
**Let us spread the Red Flame of Lalgarh
to the Nook and Corner of the Country!**

**Mobilise the entire Party, PLGA and the revolutionary masses
against the state offensive on the mass upsurge in Lalgarh!!**

(We are publishing below the call of the Political Bureau of the CPI(Maoist) to the Party cadres issued in its recently-held meeting. Some of the tasks which are not meant for open publication have been deliberately left out along with the necessary editing--Editor, MIB)

Dear Comrades!

All of us are aware of the mass upsurge in Lalgarh that has spread like a wild-fire since November 2008. Thousands of ordinary adivasi people have risen up against decades of social discrimination, criminal neglect by the CPI(M)-led Left Front government, oppression, exploitation and suppression by the various arms of the State. The immediate reason for the flare-up was the brutal reign of terror unleashed by the police in the wake of the police atrocities in the wake of the attempt on the life of the Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee by our PLGA on Nov 2 last.

So widespread and intense is the adivasi revolt in Lalgarh that some have described it as the second Santhal rebellion. The adivasis have been seething with anger ever since the indiscriminate attacks by the police and the CPI(M) goons on the adivasis of the region, particularly the severe beating of adivasi women in November last, and this had provoked the people into direct confrontation with the state. An independent people's organization called *Police Santrosh Birodhi Jansaadharaner Committee* or *People's Committee Against Police Atrocities* came into existence to protect the adivasis from police excesses. It placed just demands like apology by the top police officials of the district to the people of the affected villages, withdrawal of all cases foisted against the people, compensation for the victims of police atrocities, a halt to police raids during nights, etc. But the arrogant CPI(M) and the police officials have continued their adamant stand and provocative attitude towards the adivasis by deploying their *harmad bahini* goonda force and the state's forces.

So much has been the anger and hatred towards the CPI(M) leaders, cadres and the police that the people had even spontaneously attacked the police stations and camps, CPM offices that acted as the centres of terror, and houses of the leaders and cadres of the CPI(M) who are seen as their oppressors and tormentors. The CPI(M) was virtually driven out of the area in face of the growing wrath of the people.

While exposing the hoax of so-called development of three decades of the social-fascists, the people themselves undertook numerous development works through shramdan, like health projects, irrigation, roads, schools, etc. The arrogant, social fascist CPI(M), badly shaken by its rapidly eroding social base in West Mednipur, has been desperately trying to repeat a Nandigram in Lalgarh by organizing massacre of adivasis.

The police atrocities and attacks by the armed cadres gave further fillip to the people's movement against the police, united the entire adivasi population of the

region, and numerous forms of struggle such as boycott of police personnel, boycott of elections, blockades, non-cooperation with the district administration, demonstrations and mass meetings characterized the scene during the past seven months. In the elections hardly a hundred votes were polled out of a total of 30,000 in the Lalgarh area. Thus all the parliamentary political parties have become irrelevant and virtually non-existent after the outbreak of the adivasi uprising. These developments have shaken the reactionary ruling classes so much that both the Congress-led UPA government at the Centre and the CPI(M)-led Left front government in West Bengal have entered into an alliance to suppress the mass upsurge and the Maoists in West Bengal.

On 18 June 2009, the social-fascist "Left Front" Govt in West Bengal led by the neo-revisionist CPI(M), and aided by the UPA Govt at the Centre, has unleashed a massive brutal onslaught against the adivasis of Lalgarh and the surrounding areas in Jhargram sub-division in West Mednipur district of West Bengal. 14 Companies of central forces, including the newly-created anti-Naxal elite COBRA force, and over 3000 state police have already been sent to the area to "flush out" the Maoists. To justify this massive state offensive the CPI(M) has floated the myth that 1100 villages, spread over an area of over 1000 sq kms, have been "liberated" by the Maoists.

Right from the first day of their military operations the ruling classes have tried to create a hype about the victories achieved by the police-paramilitary forces and propagating that they have liberated Lalgarh and the surrounding areas from the control of the Maoists. While the fact was that it was the people, most of whom were unarmed or armed with their traditional weapons, who had played the main role in organising the boycott of the police and administration, the government tried to create an atmosphere that Maoists have been using the women and children as human shield, forcing them to boycott the administration and police and that the government has no choice but to deploy the state's forces to enforce the "rule of law" by securing it from Maoist control. In a way, they tried by all means to project the mass upsurge in Lalgarh as a terrorist movement instigated by Maoists. And to brutally suppress this just struggle and to justify their act as a legitimate measure the Union Home ministry declared an All India ban on our Party, branded it as terrorist, and began arresting and harassing all those who stand out firmly against the police atrocities and government's misrule. Their immediate aim is to brand the struggle in Lalgarh as terrorist or associated with the "terrorist" CPI(Maoist) and to suppress it most cruelly.

In such a situation our Party which is actively associated with the mass upsurge in Lalgarh and is active in West Mednipur, Purulia and Bankura has tried to spread the people's struggle and armed resistance to the state repression to the entire area. It tried to organise solidarity to the struggle in Lalgarh and against state repression in other parts of West Bengal as well as other parts of the country. A two-day bandh was organised on June 22/23 which was successfully observed despite the short notice. The bandh drew the attention of the people of the entire country to the developments in Lalgarh, exposed the combined military offensive by the state-central forces, gave moral support to the people of Lalgarh and surrounding areas, and had overall created a positive impact.

The police operations in Lalgarh are still continuing on a massive scale with around 5000 police-central forces carrying out combings, raids on villages and brutal attacks on the people. The plan of the rulers is to intensify these operations and break the

morale of the people, create a section from the people, through material incentives and intimidation, and utilise it as a social base and informer network for the state. They are also trying to isolate us from the people by pouring in huge amounts of funds in the name of development, organising relief camps, medical camps, ration shops etc., and threatening a section of the people not to extend support in whatever form to the Maoists which is now a banned terrorist organisation.

In this situation it is a foremost task for the entire Party, PLGA and revolutionary masses to defeat the conspiracy of the ruling classes to isolate Lalgarh movement and suppress it, to isolate our forces from the people and suppress them, and to create an atmosphere of terror among the people by branding us as terrorist. We have to mobilise all our forces to foil the plans of the reactionary ruling classes and carry out the following tasks through concrete planning in our various Party committees.

We have to keep in mind some specific features of the mass upsurge in Lalgarh. Firstly, it has erupted not on economic issues but on political issue against the state. Secondly, the people got mobilised into struggle not under any parliamentary party but under independent leadership and active participation of our Party. Third, the mass upsurge was the product of painstaking prolonged period of underground work by the Party. Fourth, people's own initiative was released fully under the influence of the Party. Lastly, we should strictly adhere to broad-based mobilisation outside and inside the area in accordance with West Bengal's specific situation.

Our Tasks in relation to Lalgarh

In the light of the present developments in Lalgarh we have to immediately take up the following tasks:

1. Take up a countrywide propaganda campaign in support of the mass upsurge in Lalgarh and against the state-central police offensive. Conduct public meetings, hall meetings, street corner meetings, torch-light processions and various types of rallies, cultural programmes etc;

2. Bring out literature in various languages explaining the democratic nature of the struggle in Lalgarh and the fascist nature of the Indian ruling classes and their representative state; leaflets, booklets , posters etc should be brought out in large number; the social-fascist character of the CPI(M) and its other allies should be particularly exposed among the people at large;

3. Send fact-finding teams to Lalgarh and the surrounding areas to bring out the facts to the outside world, hold press conferences and expose the brutal police atrocities and the condition of the adivasi population;

4. Explain the economic reasons behind the state onslaught in Lalgarh and elsewhere in the adivasi belt, the greed of the reactionary rulers and imperialists for plundering the mineral wealth of the entire region, the massive displacement of the adivasis through so-called development projects set up by Tatas, Mittals, Jindals, Essars and others;

5. Mobilise the entire Party, PLGA and the people to explore the available resources and send all possible material aid and assistance to the people of Lalgarh; keeping in mind that thousands of people have fled the villages into the jungle in the wake of the massive police crack-down this becomes an important task. This aid could be in the

form of foodgrains, clothes, medicines, money etc. We should also draw the people away from the so-called relief camps run by the Trinamul, CPI(M) and the government and call upon the people to return to their villages.

In the light of the unprecedented crisis, deepening with every passing day, there are great possibilities of Lalgarh-type mass upsurges breaking out in many parts of the country. The experiences of Lalgarh are new for our Party. There is great potential to strengthen the three magic weapons on a great scale through such mass upsurges. Such favourable situation of creating mass upsurge is seen in several areas in the country and the growing mass struggles in Orissa and Jharkhand are an indication of this trend. The PB calls on its rank-and-file and the revolutionary masses to seize every opportunity and take timely initiative and intervene effectively to lead these movements, thus creating several Lalgarhs. While doing so, the PB appeals to the entire Party to utilise the political impact and outcome of such movements to build and prepare the subjective forces to advance and extend the people's war throughout the country.

**** Let us oppose the brutal police offensive by the fascist UPA and social-fascist Left Front governments against the mass upsurge in Lalgarh!**

**** Let us mobilize the revolutionary, democratic and progressive organizations and individuals in various parts of the country in support of the just and democratic struggle of the people of Lalgarh!**

**** Let us extend all types of material aid and assistance to the people of Lalgarh!**

**** Let us transform Lalgarh into a real Red Fortress!**

**** Let us spread the red flame of Lalgarh to the nook and corner of the country!**

**Politbureau,
CPI(Maoist)
July 10, 2009**