolutionary organisations and individuals in

He further informed that 159 personnel of Maharashtra Police died in Maoist attacks since 2000 while he claimed that the police have killed 113 Maoists. According to Maharashtra Government claims, 502 Maoists gave up arms in the last decade and were ‘rehabilitated’, 482 of them were from Gadchiroli district alone. Many of the persons killed or shown to be ‘surrendered’ are in fact Adivasi villagers who were not involved with the Maoist movement but were either killed in false encounters or forced to ‘surrender’ to augment the numbers.

Odisha

Increasing police repression in the name of anti-Maoist operations

The paramilitary-commandos-police forces have intensified their ‘Search and Destroy’ operations, ‘Area Domination Exercises’ and ‘Carpet Security’ measures as per the ‘Clear, Hold, Develop’ counter-Maoist policy. Combing operations were intensified in October 2015 in Bhawanipatna Sadar, Jugsaipatna, Karlapat, Lanjigarh, Niyamgiri, Thumel Rampur and

Kashipur areas of Kalahandi and Rayagada districts. Such operations are being carried out from Jeerapani to Gumma and Kotagarh from December onwards. In the last week December, villagers were beaten up on the suspicion of supplying ration to the Maoists in Kalahandi district.

In the Niyamgiri area, the government forces have adopted a new tactic to gather information about the Maoists. They are visiting the Adivasi villages in small batches with 12 bore guns (commonly carried by Maoist guerrillas) and are identifying themselves as Maoist cadres in an attempt to gain the confidence of the villagers and trying to elicit information about the whereabouts of the Maoist squads and village Party activists. Similarly, groups of two-three policemen in civilian dress are visiting the villages and asking around if “black-dress people” (i.e., Maoists) are coming to the area. They are also trying to spread rumours that the Maoists will take away village children, gouge out their eyes, cut their tongues, etc. The people could identify these police agents in a few places and took appropriate action against them.

The police and central forces are strengthening their intelligence network as well. Top police officials like DIG and SP etc. are trying to influence some Adivasi students of Niyamgiri area who are studying in nearby towns like Lanjigarh, Muniguda and Bhawanipatna. The police have been successful in enrolling some such students as their informers by promising enticements like jobs, money, electronic gadgets, etc. The people have recently unearthed a network of tens of students between 15 to 18 years of age who were working as police informers. When questioned, they revealed the entire police conspiracy. The people explained to them the nefarious design of the police to use them against the ongoing people’s struggle in Niyamgiri in the interest of the big corporations and advised them not to fall for the trap set by the police in the future.

Draconian Odisha Police Bill 2015 passed by the Odisha Assembly

Odisha assembly has recently passed the Odisha Police Bill 2015 on 27 August ostensibly to replace the existing Police Act of 1861 – a colonial vintage that was designed primarily with the aim of crushing the anti-colonial movement. It now awaits the governor’s assent to become a law. That the colonial

police act has been allowed to survive for 65 years in 'independent' India says a lot about the nature of the so-called independence! But apart from the nomenclature and some cosmetic changes, there is hardly any essential difference between the old and the new legislations. Rather than introducing 'reforms' as per the directives of the Supreme Court, NHRC or the various committees set up by the government, the bill introduces provisions that give the police more impunity and strengthen its coercive powers. For instance, clause 65 gives the police immunity from prosecution for crimes committed on duty, allowing criminal cases to be filed against police officials only by authorized officers or with the prior permission of authorized officers. Likewise, the bill legalizes the appointment of the notorious Special Police Officers (SPOs) which was disbanded in Chhattisgarh by the Supreme Court. Under the fig-leaf of 'police reforms', the Odisha government have in fact strengthened its coercive arm to be used against the ongoing people's movements in the state and against the revolutionary movement in particular.

Central government asks Odisha government to strengthen its anti-Maoist intelligence wing

Union Home Ministry has asked Odisha government to give Police Station status to the specialised anti-Maoist Special Intelligence Wing (SIW) of Odisha Police. Once given Police Station status with state-wide jurisdiction, the SIW will not only be empowered to gather intelligence but also to arrest, in interrogate or even attack anyone it suspects to be associated with the Maoist movement anywhere in the state – i.e., it will have all the authority of a regular police station and more. In the letter written to the Odisha government in November, the Home Ministry has cited the examples of the notorious Andhra Pradesh Special Intelligence Bureau (APSIB) as the model to be followed. APSIB has carried out innumerable abductions, custodial torture and extra-judicial assassination of revolutionaries. And as if this CIA/Mossad-inspired fascist gang needed any more power, it was assigned Police Station status by the government with state-wide jurisdiction a couple of years back to give it further free reign in hunting down suspected Maoists. Modi government is now seeking to expand and replicate a fascist counter-revolutionary apparatus as APSIB in other parts of the country

including Odisha as a part of the third phase of Operation Green Hunt. How much time it takes for the Naveen Patnaik government to fall in line remains to be seen.

Road building in rural areas as part of the fascist war on people

A Hyderabad-based road construction company has been given the contract to widen the 86 km stretch of National Highway-326 between Boipariguda in Koraput district and Malkangiri town in Odisha at the cost of Rs.277 crore. The project, for which land has already been acquired, is to be completed in the next two years. The road passes through 12 "Maoism-affected" districts of Odisha. It was a state highway earlier but it was recently designated as NH-326 by the central government as a part of its infrastructure-building efforts to bolster the anti-Maoist operations. It is aimed at making the deployment of government forces in the movement areas easier and faster, particularly in Malkangiri district.

Similar road-building and road-improvement works are being carried on by the central and state governments in other Maoist movement areas of Odisha as well. The work of converting the State Highway from Laxmipur in Koraput district up to the border of Andhra Pradesh to double-lane is going on since October 2014 and is scheduled to be completed in April 2016. The road passes through Narayanpatna, Bandhugaon and Alamanda blocks of Koraput and connects Parvatipuram town of Andhra Pradesh – the very region where the revolutionary peasant struggle of Narayanpatna led by Chasi Mulia Adivasi Sangh (CMAS) is going on.

As these infrastructure projects are identified by the people of these areas as part of the government's repression campaign, they are putting up stiff opposition to these projects and even military stopping them on some occasions. With their resistance, the people are trying to get the message across to the deaf-eared government that it is not metalled roads or railway lines that they need but basic necessities of life such as drinking water, electricity, irrigation, healthcare, and education, etc. But the governments that are busy in serving the comprador big capitalists and big landlords hardly care to listen to the wishes, aspirations and demands of the toiling masses. For

them, road construction and other infrastructural projects in movement areas are integral to the counter-revolutionary class war.

Tag of war between centre and Odisha government on the expenses on anti-Maoist forces

The tag of war between Odisha's BJD government and the BJP-led central government on the question of who should bear the expenses of the mercenary central paramilitary forces continues. The central government has recently rejected a request made by Odisha government to waive the bill of Rs.1500 crores spent on the central forces for anti-Maoist operations in the 18 districts of the state considered "LWE-affected". CM Naveen Patnaik had written a letter in June to Narendra Modi in which he said that it was not correct to put the burden of the bill of central forces on states like Odisha since Maoism, he claimed, was a "countrywide problem" and related to "the security of the country's people" and "national security". Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh wrote back on 1 September informing that the request could not be entertained. He said that the states of Northeast, J&K, HP etc. there is a system of limiting the burden of deployment of central paramilitary forces on the state government to 10% while the central government bears 90% of the expense. However, all other states bear the full expense. There is an unpaid bill of 1096 crore rupees on Odisha government till December 2013 which increased to 1450 crore by December 2014. By the end of this year this is going to grow to 1600 crores. Odisha government have been writing repeatedly to the centre for a waiver.

Fake 'organisation' propped-up to oppose Martyrs' Week in Balangir

Posters opposing the call of the CPI(Maoist) to observe Martyrs' Memorial Week from 28 July to 3 August appeared in the name of so-called Akhil Bharatiya Dalit Adivasi Mahasangha in Maoist movement areas of Dhandamunda and Khaprakhhol

in Balangir district of Odisha. This is the first time that such anti-Maoist posters have appeared in the area taking the local residents by surprise.

Written in Hindi and in red letters, these posters appeared near Jurabandha panchayat's Borkani Talaskel, Chatrang village's Anganwadi, shops, public wells etc. In the posters the anti-people counter-revolutionary elements such as Murah Meher, Rajkishore Panda, Krishna Punji and Shashikant Bhoi who were punished by the Maoists have been hailed as "our real martyrs" and "our brothers". Kantabaji Police, in whose jurisdiction the area comes, however washed their hands off any knowledge of these posters.

Similar posters were seen in Khaprakhhol block too. These were put up in front the block office, tehsil office, Anganwadi centre and the village square of Telenpani village. When asked by journalists, the Block Adivasi Welfare Union President Bipra Bishi told that they have never seen such an organisation in Khaprakhhol before nor such organisation has ever worked for the Adivasis. "This must be the work of some miscreants", he said. Similarly, in Lathore bus stand and in the middle of Tankapani panchayat too such anti-Maoist posters were put up appealing to the people to oppose the martyrs' week. When asked about it, Paschim Odisha Adivasi Mahasangha General Secretary Niranjan Bishi told that "In my view there is no such organisation. These posters must be fake." Likewise, Paschim Odisha Dalit Adhikar Mancha's Balangir Convenor Gajamani Bag said, "We have been working for the Dalits. This is a conspiracy to defame the Dalits. There is no such organisation as Akhil Bharatiya Dalit Adivasi Mahasangha." He demanded that the police conduct an enquiry and arrest the culprits who have put up such fake posters. Most of the local people, however, are sceptical of any police action as they believe that it is the police along with some influential people are behind the fake organisation and posters as they are worried by the growing popular support to the Maoist party in the area. In desperation, these elements are resorting to such trickery in connivance with the police aiming to prevent the masses from responding positively to the call of the Maoists.

Paschim Banga

Government to use the youth of Jangal Mahal as foot-soldiers of its mercenary army

The Modi government at the centre and Mamata Banerjee-led West Bengal government have been working in close coordination to keep the rebellious masses of Jangal Mahal suppressed. While the basic democratic rights of the people are daily violated by the fascist TMC and the central forces, the governments are also trying to bring a section of the masses to its side by using various means. In one such effort, Indian Army is organising recruitment rallies in the Jangal Mahal to “give the youth the chance to be a part of the mainstream society”.

The first recruitment drive was conducted in February this year at Kharagpur in West Midnapore district in which 250 youths were selected and deployed in different parts of the country. In a recently conducted recruitment rally in Purulia, over 80 were selected. The Army has decided to organise two annual recruitment drives every year in West Midnapore, Bankura and Purulia districts where the Maoist movement is going on. Army conducts 13-14 such rallies in the state each year, of which two would be in the ‘LWE-affected’ areas from now on as per the government’s anti-Maoist strategy.

Tamil Nadu

Special Anti-Maoist cells coming up in Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalithaa announced on 22 September that special cells of the state police will be established in ten border districts at a cost of Rs.9.48 crore to prevent the growth of the Maoist movement. The cells will be set up at Tiruvallur, Vellore, Erode, Udagamandalam, Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Dindigul, Virudunagar, Tiruvelveli and Kanyakumari districts.

Uttar Pradesh

UP government announces new surrender policy for Maoists

Uttar Pradesh government approved a new surrender and rehabilitation policy for the Maoists. The policy was approved in a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav in Lucknow on 13 October 2015.



पुलिस एवं अर्धसैनिक बलों द्वारा ग्रामीण महिलाओं पर की जा रही अत्याचारों का कड़ी निंदा करो। दोषी पुलिस अधिकारियों व जवानों को सजा दो!

मुठ्भेड़ के नाम से आम जनता का हत्या करना बंद करो!

- ❖ पेद्दागेलूर, पेगडापल्ली, चिन्नागेलूर गांवों की महिलाओं पर अत्याचार करने वाले पुलिस अधिकारियों व जवानों को सजा दो!
- ❖ बस्तर से अर्धसैनिक बलों को हटावे!
- ❖ माओवादी उन्मूलन के नाम से सरकार द्वारा चलाई जा रही पुलिस दमन, अभियान का कड़ा निंदा करो!
- ❖ अमर शहीदों को जोहार! कॉ, पोर्टम मंगू, पुनेम रुकनी अमर रहे!
- ❖ मुठ्भेड़ के नाम से ग्रामीणों का हत्या करना बंद करो!
- ❖ वारंटी नक्सली बता कर ग्रामीणों को गिरफ्तार करना बंद करो!
- ❖ बस्तर में आरएसएस का एजेण्डा को लागू करने वाले ब्राम्हणवादी हिन्दू फासिवादी, आदिवासियों का हत्यारे एसआरपी कल्लूरी को पद से बरखास्त करो!

4/11/ 2015

पश्चिम बस्तर डिवीजनल कमेटी

Proletarians of all countries, unite!

Pages from the International Communist Movement

The Central Committee of CPI(Maoist) warmly congratulates our international friends for carrying out a month-long campaign for the release of political prisoners in India. Your active support and solidarity for the protracted people's war is a great source of inspiration for our Party, PLGA, revolutionary mass organisations and the fighting masses of our country. We are certain that our united efforts will continue to take the struggle for democracy, socialism and communism forward.

The CC pays its red homage to the martyred Comrade Leoncio Pitao (Ka Parago) of the Philippines and Comrade Behrooz Navaii of Iran, and send our condolences to their bereaved families, friends and comrades. Their communist qualities, commitment to MLM and their great sacrifice will always be remembered by the international proletariat.

On behalf of the CPI(Maoist), our CC extends firm solidarity and support for the ongoing people's movements across the world – both armed and unarmed – that are fighting against imperialism, capitalism, feudalism and all reaction for the liberation of countries, nations and the people. The activeness of the two streams of the world socialist revolution in the present-day world – the struggle for socialism/new democracy and the struggle for national liberation – shows that the only way towards freedom from all forms of exploitation and oppression, be it based on class, nationality, gender, race, caste, or anything else, to advance the class struggle in our own countries by using each and every favourable condition to hit out at the bastions of the reactionary ruling classes.

International Campaign in Support of Political Prisoners in India, 1 - 28 July 2015

An international meeting for discussing about a campaign for the release of revolutionary political prisoners in India was called by the International Committee to Support People's War in India (ICSPWI) in Paris on 27 June. The meeting issued a call to a new internationalist campaign in support of the Indian revolutionaries in jail from 1 July to 28 July 2015 (*Collectif rouge internationaliste pour la défense des prisonniers politiques révolutionnaires*).

A Palermo presentato il libro di Ajith “contro l'avakianismo” nel quadro della campagna internazionale per la sua liberazione

**(Liberation for Ajith and political prisoners in India:
A presentation of Ajith's book *Against Avakianism*, Palermo, Italy, July 2015)**

All'interno della nuova Campagna Internazionale per la liberazione di tutti i prigionieri politici indiani, dopo la riuscita iniziativa all'ambasciata indiana a Roma lo scorso 16 Luglio, a Palermo è stato presentato in anteprima nazionale il libro di Ajith, teorico e dirigente rivoluzionario del Partito Comunista dell'India (maoista) incarcerato dal regime indiano lo scorso maggio.

Nonostante il caldo e un disagio causato dalla struttura ospitante che a pochi giorni dell'iniziativa a propaganda iniziata ha modificato la data della stessa, in sala erano presenti principalmente giovani e qualche lavoratore che hanno preso parte alla presentazione alcuni di essi intervenendo con domande e interventi e salutando con lunghi applausi gli appelli per la liberazione di Ajith dopo aver sentito chi è e cosa rappresenta il compagno.

Ajith ha dedicato oltre quarantanni della sua vita alla lotta rivoluzionaria, ha messo le sue abilità intellettuali al servizio delle masse popolari e della classe operaia in India e nel mondo, al servizio della rivoluzione di nuova democrazia in India e della rivoluzione proletaria mondiale.

Il compagno Ajith, tra le varie cose, aveva scritto analisi su questioni importanti quali la questione delle caste che tutt'ora esistono nella “più grande democrazia del mondo” (come viene chiamata l'India dalla borghesia in tutto il mondo) o circa la repressione e marginalizzazione contro i popoli indigeni come gli adivasi.

Ajith è un analista brillante circa la politica estera del nuovo governo Modi e la situazione economica internazionale (è stato recentemente tradotto su questo blog un suo lungo scritto in merito diviso in due parti PARTE 1 e PARTE 2) in cui aveva iniziato a trattare argomenti strategici per il movimento rivoluzionario nei paesi imperialisti come la vittoria riformista e illusoria per le masse in Grecia di Tsipras e il ruolo e il valore aggiunto che i migranti portano alla lotta di classe nei paesi imperialisti.

Su questo blog è disponibile la traduzione di un altro scritto di Ajith che sfata il mito ben presente in India e nel mondo, della non violenza ghandiana che trovate QUI

E' stato detto che il libro “Contro l'avakianismo” si inserisce nel quadro della lotta viva e reale in corso in India e nel mondo.

Alla fine dell'iniziativa alcuni dei presenti hanno preso e richiesto copie del libro.

July 2015



PEOPLE'S MARCH
Voice of the Indian Revolution



**FREE
AJITH!**

**FREE ALL
POLITICAL
PRISONERS
IN INDIA!**

**SUPPORT
PEOPLE'S
WAR!**

International Committee in Support of the People's War in India

**FREIHEIT
FÜR ALLE POLITISCHEN
GEFANGENEN IN INDIEN**

**INFORMATIONSVORANSTALTUNG
14. AUGUST / BEGINN 19:30/ // // //
INTERNATIONALES ZENTRUM B5/ /
BRIGITTENSTR. 5 / 20359 ST. PAULI / /**

DIE WELT DER REVOLUTIONÄREN KÄMPFER

**INDIEN
SOLIDARITÄTSABEND**

**25.07. | 18:00
Weisestraße 53**

**JUGEND
WIDER
STAND**

Campagna internazionale a sostegno dei prigionieri politici e la guerra popolare in India



che una macchina politica di violenza e repressione a sostegno del dominio dei morti viventi, delle classi parassitarie compradore borghesi e feudali

Il compagno Ajith è un ideologo del PCT (Maoista), che dirige una guerra popolare rivoluzionaria per demolire il sistema di oppressione e di sfruttamento semifeudale, capitalista e imperialista e per instaurare la nuova democrazia e il socialismo. Il compagno ha dedicato più di quarant'anni della sua vita a questa causa. È stato segretario del Partito Comunista dell'India (marxista-leninista) Naxalbari, che il 1 maggio 2014 si è fuso con il PCT (Maoista).

Il compagno è un instancabile attivista e teorico rivoluzionario. Ha scritto diversi libri sulla teoria della rivoluzione e le questioni di classe e di casta in India. È un esempio di rivoluzionario comunista e di impegno internazionalista. Il movimento comunista internazionale gli deve molto. Ha lavorato alla redazione della rivista rivoluzionaria internazionale, Un Mondo da Guadagnare. Dopo il collasso del Movimento Rivoluzionario Internazionalista, il compagno ha dedicato il suo lavoro intellettuale alla causa della lotta contro il neo-revisionismo, responsabile della liquidazione del MRI. Il saggio del compagno Ajith, contro l'Avakianismo, è stato tradotto in diverse lingue, compreso il farsi-diri.

Il 9 maggio di quest'anno il compagno è stato arrestato dalle forze repressive dello Stato fascista indiano in un ospedale, mentre era in cura per un intervento chirurgico di bypass. Il compagno Hamza Ismail è stato arrestato mentre aiutava e accompagnava il compagno in difficoltà. Non permettiamo che lo Stato reazionario indiano la faccia franca per questo crimine.

Il Comitato a Sostegno della Guerra Popolare in India - Alghemistate, invita tutti gli individui e organizzazioni rivoluzionarie e progressiste, gli attivisti politici per la giustizia sociale, le masse rivoluzionarie, a denunciare, lottare e resistere contro i crimini dello stato reazionario indiano, a difendere i compagni Ajith e Ismail, a fare pressione sullo Stato indiano affinché al compagno Ajith siano prestate le cure mediche di cui ha bisogno e ad esigere la sua liberazione immediata.

Non lasciamo nulla di intenzato in solidarietà con la guerra popolare rivoluzionaria e le masse in lotta in India, per la liberazione del compagno Ajith.

**Libertà per Ajith e tutti i prigionieri politici in India!
Sostegno alla guerra popolare indiana!
Viva l'internazionalismo proletario!**



Comitato a sostegno della guerra popolare in India - <http://proletari.comunisti.blogspot.it/> - srpitalia@gmail.com

On July 16 the international campaign launched by the ICSPWI reached the whole country. In Rome and Milan rallies took place in front of the Indian Embassy and consulate; in Dalmine a leaflets-spreading at the biggest factory in the area; in Palermo leaflets-spreading at the main factory of the city and a public meeting of counter-information and solidarity.



The campaign for the the freedom of comrade Ajith and all the political prisoners in India and in support of People's war reached the proletarian neighborhoods in Milan with the posters massively put on the walls.



Public meetings and protest demonstration in front of Indian embassy was organised in Vienna, Switzerland.



Political actions, demonstrations and meetings in support of political prisoners in India was organised by the League against Imperialist Aggression in the German cities of Berlin, Hamburg and Koln between 1 July and 28 July as a part of the international campaign. Programmes were held in France and Galicia as well.



International Red Aid statement on support for the political prisoners in India

August 2015

The RHI leads, since a few months, an international campaign to demand the release of all the prisoners of the Communist Party of India (Maoist) and of all the fighters of the ongoing people's war in a country oppressed by three enemies, imperialism, feudalism and the local bourgeoisie.

In its program, the CPI(Maoist) has made its the first priority of the struggle for the basic rights of the tribals and the victims of the capitalists and ultra-liberal policies of the Indians authorities, which are pushed in the back by the western imperialist countries. August, the 15th is the commemoration day of India's 'independence'. On that precise day, the RHI calls for an international mobilization day towards these prisoners, to demand their release, but also the respect of their basic human rights and a recognition of the status of political prisoners.

Besides the 60 member of the party behind bars for the moment, Modi's government (BJP – nationalist Hindu party) detains more than 10.000 people who are accused of having links with the Maoist guerrilla, or of "sedition" or "action against the State". The policy of the Central government has strengthened the legal arsenal aiming at the repression of any popular movement and all forms of dissidence. This international day of solidarity is an opportunity to denounce all these policies and to demand the release of all the prisoners struggling for the people's war in India.

Solidarity is our weapon!

Long live international solidarity!

Statement from Revolutionary Construction, Austria

Revolutionary Construction (Revolutionärer Aufbau/RA) is part of the International Committee to Support People's War in India (ICSPWIndia), and so it took part at the international campaign and called other revolutionary forces in Austria to support the campaign and the people's war in India. Because of our initiative actions for the campaign took place in different federal provinces in Austria. We made meetings to inform comrades and sympathizers about people's war, the CPI (Maoist), the Hindu-fascistic terror in India; to present the work of the ICSPWIndia; to propagate the importance of international solidarity and to go on with the unity of the Maoist forces in Austria.

There was participation for this campaign in five federal provinces, which meant big success for the revolutionary movement in Austria. It also meant success for international solidarity, because new forces were united under the banner of the ICSPWIndia and got active for supporting. In Vienna a committee for solidarity was formed with Turkish comrades from ATIGF (Federation of Workers and Students from Turkey in Austria), ADHF (Federation for Democratic Rights in Austria) and comrades from RA (Revolutionary Construction). Critical we have to say, that this committee was formed very late, so that some actions took place short-dated. However the unity of these forces for supporting people's war in India, is a positive and correct step forward.

The committee is going to work on, not only concerning India, with doing solidarity-work. One important input concerning this was made by comrades of ATIGF who call to unite especially the revolutionary forces closer to struggle against repression and to get more active in this point. For the next task, actions and campaigns to free the jailed comrades from ATIK (Confederation of Workers from Turkey in Europe) are planned. From Austria and all over the world in the last month the demands of revolutionaries and peoples become noisy:

Free Ajith!

Free all political prisoners in India!

Support people's war!

Revolutionary Construction

28 August 2015



Message from the Committee in Support of the People's War in India (Afghanistan-Pakistan)

19 June 2015

Dear comrades,

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, we are unable to directly participate in this meeting. Though, this meeting is being held at a very critical time. The reactionary Indian state under the leadership of Hindu fascists has intensified its repression against the masses of the people and the revolutionary people's war in India. A new and more brutal phase of the Operation Green Hunt is underway, which in the words of Arundathi Roy is a "scorch the earth" war of burning entire villages, wholesale murder, rapes, and other despicable crimes against humanity.

Furthermore, a campaign of witch-hunt and repression is being waged across India to silence and suffocate the voices that question, expose and resist government's brutal anti-people military campaigns and its gross violations of human rights. In this too, the reactionary state and the fascists currently in charge of it, heavily-handedly and shamelessly, are targeting political activists, intellectuals, and academics who dare to question their anti-people policies, without fear of being damned in the court of public opinion. The imperialist powers are complicit with and supportive of the war of the Indian state against the masses of the people and the revolutionary people's war. It is thus that the international human rights watchdogs tied to the imperialist institutions are for the most part silent over the atrocities of the Indian state and its gross human rights violations.

On May 9 2014 the repressive forces of the Indian state kidnapped a paralyzed and wheelchair bounded academic, G. N. Saibaba, and put him behind bars. Exactly, one year later on May 9 2015 Indian fascist police arrested another political activist and revolutionary intellectual, comrade Ajith, while he was undergoing treatment for a bypass surgery in a Hospital in Pune. Reports suggest both G. N. Saibaba and comrade Ajith are suffering from multiple health issues. It is the plan of the reactionary Indian state that both comrades suffer a slow death behind bars, which is parallel to state's policy of murder of the revolutionaries in fake police encounters.

All these atrocities are committed to make India a safe heaven for profit extraction and capital accumulation for multinational corporations and the Indian feudal and comprador classes. The struggle being waged in India and its revolutionary people's war is part of and the cutting edge of the global struggle for new-democracy, socialism and communism, and against semi-feudalism, capitalism, and imperialism. It is the internationalist responsibility of the revolutionaries around the world to fight, expose and resist the crimes of the Indian state and the complicity of the imperialist powers with it and stand beside the revolutionary movement in India.

Comrades!

Over the past years, particularly since the conference in Hamburg, the solidarity work with the revolutionary people's war in India has made some progress. But honestly it really has not been enough. The international revolutionary movement should strive to build a strong global solidarity movement with the revolutionary people's war in India. We should make serious attempts to broaden the coalition and unite all those forces that can be united in building a broader global solidarity movement capable of frequent and regular political actions. The international revolutionary movement should make it difficult for the reactionary Indian state to easily get away with the atrocities against the masses of people, the incarceration and murder of revolutionaries and its other brutal anti-people crimes.

We are pleased that ICSPWI endorsed our statement, "Fight for the Release of Comrade Ajith." We hope this meeting would come with extensive plans of initiating a global campaign of struggle for the release of comrade Ajith and all other political prisoners. Our committee have contacted forces in Pakistan, thus, now we are a committee in support of the revolutionary people's war in India in both Afghanistan and Pakistan. We will strive for the expansion of the committee and its activities in these two countries.

Let us commit ourselves for building a strong global solidarity movement with the people's war in India and exposing and resisting the crimes of the Indian state!

Let us strive to shake heaven and earth for fight to release comrade Ajith and all other political prisoners!

Long live revolutionary people's war in India!

Long live Communist Party of India (Maoist)!

Down with the reactionary Indian state!

Statement of the Galician Committee of Support to the People's War in India on the killing of Comrades Shruthi and Vidyasagar

The Galician Committee of Support to the People's War in India want to show publicly the deepest grief and outrage for the murder, at the hands of the police in Warangal, of comrades Vidyasagar Reddy and Shruthi in fake encounter.

The repressive forces abducted them and then tortured, raped comrade Shruthi and finally threw their bodies in the woods.

Once again, the harassers of people have killed two of their beloved who had dedicated their lives to fight for a new society, without exploiters or oppression.

The days of the terrorists at the service of the landowners and the bureaucratic bourgeoisie are numbered and very soon they will be judged and executed for their crimes against the people.

The murder of the comrades shows clearly that there is no way for the liberation of the people but the Revolutionary People's War led by the Communist Party of India (Maoist), vanguard of the oppressed masses in India and main detachment, today, of the World Proletarian Revolution .

Lal Salaam!

Long live the People's War in India!

Long live the CPI (Maoist)!

Long live the world proletarian revolution!

Death to the criminal oppressors!

Galician Committee of Support to the People's War in India

Galicia, 18/09/15

Statement of the Maoist Group Shuresh on the sudden loss of Comrade Behrooz Navaii

[This statement was read in Parsi at an event organised by Tjen Folket in Norway recently to remember Comrade Behrooz Navaii]

On the 1st Tir 1394 (22nd June 2015) after a period of being unaware about the condition of comrade Behrooz Navaii (Kamran Mahjoob), we were informed by his Facebook and his brother that he was suffering from severe illness and passed away full of pain and suffering caused by class society, however, he left a legacy of revolutionary aspiration and knowledge and practice for us.

Comrade Behrooz Navaii was a hard-working member of communist movement who strived to advance revolutionary aspiration until the last breath and did not even stop momentarily his intensive

revolutionary activities along the path of victorious revolutions for the international proletariat.

This Comrade with his theoretical knowledge about revolutions in the world was a former supporter of the Organisation of Fedayeen Guerrillas.

He had been shot in the head at the time of his arrest and therefore had to take medicine for decades to deal with severe pains. This bullet had been shot by the servants of imperialism to damage the revolutionary front of the proletariat and therefore he finally became a martyr for liberation of the proletariat.

Comrade Behrooz Navaii had a good command of Farsi, English and Kurdish languages and he was a prominent internationalist. He was very popular in revolutionary media of Iran, India, Nepal, Philippines, Palestine, Kurdistan and the US.

The global status of this precious comrade wherever the revolutionary communist front is advancing had become absolutely clear to us when messages of commiserations from four corners of the world were sent to his Facebook page after his death.

Despite of his global prominence, while the young revolutionary forces were referring to him as their comrade and admirable brother, it is deplorable that he remained anonymous in the communist movement of Iran.

As much as we are aware, in relation to his valuable contributions, one can refer to the focus of his activities on the current revolution in India in the form of People's War under the leadership of the Communist Party of India (Maoist). Translations by the comrade to Farsi includes: "Bold talks of the chairman of the Communist Party of India (ML-Naxalbari) written by comrade Ajit on resistance against Operation Green Hunt", and also "Interview with comrade Ganapati the leader of the Communist Party of India (Maoist) which can be accessed by clicking on these titles.

Moreover, he has translated an article entitled, "One year later: Nandigram and struggle against compulsory replacement in India" which will be published soon in the section of "People's War" in the website of the Maoist Group Shuresh. It is necessary to state that regrettably it was agreed to defer the publication of comrade's works to announcing the declaration of the group emphasizing Marxism-Leninism-Maoism and criticising the dogmatic revisionist line of Avakianism.

Other important translations by him includes "Nine letters to comrades" written by Mike Ely which is

along the path of exposing modern revisionism dealing with Bob Avakian's so called New Synthesis.

Despite having various physical pains he did not stop his efforts and told us that he was writing an introduction for the translation of an article by Comrade Azad (a great Maoist and one of the leaders of People's War in India), who more than fifty years ago wrote about global importance of the revolution in India, which will be published by the website of Shuresh.

Also, he has translated other works such as "Walking with the Comrades" written by Arundhati Roy; "Eyes on Maobadi" by Mike Ely; "Revolution in India: Lalgarth sparks of hope" by Sam Shell and ... all of which will be published in a special edition by the Maoist Group Shuresh.

Furthermore, comrade played an effective role in daily activities to support revolutions in India and South Asia as well as forming circles of revolutionary youth in the US to initiate struggles against dogmatic revisionism of Bob Avakian, which has promoted the role of a leader to a prophet.

Although our collaboration with this revolutionary and determined comrade was short, but we are aware of the impact of this loss and believe it will be difficult to fill the gap of losing a revolutionary with such capability, selflessness, modesty and honesty.

Finally, we express our deep sorrow for losing comrade Behrooz Navaii and give our commiseration to all comrades and emphasize that whilst our movement has not been able to overcome economism and pacifism, it has lost another genuine revolutionary which has pleased imperialists and revisionist.

However, our message to the steel tigers who are in fact nothing more than paper tigers against the revolutionary masses is: dear comrade we are aware that no one will write a poem for your death but we will lit the prairie fire in the first entrenchment of liberating people's of Iran in your name.

(contd. from page no.48)

'Maoists', Tamil Nadu Police have intensified their witch-hunt and are arresting individuals on ridiculously frivolous charges, they said. The police had arrested three persons near Pollachi and charged them with UAPA for "indoctrinating" a youth with Maoist ideology, while two more persons were picked up from Coimbatore city police allegedly for "raising slogans" in front of the Q Branch office of Tamil Nadu Police. The petitioners pointed out that the police were using the UAPA to clamp down on political dissidents in the state crushing underfoot the democratic rights of the people in a dictatorial manner. O

Statement of the New People's Army on the martyrdom of Comrade Leoncio Pitao (Ka Parago)

June 29, 2015

The Southern Mindanao Regional Command of the New People's Army and the entire revolutionary forces express their deepest most profound salute to a great leader and warrior, Ka Parago or Leoncio Pitao who was killed in a raid together with guerrilla medic Ka Kyle on June 28, 2015 at 2:30 pm in Barangay Panalum, Paquibato district, Davao City.

Ka Parago was being treated for his diabetes, hyperthyroidism and hepatitis when the raiding team composed of the 6th Scout Ranger Company, 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion under the 1st Scout Ranger Regiment peppered him with bullets. Ka Kyle or Vanessa Limpag who was nursing Ka Parago had already raised her arms, shouting that she was a medic, when she too was razed to the ground by the military. She died instantly.

The Philippine Army must be very proud and happy to have killed a very sick man and an unarmed medic. They have no regard at all for the rules of engagement under the protocols of war as specified in the Geneva Convention and the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law. They kill with impunity.

Ka Parago had served the national democratic revolution for close to 37 years. He spent the greater part of his adult life serving the people, in unstinting dedication to the cause of national democracy. As a Red commander, he led and trained so many young warriors in the art of guerrilla warfare.

From the countless disarming operations in the 1980s and 1990s to the capture of General Obillo and Capt. Montealto in 1999 to the raid of Davao Penal Colony and the countless tactical offensives mounted by the Pulang Bagani Company.

Ka Parago remained strong and vigilant under no less than five reactionary regimes, from the Marcos dictatorship to the current US-Aquino regime.

When he was detained in 1999 and the enemy offered him so much "reward money," he never turned his back to the people and the revolution. He remained stalwart in his convictions and ever faithful to the communist spirit of defending the security of the revolutionary forces and the interest of the people.

Even when he was grieving and agonizing over the tragic death of his daughter Rebelyn who was raped and killed by military intelligence operatives in 2009, Ka Parago exercised political wisdom.

The people in Southern Mindanao remember him as their most beloved son who was always at their side, ready to help them solve their problems- -so unlike the AFP generals who do nothing but attack and burden the people.

He lived very simply. He was the exact opposite of the corrupt generals of the AFP. Ka Parago's spartan life became an enduring example for every revolutionary who knew him or worked with him. As a matter of fact, for many years since the onset of his illness, he declined the Party's offer of a sick leave. All he wanted to his last dying breath was to live with the masses and to serve them.

Long live the revolution! Long live the masses! These were the last defiant words uttered by Ka Parago—words that reverberate throughout the entire archipelago.

Truly he lives in the hearts of the people as we honor his death. Thousands of young revolutionaries who have been inspired by this great guerrilla warrior now follow in his footsteps. The masses and the comrades grieve his death, yes, but they turn his grief to greater revolutionary fervor as the people's war goes on.

Rigoberto F. Sanchez
Spokesperson
Southern Mindanao Regional Command
New People's Army

Statement on the war in Syria by Communist Party of Greece (marxist–leninist)

**All imperialists and reactionaries out of Syria!
No to any involvement of our country!
No to any facilities to imperialists!**

1 October 2015

The air-strikes of Russia on Syrian ground that started on 30 September 2015 will result in two certain things:

- They will cause more bloodshed and catastrophe on the Syrian people, deepening the internal conflicts and increasing the desperate refugee exodus.
- They will multiply the dangers of a broader military conflict in the region behind which lies a fierce antagonism among the imperialist powers.

The people of Syria as well as the peoples of the whole region will be again the great losers in this new escalation of imperialist intervention which is led either from Washington or Moscow or Paris or any international alliance under the aegis of the UN. They will become again live targets of the imperialist war machines and at the same time objects of shameless negotiations for the redrawing of borders.

The Communist Party of Greece (marxist–leninist) condemns the Russian air strikes on Syrian ground, as well as the air strikes of France or the US-led alliance. We condemn any intervention by regional reactionary governments like Turkey, Saudi Arabia, or Israel. We call the anti-imperialist peace-loving movement of our country to express in a massive way their opposition to these dangerous developments as well as to continue expressing their solidarity to the refugees of this imperialist war. We call the Greek people to demand from the government to abstain from any military operation against the Syrian people under any pretext and any international aegis. This demand must be more imperative after the “good words” of Obama to Tsipras and the quid pro quo these words entail.

No to the imperialist wars!

Peoples do not need protectors!

Solidarity to the Syrian people and the refugees!

NATO and military bases out of our country!

(Contd. from page no. 70)

Indefinite hunger strike in Mumbai Jail opposing torturous conditions

would have already completed a period of long confinement – in a completely unjust and arbitrary manner. Such has been the experience of many Kashmiri political prisoners in Indian jails. Lone’s hunger strike has exposed the totally unjust nature of the Indian judicial system in general – and more so for those whom the state considers to be a threat to “national security and integrity”.

Zahibuddin Ansari, an undertrial political prisoner lodged in a Mumbai jail, began an indefinite hunger strike in August. He was protesting against the conditions in which he was detained – in a windowless steel-reinforced dark concrete cell under the constant glare of a high-voltage light. As all his demands for better conditions in jail fell into deaf ears, Ansari had no other option but to carry out a protest. The hunger strike went on for over a month. ***

Letter from Left Anti-imperialist Cooperation, Greece, to the asylum-seekers of West Asia and North Africa

**Solidarity is the weapon of the people!
Asylum, documents, medical care and
human living conditions to all refugees!**

1 September 1, 2015

Our brothers refugees,

In anger and sadness we witness the tragedy that you and your people are living in during the last months.

We see you packed in wrecked ships, with your lives in immediate danger, forced to leave your homelands and seek a better future in the countries of the so-called “civilized” West, in Europe and the US.

But it is exactly this “civilized” West that has led you to the streets of despair. It is them (the US, NATO and EU imperialists) that destroy your countries for years, from Africa to Middle East and Asia. It is them who have ruined your lives and your homelands to serve their interests. It is them who have bombed your countries, who have been supporting dirty and unpopular regimes and reactionary political forces in order to fulfill their own bloodstained plans. It is them who have led the youth of your countries away from their families.

It is them and their governments now see you as a burden. They deny you the basics: a safe roof, some food and the documents necessary for you to stay or travel. Instead, they treat you inhumanly, they pack you in abject concentration camps and prepare your deportation. This is the so-called “civilized” West, these are the ones that speak about “humanism” and “democracy”!

Our brothers refugees,

We are workers, unemployed and young people of People’s Resistance – Left Anti-imperialist Cooperation. We declare our total support and solidarity to you. We know that the right is on your side and we will do whatever we can for it. By demanding from the Greek government on your humane treatment and special requests. Most of all, we will do whatever we can so that you meet your people and your families again one day, in your homelands, free and independent.

We want you to know that in our country people have been fighting against the US and EU imperialists. In order to stop them from squeezing us. In order for our country to stop being the starting point for their imperialist raids. In order to oust the NATO military bases. In order for our governments to stop sending troops to the imperialist interventions. In order for our own people to break its bonds to imperialism.

To us not only you are not burden, but you are brothers, allies in our common struggle against our common enemy: imperialism, fascism and war.

We are here and we are on your side!

- *Asylum, documents, medical care and human living conditions to all refugees!*
- *No to concentration camps!*
- *Down with the anti-immigrant laws of the EU!*
- *Solidarity is the weapon of the people – down with the imperialist policies!*
- *Common front of the peoples against imperialism, fascism and war!*

Statements of CPI(Maoist)



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE

**Ravindra Kadam will lose his job if he
accepts the facts presented in our statement!**

20-07-2015

On the International Workers' Day (May Day) our Central Committee issued 'An Appeal to the Police and Paramilitary Forces'. I express gratitude to the newspapers and magazines which had covered this appeal. The ground realities that I had highlighted in that appeal have been rejected by Ravindra Kadam, the Inspector General of Police of Nagpur Range, Maharashtra. He has countered it through the media as well. I wish to clarify once again that the facts that I had presented in that statement are hundred percent correct. Ravindra Kadam must prove if anything that I have said is factually incorrect. Our statement is still available at many websites. I appeal to the country's intellectuals, democrats, writers, artists and government employees, particularly in the police and paramilitary forces, to go through that statement.

Which of the facts presented in that statement can be refuted by Ravindra Kadam?

1. Do the police and paramilitary jawans not hail from the working masses?
2. Are the policemen not engaged in serving the country's notorious politicians in the name of providing protection instead of sending them to jail for their involvement in a number of scams and cases of embezzlement?
3. Is it incorrect that allegations have been leveled against the former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh for his involvement in the Coalgate scam?
4. Is IG Kadam unaware of the massacre of Muslims in the Gujarat pogrom of 2002, their escape from Gujarat and the subsequent sanction put by the US and European countries on Narendra Modi? What is false in it? Kadam must answer!
5. What is the reason that millions of people in India are opposing the present Prime Minister Modi's pro-corporate 'Make in India' programme formulated as per the LPG policies if it is not correct that the Adivasis and the peasants are being displaced from their fields, land and forests through this? Can Ravindra Kadam deny that the central government has been forced to break a lot of sweat in order to convert the land acquisition ordinance into an act?

6. It may well be that due to his saffron blinkers Kadam will deny the terrorist attacks carried out by the Sangh Parivar goons on the Muslims, Christians and minorities. But can he close the eyes of the whole world?
7. How can he deny the fact that paramilitary personnel have deserted in 2013 and 2014? Can he deny it merely to keep afloat the sagging morale of his khaki troops?
8. Can he deny the fact that one-third of the country's parliamentarians are facing criminal charges?
9. Can he deny the problems faced by the police personnel in performing their duty due to the absence of minimal facilities?
10. Can Ravindra Kadam deny the fact that Chhattisgarh government has expressed its inability to spend Rs.2,500 crores for the central forces?

Basically these were the facts presented in my statement. I did not refer to these facts from our party documents. It will be better if IG Kadam who rejects these facts to first go through the following websites before denying the news published in the media and then pronounce his judgment.

1. Bibhu Prasad's article in 'Red Affairs' of ipcs.org
2. 'Meritorious service award to SRP Kalluri' - Concerned Citizens, 27-02-2013
3. 'Don't like facts, change facts on the ground' – sanhati.com
4. Tehelka.com (i) Bulletin 50, 13-12-2014, (ii) Report by Priyana Kaushal, 31-12-2014
5. 'Pushed against the wall', Ghazala Waheb, forceinindia.net
6. 'Died not through Guns but through Suicide', bbc.hindi.com, 15-05-2015
7. 'Heart Attacks, Suicide killings and more', zeenews.india.com, 12-01-2015
8. 'Police vs. Maoists', Yatish Yadav, New Indian Express, 28-04-2015

I appeal to all the readers to reject the false allegations made by Ravindra Kadam on the basis of the above facts.

If Kadam had even a wee bit of respect for the PESA Act, he should have assured the villagers that the perpetrators who misbehaved with Mainibai Pungati (40 years) of Udera Village in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra would be punished. Kadam's 'brave' C-60 commandos not only brutally beat up Mainabai alleging her to be a Maoist but also humiliated her. Kadam should let the people know the truth about the attitude he and his police administration adopted when the citizens of Etapalli gathered in large numbers to demand justice and to register cases against these culprits under IPC 307.

Mr Kadam! As long as you are in your khaki robes, you will have to resort to such tricks in order to maintain the dented morale of your forces. But you will have nothing but regret for such subterfuge. Your statements carry no more truth than the fake depositions you make to the court by keeping your hands on the Gita. If you listen to your conscience and tell the truth, you will lose your job.



(Abhay)
Spokesperson
Central Committee
CPI(Maoist)



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Red salutes to Comrade Chalasani Prasad, prominent revolutionary writer who upheld Marxism-Leninism-Maoism till his last breath!

28-07-2015

Prominent revolutionary writer Comrade Chalasani Prasad passed away at the age of 83 in Visakhapatnam on 25 July. CC of CPI(Maoist) pays its revolutionary red homage with bowed heads to Comrade Chalasani Prasad who hailed the politics of protracted people's war in the country till the last breath of his life by mainly making special contributions to the literary and cultural fields. We are taking pledge to continue the struggle till final victory to fulfil his ideals and aspirations.

Comrade Chalasani contributed enormously in the literary and cultural fields by adhering to revolutionary politics and mainly the line of armed revolution and people's war. He got attracted to revolutionary politics at a young age and worked as a real Bolshevik throughout his life by taking up the task of building a socialist society the aim of his life. Comrade Chalasani hated the politics practiced by the undivided communist party with revisionism in its belly which entered the parliament bearing the flag of bourgeois electoral politics and thereby committed an enormous treachery to the armed revolution. He opposed the revisionist politics of Progressive Writers' Association affiliated to the CPI and chose to side with revolutionary politics. The flames of Naxalbari armed agrarian revolutionary upsurge shook the country in all its spheres and presented a clear revolutionary line before its people. Naxalbari established the line of protracted people's war and New Democratic Revolution by declaring that India is a semi-colonial semi-feudal country and "China's path is our path". The flames of Naxalbari politics spread to the four corners of the country. Revolutionary flames were stoked in Srikakulam. This revolutionary conflagration deeply influenced students, youth, intellectuals, writers, artistes and democrats in AP. The revolutionary movement had put forward the question at that time, 'Writers, which side are you on?' This question gave life to new thoughts and opened new ways. In AP, Revolutionary Writer's Association (RWA-Virasam) was formed. Comrade Chalasani played an important role in the formation of RWA as one of its founders.

The revolutionary cultural movement of the country cannot be separated from the ups and downs of the revolutionary movement. The contribution of many comrades like Chalasani Prasad is inseparable from the efforts to hold high the red flag for the last 48 year by bravely facing the vicious attacks of the state on the revolutionary movement. From the period since 1975-77 when Emergency was imposed and the country was transformed into a prison, when conspiracy cases were foisted on revolutionary writers and RWA was banned, to the present period when the revolutionary cultural movement of AP is facing murderous attacks and repression as a part of the ongoing Operation Green Hunt, in these four and a half decades Comrade Chalasani confronted these attacks courageously as part of AP revolutionary cultural movement. At a time when writers were termed as conspirators and thrown behind bars by the state, Comrade Chalasani was among those writers who boldly raised the slogan "Revolution is not a conspiracy! Revolutionaries are not conspirators!" and stood firm for the revolutionary ideals. No matter how many ups and downs the revolutionary movement faced, he remained unmoved like a mountain among revolutionary intellectuals, writers and artistes, and more so among the people – wielding his pen and holding high the flag of revolutionary politics.

At the time when the Naxalbari upsurge subsided and the revolutionary Party got disintegrated into many splinters, Comrade Chalasani was among those who upheld the Naxalbari armed revolutionary line by forcefully responding to the hate-filled political attacks made by the renegades who wrecked and abandoned ship in mid-sea. "If someone asks you where the flames of revolution come from, tell him to look towards Srikakulam; If someone asks you who Satyam Master is, tell him loudly that he is the Satyam of the Adivasis". Such was the appropriate response of Comrade Chalasani. He took revolutionary politics as his life and his life became a reflection of this politics. The contribution of Comrade Chalasani in the formation of AILRC in 1995 is unforgettable. The revolutionary movement saw many ups and downs since then. He hated the degenerate politics of the

turncoat Satyamurthi of AP who got exposed before the people after leaving the revolutionary party and the path of revolution in the mid-1980s. An important leader who stood as a navigator to the revolutionary movement among the top leadership of CPI(ML)(PW) in the 1970s and '80s, Kondapalli Seetharamaiah opposed the revolutionary movement and was expelled from the party in the early 1990s. In such situations, Comrade Chalasani was among those comrades who stood on the correct side of revolutionary politics and fought stiffly to defend it. He worked as a most reliable comrade by totally dedicating himself to the politics of people's war. His happiness knew no bounds when the Adivasis once again got armed in the hills of Srikakulam. In his last years (2013) he spent some days among the heroic guerrillas of the PLGA in a Guerrilla Base in Dandakaranya. He was full of youthful excitement and happiness. Comrade Chalasani and the writers, artistes and party leadership of Dandakaranya shared their experiences and the historic red recollections which were undying and unending. He exemplified a great ideal. He was an excellent teacher for young revolutionaries. He was a selfless comrade who dedicated his everything for the revolution. His house in Visakhapatnam has been a prominent centre of revolutionary politics and his family a great friend of the revolutionary movement. He collected revolutionary literature with great effort and dedication to build a library at his home which is an inexhaustible source of literature for all revolutionary readers. The responsibility is on all of us to fill the void that is created with his passing away. We take pledge to fight on to fulfil the aspirations of this martyred comrade.

The memorial meeting of Comrade Vivek (law student) who was martyred in a fake encounter in Dandakaranya coincided with the programme to commemorate 45 years of the founding of RWA. The question, which paved the way for the formation of RWA, "Writers, which side are you on?" was once again put forward by RWA on this occasion. But this time Comrade Chalasani was no longer present with us physically. Nevertheless, he is still a part of this call. His enthusiasm and effort in implementing this call the 1970s are there with the present generation. The revolutionary movement has advanced compared to that period. The dream of a red army at that period has now become a weapon in the hands of the people. Today's revolutionary cultural movement is more powerful than it was in the past as a result of the contributions made by comrades like Chalasani Prasad. All these constitute one aspect. The other aspect is that the Brahmanical Hindu-fascist forces are in power in the country today. It is in their immediate agenda to wipe out the revolutionary movement. They are capable of adopting fascist acts to any extent for this. The present government will implement fascist policies in a crueller manner than the last UPA government. Jan Mayrdal, one of the prominent revolutionary intellectuals of the world, was banned by the previous government from visiting India. AP government has banned RDF which has been working by siding with the country's exploited people. If we look at the experience of the disruption of a programme organised by Forum for Alternative Politics in Hyderabad on 21 September last, we can easily understand the dangers for the intellectuals, writers and artists of the country associated with wielding one's pen in dissent and raising one's voice. If we do not repulse and defeat the cruel attacks of the fascist state, even the so-called secularism, democracy, rights, powers, etc. will become meaningless and India, which is already a prison-house of nationalities, will become an even bigger prison. The revolutionary and progressive writers, intellectuals, artistes, journalists, media persons, environmentalists and well-wishers of Adivasis should unitedly stand up to fight back this danger. They should all get mobilised and play their part unitedly in this people's movement. Our party appeals to advance towards victory by defending the revolutionary movement to realise the dreams of Comrade Chalasani. This will be our real homage to him.

Long live Comrade Chalasani!

Long live Marxism-Leninism-Maoism!

Long live revolutionary literary-cultural movements!

Down with feudal-imperialist culture!

Unitedly defeat the Brahmanical Hindu-fascist policies!

Long live New Democratic Revolution!



(Abhay)
Spokesperson,
Central Committee,
CPI(Maoist)



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Red homage to CPI(Maoist) Central Committee member Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan!

On August 18th 2015, the oppressed masses of our country and the Indian revolution lost an exemplary communist leader and a brilliant revolutionary intellectual—Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan—known to the revolutionary camp as Com. Vishnu and Vijay. He passed away after a massive heart attack. The CC, CPI(Maoist) pays its humble red homage to this member of the Central Committee and vows to fulfill the revolutionary ideals for which he lived and laid down his life.

His journey as a revolutionary

It was in 1978-79, as a young student of Arts in Elphinstone College, Mumbai, Comrade Sridhar got influenced with revolutionary politics and gave up his studies to work for the oppressed masses of the country. And for the next 35 years, he continued with undaunting spirit and determination to serve the people.

Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan organized students and led agitations in Mumbai under the banner of Vidharthi Pragati Sanghatana(VPS).He was one of the leaders of the historical take- over of Mumbai University (against fee hike) by the college students in 1979. When the movement spread to youths, he again played a prominent role in mobilising youths under the banner of Naujawan Bharat Sabha (NBS). Along with the Mill workers Union, led by Datta Samant, NBS organized the workers during the mill workers' strike in early 80s.He was among the key organizers of many militant actions during the strike period. He became City Committee member and the movement expanded to nearby industrial areas of Thane, Bhiwandi, Surat, etc. Later, in 1990, on party's decision, he moved to Vidharbha region, where he organized coal mine workers in Chandrapur, Vaniand nearby areas. When the party handed charge of Gondia-Balaghat division to Maharashtra State Committee, he took responsibility and strived to develop the movement with the Vidharbha perspective.

For over two decades till 2007, he ably led the party as the State Secretary of the Maharashtra. He was elected to the central committee of the CPI(Maoist) in 2001.He was reelected to the CC in the Unity Congress (9th Congress) held in January 2007.He stood steadfast in all the ups and downs the movement always defending the party line. He had unwavering confidence in the party and its line. He opposed the opportunist trends that arose in the party. He stood firm despite the movement facing adverse conditions. He never wavered and stood like a pillar in fulfilling whichever responsibility the party entrusted him with. He stood as a great leader till his last breath with unwavering commitment to the revolution, steely determination and will power.

Arrest and his jail life

In August 2007, he got arrested. He faced days of interrogation, mental torture but, he never bent before the enemy .The State tried its best to prolong his incarceration by foisting more than 60 cases and even managed to get a conviction of 6 ½ years in a fabricated case. While yearning for his freedom, he continued to educate and inspire young cadres who were in jail with him. Never to rest, he utilized the time, in reading books and studying national and international situation. He interacted with various Islamic activists and tried to

understand their movement. Early morning hours were spent in writing long letters and political notes on various issues, to comrades in different jails. He got released in Aug, 2013. Jail life could not break his spirit though it took a toll on his health. On release, he stayed with his family and utilized this time in meeting and propagating about the movement. He waited to join his comrades, but, on his way to meet them, he passed away. His wish remained unfulfilled.

Comrade Sridhar's martyrdom is a major blow to the movement. The proletariat and toiling masses of our country have lost one of their greatest sons who selflessly served them till his last breath, with nothing but their interests and the interests of the revolution in his heart. Comrade Sridhar will live forever in the hearts of the Party's rank and file and millions upon millions of the Indian masses. Our party upholds the ideals of comrade Sridhar. It vows to fight relentlessly to fulfill his dreams.

Our CC, CPI (Maoist) pays red homage to him with bowed heads. It is sending its deep condolences to his family and friends and shares their grief.

Let us pledge ourselves once again to fulfill the great ideals for which Comrade Sridhar Srinivasan had laid down his life.



(Abhay)
Spokesperson,
Central Committee,
CPI(Maoist)



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL REGIONAL BUREAU

When will the Grief of the Mothers of Telangana Come to an End?

On 15 September 2015, our beloved comrades Shruti (Mahita) and Vidyasagar were killed by the police after catching them alive and torturing them brutally. Later the oft-repeated fiction of an encounter was floated by the fascist police. By willingly laying down their youthful lives, the martyred comrades gave supreme sacrifice in the process of carrying out the historic responsibility of building a new society free from exploitation and oppression. Our Party, PLGA, Revolutionary Peoples' Committees and revolutionary mass organisations humbly pay red homage with bowed heads to these heroic children of the oppressed people. We take pledge to accomplish the aims and aspirations for which these comrades have spilled their blood. CRB conveys its deep condolences to the parents, relatives and friends of comrades Shruti and Vidyasagar and share their sorrow. We convey our revolutionary greetings to their parents for upholding the sacrifice of their children.

We send our revolutionary greetings to the people, mass organisations, Left parties and individuals who condemned and protested against the murder of comrades Shruti and Vidyasagar and built up a movement for an encounter-free Telangana. We appeal to them to continue this democratic movement. TRS which captured power by making fraudulent promises like "We will implement the Maoist agenda" is now unleashing severe state repression on our Party and the revolutionary movement. Greyhound police forces are continuing their combing operations in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and the borders of Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Odisha. Though our Party did not suffer any losses in Adilabad-Khammam districts, there were close encounters with the enemy four-five times. Fascist repression on the revolutionary mass organisations is increasing not only in the forest areas but also in the plain and urban areas. Even the democratic right of the people to conduct meetings is being crushed. Comrades Vivek, Soni and Kamla were recently killed near Lankapalli in Telangana-Chhattisgarh border as a part of this repression. In the latest incident, Shruti and Vidyasagar too were killed.

Comrade Shruti left her M. Tech. to join the revolutionary movement. All the opportunities to build a lucrative career were open to her. Instead, she decided to serve the oppressed people by leaving everything. She decided to use her education, intelligence, capabilities – in one word, everything she had – to the cause of the oppressed masses and the country. She was earlier involved in the revolutionary women's movement and played an active role in Telangana separate statehood movement. By raising her consciousness and the preparedness to sacrifice, she joined the revolutionary armed struggle. The party suggested her to work in an area where repression was relatively less. But taking inspiration from the immortal martyrs of Puvvar (Sukma district, Chhattisgarh), she decided to work in the KKW (Karimnagar-Khammam-Warangal) Division of Telangana. She displayed great courage and patience during encounters with the police and boldly faced the situation. She showed her consciousness, determination and political maturity in her practice and won the confidence of the people, party activists and the leadership. Even while suffering severe torture at the hands of the police, she did not bow down or surrender to the enemy. She became an ideal communist and a fighter for all to emulate. Even though Shruti's revolutionary life was relatively short, she has become a symbol of courage and selfless sacrifice. She has become a part of the heroic tradition of Warangal's women leaders and warriors starting from Samakka, Saramma and Chakali Ailamma to a large number of our party members and guerrilla fighters who have fought and died for the liberation of the masses. She has become an ideal not only for the present generation but also for the future ones.

Comrade Vidyasagar had returned home after working in the revolutionary movement for some time. But he soon decided to continue his revolutionary life and started a movement against liquor, Gutkha (chewing tobacco) among the youth of his village and tried to raise their consciousness. The state can relax as long as the youth are in an inebriated condition. That is why Vidyasagar, who was a leader of the movement against all kinds of intoxicants, was targeted. The police harassed him all the time. Vidyasagar was inspired by the sacrifice of

martyred comrade Vivek and with that motivation he returned to the people as a guerrilla. It is unfortunate that he was martyred within a short time.

The aspiration for a separate state is a democratic aspiration. Hundreds of youths sacrificed their lives which led to the formation of separate Telangana state. TRS could form its government because of this people's movement. But after usurping power it is killing the participants of the movement. Comrade Vivek who was martyred sometime back and Shruti and Vidyasagar who are martyred now were actively involved in separate Telangana movement. Their activism played a part in the success of the separate Telangana state. TRS government is praising those who had committed suicide demanding Separate Telangana. It is talking of giving financial assistance to their families. Had Vivek, Shruti and Vidyasagar died in that way TRS would have praised them too. But since they wanted to establish a democratic Telangana they are being killed in encounters.

Our party's aim is not merely a separate geographical Telangana state. We are for democratic Telangana. But some intellectuals said that let separate Telangana state be formed first as this is the demand of the people. Many people thought that if Telangana state is established, the sacrifice of Telangana's youth will finally cease. But the grief of Telangana's mothers has not come to an end as yet. During the time of the undivided Andhra Pradesh, Belli Lalitha (leader of the cultural front of Telangana Jana Sabha) was killed by the mercenary gang of AP Greyhounds by hacking her into 17 pieces. Now Telangana government has killed Shruti with similar brutality by pouring acid and subjecting her to many forms of torture including bayonet charge. There is no difference between the governments of the undivided AP and the present Telangana. Be it TDP or TRS, as long as there remain the lackeys of the ruling classes, such repression will inevitably continue. This is the character of the semi-colonial and semi-feudal state.

Some pseudo-intellectuals and others of their kind are attacking the leadership of revolutionary mass organisations with foul propaganda. They are alleging that the leaders are sending comrades like Vivek, Shruti, Vidyasagar and Suryam (martyred in AOB) to their deaths by instigating them to join the people's war. But it is not possible to instigate someone to take part in the revolution. Revolutionary mass organisations, democratic organisations and intellectuals speak up for a genuine democratic society by exposing the existing rotten system. They influence the people with their opinion. The prevailing socio-economic conditions, life experience and the influence of the revolutionary movement led by the Communist Party enjoin the youth to respond to the call for struggle and choose the revolutionary path. They join the movement prepared for any sacrifice in the interest of the people.

The death of these young comrades is a heavy loss to the revolutionary movement. The movement has lost the opportunity to utilize their capabilities and to mould them as emerging dynamic leaders. But the inspiration of their lives and their martyrdom will stir up a storm among the masses of the people. It was a great occasion when hundreds of democratic and revolutionary mass organisations, ten Left parties and several individuals joined thousands of people to come out in protest against the encounters. Telangana society has come forward to express its condolence. Our party is gladdened by this outpouring of protest. We are hopeful that this unity will become stronger and take the form of a mighty mass movement against state repression. It has once again been proved that no repressive state will be able to withstand the united strength of the masses.

Tough our beloved young comrades Vivek, Shruti, Vidyasagar and Suryam could be killed by the state, their memories and ideals are immortal. When they were alive, the influence of their existence was limited to a particular area. But now with their martyrdom, their influence has spread far and wide. Their inspiration will give birth to many more like them. We once again call upon the broad masses of the people – particularly the students, youth, women and intellectuals – to follow the path of struggle and sacrifice shown by these martyred young comrades, imbibe their ideals and come forward to transform their memories into a material force.

Pratap

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



COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Red salutes to the People's Lawyer and Leader of the Civil Liberties and Lawyer's Movement Comrade P A Sebastian

20-10-2015

Well known as a lawyer of the exploited and oppressed masses and a leader of the democratic rights movement and a founding leader of the International Association of People's Lawyers (IAPL), Comrade PA Sebastian breathed his last in an old-age home in Goa at 10 am on 23 July 2015 at the age of 67. Death comes to everyone but the death of those who fight for the masses is heavier than the Himalayas. The people facing state repression have lost one of their well-wishers. A resolute and capable soldier of the revolutionary movement has departed, leaving with us his invaluable memories. Popular among his comrades as Sabby, he served the people throughout his life as a staunch revolutionary in spite of his physical disability due to polio. His life and work are an ideal for us the coming generations. His life is an inspiration for unleashing the spring of energy latent within the suffering, the oppressed and the weak. CPI(Maoist) pays its tributes and conveys its red salutes to this great son of the oppressed masses.

Sebastian was an inseparable part of the revolutionary movement in Maharashtra. Born in Kerala, Sabby finished his studies in law after coming to Mumbai and started practicing in the High Court. He took part in the revolutionary students' movement in Mumbai. He was the face of the democratic rights movement in Maharashtra. He was one of the founding members of CPDR (Committee for the Protection of Democratic Rights). He became its general secretary after Emergency and continued in this responsibility throughout his life. Without bothering about his health, he went on fact-finding missions in many places of Maharashtra and the country and brought the truth before the people. In order to ensure justice to the riot victims, he made tireless efforts to represent before Srikrishna Commission the victims of the Mumbai communal riots of December 1992 and January 1993 in which 900 people including 575 Muslims and 275 Hindus had lost their lives. He was the chairperson of the IAPL and a vice-president of the Committee for the Release of Political Prisoners (CRPP). He was in the fact-finding teams to inquire into the Ramabai Nagar killings in Mumbai and several other incidents of other massacres and state repression. He raised his unhesitant voice against the anti-people policies of the government. Sabby worked hard to help the minority community in its fight for justice by taking up their cases whose members were foisted with false cases and killed in fake encounters in their hundreds by a prejudiced state machinery in the name of putting an end to the Mumbai underworld. Every moment of Sabby's political life was dedicated to the revolution and the interests of the people. He was an exemplary proletarian revolutionary who led a simple life and never displayed intellectual arrogance or egoism.

We will continue to advance towards realizing the dream of this dear son of the oppressed people for a New Democratic India. Comrade Sebastian will always be an inspiration to us for his lifelong service as a true democrat and revolutionary. His ideals and memories will always remain in the minds of the oppressed people, democratic mass organisations and the revolutionaries. Long live Comrade Sebastian!

(Abhay)
Spokesperson,
Central Committee,
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COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST) CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Intensify resistance against Brahmanical Hindu Fascist Attacks!

22-10-2015

Brahmanical Hindu fascism is becoming more and more consolidated in the economic, political, social, cultural and all other spheres of the country after BJP came to power at the centre. With the direct and indirect help and protection of the BJP-ruled governments at the centre and the states, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) is putting all efforts to implement its declared and open agenda to make India an 'Akhand Hindu Rashtra'. Nearly sixty organisations affiliated to the RSS such as Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Bajrang Dal, Shriram Sena, Hindu Rahtra Sena, Vanavasi Kalyan Ashram, Hindu Jagran Manch, Swadeshi Jagran Manch etc. have already been working on this agenda. Now they have become completely unrestrained. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is a die-hard 'Swayamsevak' of RSS, is working as the foremost servant of international finance capital and the country's comprador bureaucratic capitalists. While on the one hand his government is implementing anti-people economic, political, cultural, industrial and agricultural policies to facilitate the unbridled plunder of the country's jal-jangal-zameen, public property, resources and labour-power by the domestic and foreign corporate houses, on the other hand it is facilitating the spread of Brahmanical Hindu fascism. Modi has intensified the third phase of Operation Green Hunt. In reality it is nothing but an unjust war on the oppressed masses of the country. Initiated by the central and state governments representing the country's ruling classes in 2009, it aims to wipe out the anti-displacement, democratic and progressive people's movements, worker's and peasant's movements and, most of all, the revolutionary movement. The Brahmanical Hindu fascist ideology and character of BJP is actually against the Dalits, Muslims, Christians, Adivasis, oppressed castes and women. Ideologically it is antithetical to democracy.

Attacks against religious minorities and Dalits and violence on women is growing continually in the country and particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra after BJP came to power at the centre. Incidents of gang-rape and gender oppression have increased in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana. Hindu terror is being spread by destroying the inter-religious amity among the masses. The terrible growth in religious, caste and gender oppression is the outcome of the strengthening of Hindu religious fundamentalism, Saffron terrorism, caste polarisation and patriarchal dominance. Dalits were brutally murdered in Banda and Jhansi for not voting for BJP during the general elections. The process of raising private armies in the name of protecting Hinduism in the territory of Uttar Pradesh is continuing. A young BJP MP from western Uttar Pradesh has not only started building a Hindu Dharm Raksha Sena but has also recruited a large number of people into it with a monthly pay of Rs.500. Pune's Saffron terrorist organisation Hindu Rashtra Sena brutally killed 28 year old IT professional Mohsin Sadiq Sheikh. In Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis took oath as the Chief Minister with the killing of Dalits. Activists of Dalit, democratic, progressive and human right organisations who had protested against the attacks on Dalits in Ahmadnagar during the oath-taking ceremony of the BJP government were arrested. People are being framed under serious charges merely for commenting on Facebook and Twitter about Modi's anti-people policies. Hindutva organisations are incessantly giving statements to the effect that "Become a Hindu or be under the tutelage of the Hindus if you want to live in India". This is a blow to the freedom of expression. The barbaric murder of rationalist Narendra Davolkar in Pune in 2013 is the result of the reactionary thinking of the Hindu fundamentalists to keep the masses bound by the chains of superstitious belief. Leftist intellectual and labour leader Govind Pansare was killed by Hindutva adherent Sanatan Sangathan in Maharashtra's Kolhapur. A Hindu fascist organisation killed well-known democratic writer of Karnataka Dr. Kalburgi. Similarly, another democratic writer Bhagwan is openly issued death threats

by the saffron terrorists. In protest against these incidents more than 40 Hindi writers of the country have returned their Sahitya Akademi awards and brought out rallies against growing intolerance. We hail this protest by the intellectuals and extend our active support to them.

The promulgation of laws banning cow slaughter by BJP after coming to power in Maharashtra along with banning of the sale and consumption of beef and provision of long prison sentence in many states of the country is not only an interference with the food habits and customs of the country's Dalits, Muslims, Christians and Adivasis but is also a conspiracy to destroy their way of life and culture. The terrible face of Brahmanical Hindutva fascism was exposed by the beating of a Muslim person Mohammad Akhlaq to death in UP's Dadri in the neighbourhood of Delhi after spreading the rumour that he had consumed beef. Shiv Sena is spreading Saffron terror in Mumbai under state protection with the pretext of opposing Pakistan. Their terrorist nature came to the fore when they opposed the programme of well-known Ghazal singer Ghulam Ali, blackened the face of Sudhindra Kulkarni of Observer Research Foundation during the inauguration of a book by former Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri, vandalising the office of BCCI during the Mumbai meeting of Pakistan Cricket Board, etc. Brahmanical Hindu extremists burnt down the houses of Dalits in Haryana in which two children were killed. By comparing the incident with the stoning of dogs, former army chief-turned-union minister V K Singh has bared his Brahmanical anti-Dalit face.

The passing of a law in Gujarat that makes voting in the local elections mandatory and providing punishment for those who fails to vote is an attack on the right to personal liberty. Attempts are going on to remove even the namesake words of 'secular' and 'socialist' from the Constitution of India. RSS gangs that were involved in the brutal killings during the barbaric armed repression campaign Salwa Judum in Chhattisgarh are once again actively taking part in starting Salwa Judum-2 by making a mockery of the Supreme Court's judgment.

Attacks on Christians and their churches have grown in many parts of the country including Delhi and Mumbai. Churches and Buddhist temples were destroyed by Shiv Sena and other Hindu fundamentalist organisations under full protection of the police in Bastar's Lohandiguda of Chhattisgarh. Even before the fire in which the two Dalit children were burnt to death by the Brahmanical Hindu terrorists could smoulder, they attacked the houses of four more Dalits.

Talks of removing Article 370 and construction of separate colonies for Kashmiri Pandits are being thrown around with much fanfare. There is also much talk of imposing Uniform Civil Code and building a Ram Temple at Ayodhya. While Muslim youths are handed out prolonged jail terms by framing them in state-sponsored terrorist attacks, pressure is being put to slacken the cases against the saffron terrorists. At the same time, attacks on Muslims by saffron terrorist organisations are on the rise. The acquittal of the perpetrators of the massacre of Muslims in Hashimpura, Muradabad, Gujarat, etc. by pronouncing them innocent is a sign of the saffronisation of the judiciary.

There is a dangerous increase in the attacks on Muslims and Christians in the form of 'Ghar Wapasi' after BJP came to power at the centre, even though such attacks were going on for a long time generally in the country and in the BJP-ruled states in particular. Dalit and Adivasis who have been facing the exploitation, oppression, domination, violence, humiliation and pressure of caste system and who have been denied education, healthcare and temple-entry have been converting to other religions in the past in search of dignity and self-respect. Through the deadly attacks and conversion campaigns of the Hindutva forces, they are being turned into Hindus and are forced to live under the yoke of the inhuman Brahmanical caste system. Recently, 29 Christian families of Mandhota village in Bastar were compelled to leave Christianity and return to Hinduism under the direct leadership of BJP MP Dinesh Kashyap.

Attempts at saffronisation of education and the syllabuses of various classes in schools and colleges are going on unabated. Chhattisgarh's BJP government has left all others behind in this matter. In 2008 itself, anti-Adivasi and utterly false ideas like "Those who eat beef are called Gonds" etc. were added to the textbooks

which were later removed due to mass opposition. Recently, anti-woman statements upholding patriarchal dominance have been found to be incorporated in the Social Sciences textbook of the 10th class. It has been written that unemployment has grown in the country as a result of women entering jobs after 1947. This is being opposed everywhere. Attempts are going on in full swing at all levels to include astrology in the university syllabus and to rewrite and distort of history. To rename Teachers' Day as 'Guru Divas' is also a part of the design to propagate Hindutva ideology. Ramayana has been translated into Koya and added to the syllabus from the school level in Bastar. In a recent address to scientists Narendra Modi said that the legend of transplanting elephant's trunk on Lord Ganesh's head shows that the technology of organ transplantation was available in our country in the ancient times itself. To term Karna's birth outside his mother's womb as cloning is a testimony to the religious obscurantism of 'Saffron Science'.

The recent statement by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat that there should be a rethinking on reservation is another fresh example that exposes the anti-Dalit, anti-Adivasi, anti-Backward Caste character of Brahmanical Hindutva fascism.

After BJP took the reigns of power at the centre, adherents of RSS ideology are being appointed to all the important institutions and organisations even when they are unqualified for the job. A die-hard follower of reactionary Hindutva ideology K Sudarshan Rao has been installed as the chairperson of Indian Council for Historical Research (ICHR). Gajendra Chauhan has been appointed as the head of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) in Pune, against which students have been carrying out a prolonged agitation. Raman Singh in Chhattisgarh has removed the prohibition on government official against joining RSS shakhas.

It is clear to all from the above that Brahmanical Hindu fascism has become a big threat to the oppressed masses of the country, particularly to the Dalits, Christians, Muslims and Adivasis and their way of life, languages, food habits, customs, traditions, self-respect and the very existence. It is dangerous for the rights of the Backward Caste communities and women as well. It is also anti-worker and anti-peasant because Brahmanical Hindu fascism gives protection and support to the political power, exploitation and oppression of the ruling classes. Hindu fascism's agenda to create a unified Hindu nation ('Akhand Hindu Rashtra') in the process of its consolidation poses a danger to the various nationalities as well. In such a situation, it is the need of the hour to get mobilised and form broad-based and militant united front against Brahmanical Hindu fascism. CPI(Maoist) strongly opposes the saffron terror unleashed by RSS-led Sangh Parivar and BJP throughout the country and is committed to fight militantly against it. That is why it appeals to the workers and peasants as well as progressive, democratic, secular forces and Dalits, Muslims, Christians and all other religious minorities, Adivasis and Backward Castes to build up militant resistance against the attacks of Brahmanical Hindu fascism.



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COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (MAOIST)

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Homage to Dr B D Sharma – a true friend of the oppressed people and Adivasis and a prominent leader of the country’s democratic movement

Dr. Brahma Dev Sharma, who was a true friend of the country’s oppressed masses and a leader of its democratic movement, passed away on 6 December 2015 at the age of 85 at his home-town Gwalior of Madhya Pradesh amidst his family members. He was well-known among the people as their selfless leader and servant who raised his voice for their rights and against injustice. He entered into Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and served as the collector of many districts in Madhya Pradesh including of the then undivided Bastar. His service in Bastar is remembered by the people even now. He highlighted the problems of the Adivasi people of Bastar that cropped up as a consequence of the so-called developmental projects undertaken by the government. Particularly, he wrote about the problems faced by the Adivasi women of Bailadila due to mining by the state-owned NMDC. During his tenure as the collector and even after he was no longer in government service, he maintained close relations with the Adivasi people of Bastar for over five decades.

Though remaining within the confines of the law, wherever he worked, he earned the reputation of a bureaucrat who tried his best to defend the interests of the people. He also served for some time as India’s first Commissioner in the National Commission for the Scheduled Tribes. He dedicated his life till his last breath to the service of the people. He established and led the organisation Bharat Jan Andolan which spread to many states under his leadership. He was one of the main leaders of the People’s Democratic Front of India (PDFI) and was closely involved in the process of its formation after Mumbai Resistance (MR-2004). Under the banner of PDFI, he was actively associated with Adivasi and anti-displacement movements and traveled extensively for this across the country. With his demise the oppressed people, particularly the Adivasi masses of the country, have lost one of their true leaders. The democratic and revolutionary movement of India too has lost a beloved friend and a comrade. The CC, CPI(Maoist), expresses heartfelt grief at the demise of Dr. Sharma and pays him red homage on behalf of its entire rank and file. It conveys condolences to his bereaved family, friends and colleagues.

Dr Sharma firmly believed that Adivasis and the masses are the owners and preservers of the country’s natural and forest resources. In spite of this they are becoming the targets of the plunder of the exploitative classes and the imperialists. Knowing this, he worked day and night for the interest of the Adivasis and other oppressed masses. He was not at all ready to accept that Adivasis were poor. He made a lot of efforts to get the PESA Act implemented in the country in the interest of the Adivasi people. He prepared and brought out a number of publications to educate the people about PESA in a simple language. He wrote the book Glimpses of Treachery of India to explain the importance of Gram Sabhas (Village Assemblies). Not only that, he coined slogans to convey the essence of PESA. “All rights of Adivasis over Jal-Jangal-Zameen!”, “Neither Lok Sabha not Rajya Sabha, Gram Sabha is above everything!” – he gave such slogans. He wrote his last book Unbroken History of Broken promises to expose the anti-people character of the exploitative ruling classes. While bitterly criticizing the plunder of natural resources by the Indian rulers and the imperialists, he supported the demand for the 26 percent share of mining to the local people. As the country’s Commissioner of the Scheduled Tribes, he worked selflessly with a salary of one rupee and earned the praise of the masses. He exposed with facts and figures the corruption in the government departments of tribal-dominated Palamu district of Bihar. He showed that 85 percent of the funds released from government treasury are embezzled by government officials while only 15 percent of it reached the people for whom it was meant. The then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi tried to influence him to implement some anti-people policies. He told the PM that even

if the entire society becomes immersed in corruption, nobody can corrupt him or buy him with money. The oppressed people and the Adivasis have lost a lot with the death of this great person who worked with such selflessness and dedication in their service.

Bharat Jan Andolan formed by Dr Sharma is actively working in many states of the country mainly among the tribal people. This organisation's practice of erecting a stone and calling it 'stone government' as the symbol of the power of Gram Sabhas constituted as per PESA Act became very popular among the masses of Gadchiroli district in Maharashtra. This organisation has lost its founder with his death. The loss of a guide who maintained friendly relation with the country's democratic and revolutionary movements is a matter of grave sorrow. Sharmaji continued to meet the people of Bastar and Gadchiroli till the end. He traveled in Maad at the age of 83 and conducted many meetings in Gadchiroli at the age of 84 appealing to the people to reject the Section 110 of the Bombay Act. We hope that his successors will continue the higher tradition of people-friendly practice he established in Bharat Jan Andolan.

Dr Sharma was among the country's prominent personalities who opposed the severe repression launched by the ruling classes in the name of Operation Green Hunt on the Adivasi people who are engaged in the protracted people's war. He condemned the repression unleashed by government armed forces on the people by terming it a 'war on people' and participated in many public meetings opposing it across the country including in Bhadrachalam of Andhra Pradesh in 2012. As he often did from the platform of various democratic mass organisations, he hailed people's struggles and expressed concern for the violation of democratic rights on the occasion of the first conference of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (RDF) in Hyderabad in 2012. With his death, we have lost a true friend in democratic movement of the country.

Dr Sharma lived a plain life in a working-class neighbourhood of Delhi. He participated in meetings and people's welfare programmes in spite of facing many financial constraints. He opposed the proposed mining in Raoghat of Kanker district in Chhattisgarh and upheld the rights of the Adivasi people by participating in a protest meeting in Chargaon in 2004. During the tenure of Chief Minister Sundarlal Patwa, his saffron goons paraded Dr Sharma half-naked in the streets of Jagdalpur for his opposition to the Maulibhat project in the erstwhile Bastar district. He courageously faced much humiliation and repression he was made to undergo for upholding the people's interests. Corporate media's portrayal of Dr Sharma after his death as the person made famous by his role as a mediator during the detainment of the Collector of Sukma district by the Maoist Party is nothing but a willful attempt to underrate his immense service to the people.

Even while having faith in the Constitution of India, Dr Sharma firmly believed that the people can win their rights only through struggle. He trusted the assurances made by the Chhattisgarh government during the detainment of the Sukma Collector to release political prisoners by constituting the Buch Committee. But he felt deep mental agony afterwards when the government breached his trust and went back on its assurance. He always expressed his heartfelt solidarity with the democratic and revolutionary movements in the country fighting for the rights of the Adivasi masses and the just demands of the oppressed people. There is a great need for people's leaders like Dr B D Sharma at a time when Operation Green Hunt is being carried out at a higher phase. Our Party is confident that the void left by his death will be filled by the country's genuine democratic, secular and pro-Adivasi forces.

Long live Dr Brahma Dev Sharma!

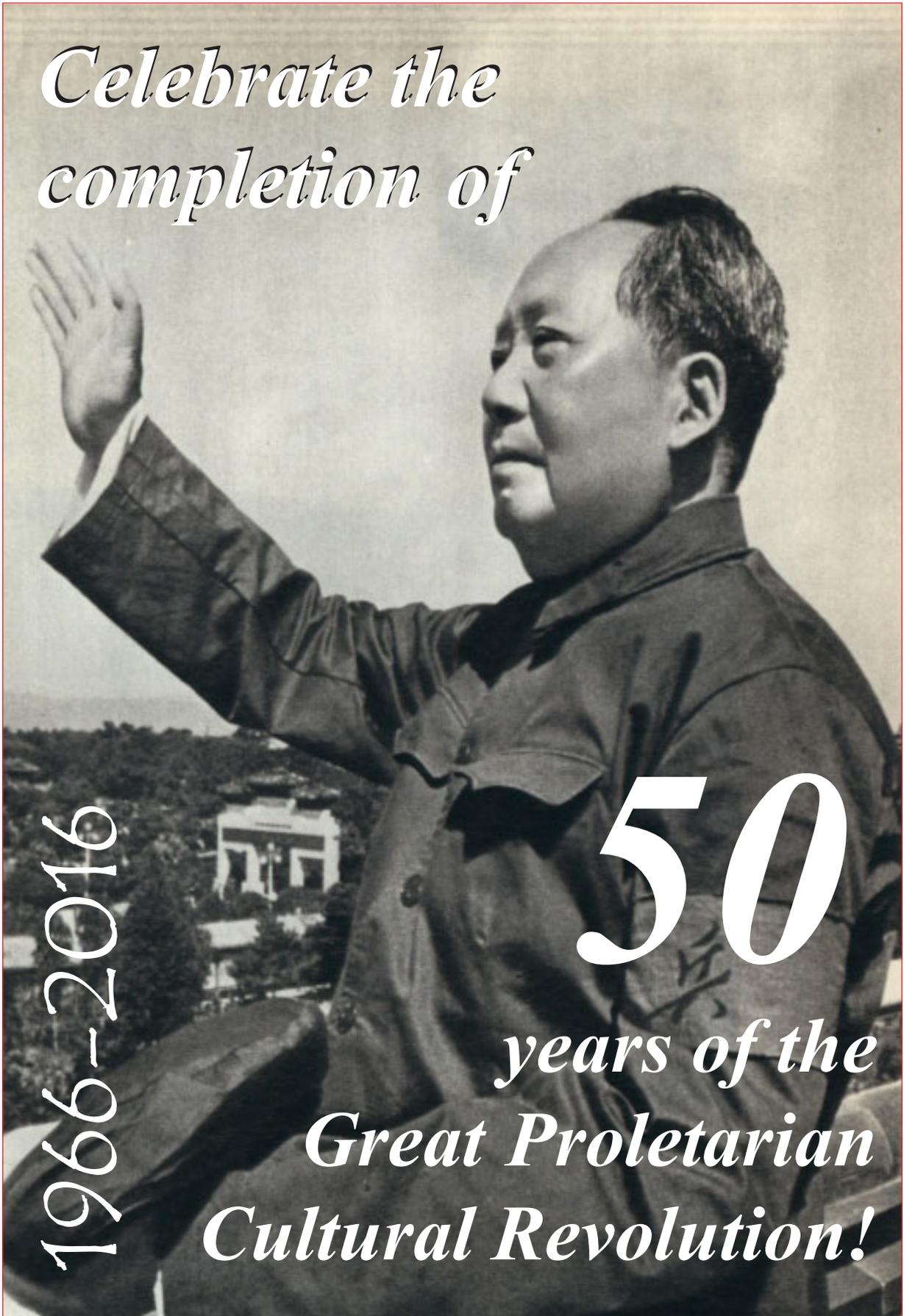
Long live the struggle for jal-jangal-zameen-izzat-adhikar!

Long live the unity of all democratic forces of the country!



(Abhay)
Spokesperson,
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CPI(Maoist)

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50

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