

- Note: page 11. Telugu book. 2nd para. 1972 tatkalika ...better remove the first sentence to avoid misunderstanding with East Comrades. In English 3rd para 1st line. Kept in red letters.
- Please note the correct pronunciation in Telugu: Namballa (నంబల) Kesava Rao. Not the shorter one like- Namballa. Not -నం
- There are many catch words. (Uuta padaalu). Like uniki loki vachhina. Try to avoid.
- Avoid longer sentences. It is difficult for the common people to understand the complex sentences. Like simple living and high thinking, simple sentences in noble thoughts.
- Page 26, last para, page 12 line. Please check if the year 2021 or 2011
- Always for a big article, keep subtitles.

Basava Raju: A Towering Revolutionary in the Praxis of People's War Red Salutes to twenty-eight Botteru-Gundekot martyrs including Coms. Basava Raju (Namballa Kesava Rao), the General Secretary of CPI (Maoist)!

May 21 recorded another glorious chapter of sacrifices in the history of Indian revolution. Our beloved Comrade Basava Raju, alias Ganganna, alias Prakash, alias Krishna, (Namballa Kesava Rao) along with twenty-seven comrades, of his defense team and staff comrades, laid down their lives in a fierce fight with the enemy. The security forces of the Indian exploitative ruling classes caught Com Basava Raju alive and ruthlessly killed him. In the revolutionary history, after the martyrdom of Com. Charu Majumdar, the harbinger of revolution and one of the founding members of our Party, now it was com. Basava Raju who attained martyrdom as the General Secretary, while fighting valiantly with police. Exactly a month before the martyrdom of Com Basava Raju, on April 21, in the hills of Lulugudu, in Bokaro district, in Jharkhand state our Central Committee Member, com. Vivek (Prayag Manjhi) became a martyr along with seven-member defense team. With the martyrdom of com. Basava Raju, our party lost a great revolutionary, a noble son of Indian proletariat, a comrade of immense revolutionary experience, who became the General Secretary in 2018 after shouldering various responsibilities in different levels of the Party. He was the third comrade who became martyr while the process of peace-talks was on the anvil with the Indian government.

The Central Committee of CPI (Maoist) humbly bows its head and pays revolutionary homage to all the 28 martyrs who laid down their lives along with com. Basava Raju while fighting with the armed police in a fierce battle on 21 May in Botteru-Gondekot hills. These guerilla commanders and warriors worked in different levels of the Party. They are - coms. Madhu (Jung, Naveen, Nageswara Rao of Chirala, Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh), Bhumika (Vijaya Lakshmi of Rangareddy district), Sangeeta (Kurnool district), Chandan (Tippu, Korma of Bijapur district), Ungee (Mankeli of Bijapur district), Sajanti (Bamra of Bijapur district), Vivek (Rakesh, Yugandhar of Warangal), Guddu (Sallatong of Sukma District), Rame (Nukan Palli, Bijapur district), Lalsu (Ursam), Surya, Nagesh (Mandeli), Rago, Rajesh, Ravi, Sunil, Suneeta, Sarita, Reshma, Raju, Jamuna, Sankee (Busapuram), Badru, Neelesh, Sanju, Mase (Komati Palli), Kamulu (Mukesh).

With the martyrdom of com. Kesava Rao, Namballa family lost their beloved family member and Jiyyannapeta village lost their adorable son of the soil. Our Central Committee wishes to share their grief with them and console them for this loss. Our Central Committee expresses gratitude to all those-activists of civil liberties organizations, lawyers and friends and relatives – who fought legally to hand over the body to the family of martyr Kesava Rao.

The Indian rulers who waxed eloquent to wipe off Maoism in the country by 31 March 2026, feared in handing over the dead body of the Maoists to the families violating their own enacted laws. The rulers feared that in both the Telugu states, thousands of oppressed people would rally in the cremation process and hold demonstrations raising slogans like- “Stop the fascist Operation Kagar immediately!”, Long live CPI(Maoist)! - which would reach distant places. Their fears, expose their brags and hubris that Maoism would be soon be decimated, demonstrate their frothy rhetoric.

Com. Namballa Kesava Rao (71) was born in Jiyyannapeta village of Kota Bommali mandal of Srikakulam district. Dhilliswara Rao and Ram Prasad are his brothers. His father was a teacher. His aged mother is grieving endlessly to have a last look of his loving son. Hindutva governments had not heeded her wish. Their family, a rich peasant family, has a fairly good agricultural resource. Kesava Rao finished his primary education at his village and high school education at Tekkali. He joined B Tech (Chemical Engineering) in the Regional Engineering College (REC, Now NIT) at Warangal in 1974. His life took a turn towards revolution here.

Kesava Rao actively participated from the beginning of the RSU’s formation- in its extension and consolidation. Kesava Rao was in forefront in tackling the goondaism of ABVP, who ran riot with Hindutva politics in the REC. He was arrested in a case where a Bihar rowdy was killed in clashes and police arraigned com. Kesava Rao as A-1 and arrested him. Later he came out on bail. Kesava Rao shone not only as a brilliant student in the college, but was also as a state level player in the volley ball and earned a name in the national level sports. He was known for his expert swimming skills who could easily swim even the rivers are in the spate. He saved guerillas’ lives from drowning on many instances.

While continuing his education, Kesava Rao began studying the revolutionary theory and politics. He organized the College hostel mess workers and became close to Bandi Yadanna, then leader of the mess workers. Kesava Rao taught revolutionary politics to them and became dear among the radical students. When he went to his native village- Jiyyannapeta- in Summer or on other occasions, Kesava Rao worked in the fields and gained respect from the village people. He was very modest and his behaviour earned him love from his villagers. As he became active in the politics, his trips to Jiyyannapalem gradually declined. He developed good relationships with suburban villages of Warangal. Suburban villages- Nallabelli (martyr Jannu Chinnalu’s village), Battupalli, Tekulagudem- became citadels for the mass base of the Radicals in 1980s. Kesava Rao endeavoured to organize the students and youth in these villages.

After the lifting of the Emergency in 1977, Kesava Rao became more active in the politics. He came into contact with top leadership of the leading the revolutionary movement -like- com. KS and SM. He was quite modest with his seniors like com. Gajjala Gangaram (who became a martyr in the accidental explosion of a grenade in a guerilla military training camp of Mahadevpur forests in the rainy season of 1981), and com. Cherukuri Rajkumar (Azad, while he was the CC’s official spokesperson who became martyr on 1 July 2010 in the process of sinister game plan of peace talks by the UPA government) and as a great successor of those great martyrs he grew with. Com. Kesava Rao remains as an indelible chapter in the history of the Indian revolution with his unparallel sacrifice.

Party took the decision to send guerrilla squads in 1980 in to the vast swathes of Central Indian forests that stretched from the eastern ghats of Visakhapatnam to the Malkangiri district (Old Koraput district) that connect the forests of Bastar district of then Madhya Pradesh, Gadchiroli district (Old Chandrapur/ Chanda district) of Maharashtra and the large tracts of forests in Adilabad in Telangana. Party sent 35

comrades forming seven guerilla squads. Com. Kesava Rao was also one of the early revolutionaries that entered the forests. Party called the entire area as Dandakaranya (DK). It designated Dandakaranya as the perspective area for building guerrilla zone. Com. Kesava Rao attended the classes taught by Com KS and Dr Prasad for the members of the guerilla squads and some Radical youth in Ramnagar of Hyderabad. Immediately after the classes, he left for the agency area of Vizag and East Godavari.

Com. Kesava Rao began his journey as a squad member, Ganganna. Com. Ganganna worked in various levels in the squad to later become the Divisional Committee Secretary almost for a decade in the forest. Initially, guerilla squads faced many infantile problems in their sustenance. Along with com. Chanti, Com. Ganganna played a key role in sustaining the squads in the forest areas. He attended the first ever Dandakaranya Party Conference in 1987 as Ganganna. In that Conference, Forest Committee came into being in the place of the erstwhile Forest Liaison Committee. In the Central Plenum held in September 1990, com. Ganganna was elected as the member of the Central Committee. In the ensuing meeting of the Forest Committee, com. Ganganna was elected as the secretary of the Forest Committee. com. Ganganna engraved his name permanently as one of the comrades who built the Dandakaranya movement in the history of people's war with his unmatched sacrifice.

The guerilla squads kept live relations with people and gained roots in the areas. They rallied Adivasi and non-Adivasi oppressed people into struggles in a big way. The people of Vizag and East Godavari too came out with militant struggles. By then Siricilla and Jagityal areas were declared as disturbed areas by the AP Government. It could not tolerate the rising of struggles in the Manyam region. It feared these struggles would resurrect the struggles like Srikakulam people's armed struggle. It determined to nip the struggles in the bud. Tens of Adivasi hamlets were burnt. Com. Ganganna played a key role in garnering support from different sections of people to the victims of state's hooliganism, in constituting a Fact-Finding Committee with rights organizations, writers and artists.

While organizing the people on peasants' issues, Com. Ganganna played a pivotal role as the commander of guerilla squad in organizing the labour working in the private paper mills that draw bamboo from the forests, workers and employees working in the coffee plantations. Com. Ganganna was in the forefront in forming *Girijana Hakkula Parirakshana Samstha* (Organisation for the Protection of Girijans' Rights) with local youth and students to question and fight the state violence in a legal way.

After becoming the secretary of the Forest Committee in the early years of 1990s, com. Ganganna concentrated on Bastar including Maad. He stayed with guerilla squads and made serious efforts in Maad hills and helped sustain the guerilla squads in these areas. When the early attempts did not bring much yields in 1985-86 for the development revolutionary movement in Maad hills, he gathered guerrilla forces all over Dandakaranya in 1989 and worked as the in-charge of the new guerrilla squad. He regularly taught revolutionary politics to the guerillas to withstand the conditions, to understand the life styles of the people, and the people's traditions so as to integrate with local people. He encouraged the comrades to withstand to the tough terrain of the region.

By then, people of Maad did not know settled agricultural methods. Madia Adivasis never knew about the plough. Com. Ganganna helped deployment of comrades as agricultural activists who taught people to use ploughs and use oxen for ploughing the fields. Jack fruit plants were unknown to Maad area. Com. Ganganna organized to bring those seeds from Manyam area and introduced them in Gotul areas to the people of Maad.

Com. Ganganna tried his best to usher in radical changes in the lives of people of Maad by teaching agricultural methods, and cultivation techniques continuously being with the guerillas. There arose arguments in the main leadership of Bastar that there was no class society in Bastar because of the political and theoretical immaturity in understanding the people's lives, cultivation methods, and people's traditions in the back drop of class politics. All these issues were discussed collectively and

Com. Ganganna was one among the leadership comrades who pepped up efforts to intensify the class struggle in Bastar. Com. Ganganna became part of the efforts in concentrating in studying the class structure of Bastar and social conditions and putting in efforts in developing class struggles in that area. People of Bastar are able to reap the results even now because these collective efforts of that period. People considered the guerrillas as their apples of eyes. Party took roots, consolidated, and extended with their hard work and sacrifices. Com. Ganganna who was inextricably interwoven in these efforts, eternally remained in the hearts of People of Bastar including Maad area.

The second conference of the Dandakaranya Forest Committee (FC) began the early months of 1995. It elected a new committee and new committee elected a new secretary. In the backdrop of the newer tasks entrusted to the Forest Committee, it had been designated as Special Zonal Committee from the completion that conference. Com. Ganganna was relieved from the responsibilities as the secretary of the FC, and as full time CC member, he began actively participating in the countrywide revolutionary activities. Meanwhile as per the decisions of CC, he began guiding along with senior comrades the nascently formed North Telangana and other areas of movement in Telugu areas. In that conference, Manyam area and Adilabad forest area was separated from Dandakaranya. Adilabad became part of the North Telangana movement whereas Manyam region became part of Andhra Pradesh revolutionary movement. This conference heralded the beginning of platoon formations in the military wing.

After a few months of the completion of the Party's Dandakaranya Second Conference, in the winter of 1995, All India Special Conference was held in the Karregutta forests of Dandakaranya. Com. Ganganna convinced the Conference theoretically that the in various strategic areas, the guerilla zones had come into existence by 1988 itself and molded his opinions into majority opinions of the conference. Ganganna's role in Party's formulating the higher task of building base areas. In that conference, com. Ganganna was elected to Central Committee once again.

Party decided that without fighting the onslaught by the Indian state militarily it cannot protect and advance the revolutionary movement. It decided to conduct military actions on the government security forces. As part of that decision, it did the first military raid in the beginning of the rainy season of 1987 in Daragadda of Manyam region. Immediately after that, a similar raid was conducted in Alampalli of Adilabad. With the success of these two raids, and the successful seizure of weapons from the police created a stir among the exploitative classes in the Indian ruling classes. After the Telangana peasants' Armed struggle (1948-51), and Naxalbari revolutionary uprising (1967-72), these guerilla actions brought a new experience before the people once again. These raids ushered in a new chapter in the history of Indian revolution.

After the temporary setback of Naxalbari, and Srikakulam revolutionary struggles, the credit of holding the banner of armed agrarian revolution high in a short period goes to CPI(ML)(People's War). The laurels for organizing the armed attack on the Indian state in Daragadda goes to Ganganna's squad. From then onwards Ganganna transformed into Basava Raju, who had become the Commander in chief of the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA). Basava Raju planned many military actions since then. He rendered close guidance to many actions. He retained unimpeachable mark in the making and advancing of the people's army.

Party had taken up the task of forming several guerilla zones in the country. And the necessity of imparting modern military training to the revolutionary guerillas had become a foremost task. The erstwhile LTTE cadre (who were trained by the Indian Army during the time of Rajiv Gandhi) provided military training in the winter period in 1987, to various levels of leadership cadres in Dandakaranya. Ganganna was too among the forty comrades including Puli Anjanna, Shyam, Murali, Yogesh, Kishan ji, Katakam Sudersan, Madhav, and Yogesh. Com Yogesh translated the instructions from Tamil to Telugu. Again in 1989 there was another military camp held in Manyam region. Com. Ganganna participated in this camp too. The revolutionary guerillas got training in new aspects like, ambushes, demolition acts, sharp shootings (snipes, and marksmen test), etc. At the same time Party provided AK

47 rifles to the guerillas. And Party decided to send squads to Balaghat area of Madhya Pradesh by selecting comrades from all divisions of Dandakaranya as a part of the extension. Initially Katakam Sudersan (Anand) was the in-charge of those squads.

As the guerillas gained experiences in the ambushes, they began carrying out raids too. Guerilla areas were extending. Since 1995, platoons came into being. The need for more arms and ammunition became urgent. As part of the Party's decision, raids were conducted in Telangana, Manyam and in Dandakaranya. Guerillas seized weapons and improved their armory. In the raid conducted on a police station in Manyam, comrade Naveen (former Radical Student from Delhi University) participated enthusiastically but became martyr accidentally.

When guerilla squads were sent to DK, initially their needs were taken care from Hyderabad as the centre for the needs of the squads, by the State Committee. As Dandakaranya movement had been growing, Party drove Dandakaranya to become self-sufficient. Even the shot guns, {its nick name was Rama Banam (Ram's arrow)} were supplied from outside. By 1995-96, DK established its technical unit. And it started making bombs, arms, and grenades. Com. Ganganna participated in the making of grenades along with the local in-charge persons.

DK Party's official Organ- Prabhat- was coming out from the outside the DK region in the beginning. Under the guidance of Com. Kishan ji and under the editorial assistance from com. Aluri Bhujanga Rao (Peddanna), and Com. Narmada, the magazine was published. As the enemy's attacks increased outside, the FC opined that it could not be brought from outside. Party press should be established in the forest itself, and the entire literature needs of the Party should come DK only, the FC felt. As part of this decision, Com. Ganganna when he was the FC secretary, he formed a separate squad for the press for the Prabhat magazine, he saw to it that the press' requirements are completely fulfilled. Prabhat magazine began to be published from the forest. As Peddanna's age was not on his side coupled with health issues and he could not come to the forest, his marks were seen on the pages of the Prabhat magazine. The troubles and tribulations that com. Narmada (Uppuluri Nirmala) had overcome in bringing out Prabhat magazine and her role is unforgettable. Her sacrifice is embedded in the letters of Prabhat magazine.

The Central Committee, keeping in mind the increased enemy's attacks, unceasing encounters between police and guerillas, the existence of new Red Resistance areas in various parts of the country, coming into being of higher military formations, formed Sub-Committee for Military Affairs (SCOMA) in 1995. CC's military magazine Jung had begun to impart education to the guerillas in the conduct of guerilla warfare, and to exchange the experiences of the war actions. Later in 2005, its name was changed to Awam e Jung. Though in the beginning Com. Ganganna was not in the editorial team, since PGA was formed in 2000, he was the chief editor of the Jung magazine. His role in crafting the magazine as a popular magazine among the guerillas Com. Ganganna role was prominent. He wrote several articles to the magazine, analysed many guerrilla actions in that magazine. Com. Madhu alias Naveen played significant role in shaping the magazine. In the early days he took the Jung. (Madhu took this name from Jung who was an Adivasi comrade, a party organizer, popular among the cadre and people and later became a martyr in Adilabad.)

2 December 1999 was another tragic day in the history of Indian revolution. Three CCMs- coms. Shyam, Mahesh and Murali (Koyyuru Martyrs) laid down their lives due to a covert operation. This tragedy was turned into a historical day in Indian history by forming PGA (People's Guerilla Army) based on the Maoist understanding that " Without a People's Army, people do not have nothing". After two parties merged into CPI (Maoist), the two armies merged and transformed into PLGA. From the beginning, Com. Ganganna acted as the CMC in-charge of the PLGA till 2018. In February 1999, Com. Ganganna was one of the comrades who vociferously argued that under the Party leadership, the present squads should be molded into people's army, and the Party had to put Mao's teaching into practice that People have nothing if they do not have people's army. For the study of CC, coms. Ganganna and

Shyam prepared a draft for CC's study. On the basis of the study CC discussed and finalized that on 2 December 2000, the formation of PGA.

The CPI(ML) which was formed in 1969, after the martyrdom of Com. Charu Mazumdar became fractured due to many reasons. The AP Party using the genuine revolutionaries as spring board, holding high the tradition of the Naxalbari, learning from the past mistakes, to bring the scattered revolutionaries into a single party. As those efforts did not bring fruitful results, with the new understanding that strong people's movements would pave way for the unity of the true revolutionaries, the AP Party concentrated on developing peasant movements in rural areas. As part of that in Karimnagar and Adilabad there were efforts to build peasant movements as path of the protracted people's war. The efforts yielded and in a short time, especially in North Telangana, the revolutionary movement began consolidating under Peoples War Party it garnered huge mass base and earned a name by 1980. Radicals have become a synonym for the revolutionaries. The students' union and youth league were formed by the Party and were called Radical Students Union and Radical Youth League. Revolutionary movement was spread to the south India.

The Maoist Communist Centre (MCC) which had not joined the Party for unavoidable reasons, under the leadership of com. Kanhai Chatterjee, taking lessons from the revolutionary attempts made in the North and Eastern India at Sonarpur and Kangsha, first took roots in plains of Bihar and extended to its neighbourhood. Though both the parties had been seriously trying to unite because of the differences in various theoretical and political aspects the unity could not be fructified till 2004.

A part of the CPI(ML) Party led by com. Charu Majumdar, faced losses due to the set back of Naxalbari, then again rejuvenated and formed CPI(ML) (Party Unity). The unity talks between these two parties became successful and in 1998 merged into CPI(ML) (People's War). They did not find no need to change the Party's name. After the unity, in 2001, 9th Congress was held. Com. Ganganna was reelected to the CC. And now he was taken into Politburo too. He continued as Central Military Commission (CMC) member too.

The task as building base areas had come afore as part of the Congress' decisions. Some of the short comings in advancing this task had been rectified and the tasks had been reshaped with new tasks. These changes reflected in taking up Tactical Counter Offensive Campaigns (TCOCs). Com. Ganganna participated directly in the very first TCOC action carried out in Malkangiri of Odisha. There the guerrillas conducted raid on Motu police station. That action failed and com. Ranadheer became martyr. Taking the lessons from this raid, Com. Ganganna planned and led for many later ambushes and raids by motivating the forces.

In 1995, between MCC and CPI (ML)(PW) the unity talks came to a standstill. After the merger of Party Unity and People's War into CPI(ML)(PW), the two streams– MCC and CPI (ML) (PW)- were working separately but underwent horrendous armed clashes in Bihar and Jharkhand. Both sides comrades became martyrs. Especially tens of PW cadres became martyrs. With the initiative of International Communist Organizations, especially the RIM (Revolutionary International Movement) MCCI comrades first called for the cessation of hostilities. And declared their intentions for unity. Consequently, delegations from the two Central Committees of the two revolutionary streams began the unity talks. Com. Prakash was part of the delegation from the CC, CPI (ML) (PW). The talks resulted in the unity and on 21 September 2004 the new Party- CPI(ML)(PW)- had emerged. The two peoples' armies had been merged and PLGA had been came into existence. In the united party too Com. Ganganna continued as PB member and CMC member too.

The newly emerged party became a thorn in the flesh for the Central Government. Though it declared in 2009 that "Naxalism is the biggest threat to the internal security", from 2005 itself the Centre paced up severe oppressive measures by the Central armed forces. As part of it, it created the white terrorist organization – Salwa Judum. Central Committee formed two unified Commands to defeat Salwa

Judum. Com. Ganganna led one command and played a pivotal role in giving a death blow to Salwa Judum. He led the attack on the Salwajudum camp at Gangalur successfully. With the success of this attack, there was a elated atmosphere after that. In that backdrop of this euphoria, hundreds of people, people's militia, and guerillas conducted raid on the go down of explosives at National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC). Com. Ganganna directly led that raid. Perhaps that was the raid he participated directly. After the successful completion of the raid, the next day "Koya Bhumkal Militia" was formed. Com. Ganganna led these celebrations. The Central government, after tasting the defeat of Salwa Judum by 2009, it began a series of military offensive campaigns with different names- Operation Green Hunt, Samadhan, Suraj Kund military campaign, etc. The party faced many losses because of these campaigns. Yet, it is endeavoring hard by resisting it and protecting the revolutionary movement.

In order to strengthen the PLGA formed through the merger two armies, Com. Ganganna played a key role in the raid on Nayagarh armory. He formed a special command and guided the it very closely. As the raid became successful, PLGA was armed with hundreds of modern weapons. During the same time, Jahanabad jail break happened. PLGA raided on the Home Guards armory in Giridih. Political prisoners broke the jail in Dantewada. In 2009, the first ever battalion was formed. Immediately at Mukuram, on 6th April 2010 (became popular as Tadimetla raid), the battalion attacked the CAPF team and killed 76 of them. Ganganna guided this raid very closely. This raid created a new chapter in the history of Peoples' War. In the police records, it was marked as the highest toll battle by any guerrillas in single military action.

After the merger of two parties, in the pursuit of advancing the central task of establishing the base areas once again, Com. Ganganna, unceasingly endeavoured to transform the PLGA into PLA, and the guerrilla war into mobile war. As the in charge of the CMC, he concentrated on imparting training to the PLGA forces, sharpening the theoretical aspects, with the continuous study placing many newer aspects concerning political, organizational and military aspects. He made untiring efforts in this respect. Staying in the East Region, from 2005 to 2008 he made special efforts to shape the movement in accordance with the party's central task. Towards that end, he tried to impart political, and military education to the leadership comrades of Bureau. Later he focused on AOB for some time. During that period, he became seriously ill suspected of food poisoning. The timely treatment helped him to recover fast.

In 2010 Com. Ganganna reached Dandakaranya. In July 2010, his partner Sarada passed away due to ill health. Her martyrdom had pained him immensely. However, he recovered from the grief soon and immediately immersed himself in the responsibilities he needed to shoulder. He attended the DK Party plenum. That plenum confirmed that the revolutionary situation in DK is facing a difficult period. The plenum had reviewed that the party lagged behind in consolidating itself, PLGA and the United Front, despite military victories. After the plenum, in 2011-12, the rightist deviation of Savya Sachi Panda came afore. The CC unravelled the roots of the deviation, and came to the conclusion that people like Panda cannot work in the Maoist Party. In August 2012, he was expelled. Com. Ganganna played an important role in this episode. Central Committee continued its efforts to unite the remaining revolutionaries. As part of that it held unity talks with CPI(ML) Naxalbari. In the unity talks along with the General Secretary, com. Basava Raju too participated. The initiation of talks and in the successful completion of the unity efforts between CPI (ML) (Naxalbari) and CPI (Maoist). Com. Yogesh (Koppu Devaraju) played a significant role. CC had declared that with this, the major unity of the revolutionaries had been achieved.

In July 2014, a special meeting was held in the Central region with state level leadership comrades. After discussing the serious difficulties that party had been facing, it took the needful tactics and policies. Immediately after finishing the meeting, he trudged on foot after travelling of hundreds of kilometers with the necessary forces reached Saranda forests. He made relentless efforts to take the movement out of the losses due to the Operation Green Hunt. He stayed there for two years. As part of

that he held a meeting with state level leadership of Eastern Bureau. In order to strengthen the movement, it was decided that party had to take up campaign of Bolshevization; unified commands should be formed to coordinate mass work and military work. After completing his works in the Eastern Region, he again came down to Dandakaranya facing many dangers and amidst police firings, in the autumn of 2016. From then onwards, till his last breath, DK became his care of address.

Com. Ganganna was instrumental in forming, organizing, and developing the Revolutionary People's Committee (RPC/ Janatana Sarkar) that emanated from the flames of People's War in many strategic areas of India. Com. Ganganna took special interest in their formation and development since the CC in 1994 decided to form Gram Rajya Committees. In 2001, the CC studied the formation of Gram Rajya committees in depth and issued a comprehensive circular. According to that the Gram Rajya Committees should be christened as 'Revolutionary People's Committees'. DKSZC discussed this decision in 2002 and opined that the RPCs should be popularized as *Janatana Sarkars*. In that meeting there was detailed discussion on the governments' reforms. Com. Ganganna participated in the discussion and made clear to the Committee the real nature of the reforms and they should be boycotted. Com. Ganganna played a significant role in forming the guidelines for the formation of *Janatana Sarkars*, first in Kishtaram of South Bastar, and Kutul area of Maad. In 2006, A Divisional *Janatana Sarkar* was formed. In 2008, the CC took a decision to form a preparatory committee for the Zonal level preparatory committee. Com. Ganganna along with other comrades worked a lot towards successful completion of the preparations. He shared the discussions with coms. Shyam and Anand concerning the formation of RPCs and our attitude towards the government reforms and played an active role in guiding the SZC. He gave concrete guidance to the AOB taking its concrete situation into consideration with regard to the formation of RPCs. He provided the experiences of People's Revolutionary Committees Jharkhand Guerrilla zone to help form such RPCs there.

In the 2018 CC meeting, Com. Ganganna took over as the General Secretary of the Party. In 2016 the CC took a decision according to which the elderly comrades could step down from their responsibility called- 'Voluntary Stepping Down from the Responsibilities'. The then General Secretary com. Muppala Laxman Rao proposed that he would step down as GS and proposed Basava Raju as the new General Secretary. It was unanimously agreed to. Comrade Muppalla Laxman Rao was relieved since and Com BR continued in the same position till his last breath. The Hindutva rule in the centre was five-year-old and it began a new campaign- Operation Samadhan that included Cordon- Search and Kill method. Com. Ganganna, as GS played key role in rebuffing the strategy of Operation Samadhan. By then as 'BR dada' had become dearer name to the guerrilla ranks.

The new party emerged from the merger for the two parties, and when it there was the need to run the untied party with utmost coordination, the party faced many ordeals- enemy's relentless attacks, arrests of the CCMs, martyrdom of CCMS in fake encounters, and consequently loss of coordination began between the GS and different Bureaus since 2009. By 2013 the coordination completely collapsed. To correct this shortcoming, from Mahanadi of Odisha to Saranda forests Party trudged to Saranda forests for weeks together and established coordination, due to the enemy's attacks the coordination could not continue. By 2018, it has become too critical. Some CCMs who were arrested earlier and were released because of the efforts of the people's lawyers, and the CCMs became part of the movement again, amidst intensified campaign of the enemy again they were arrested or became martyrs. Com. Sridharan after the arrest, joined the movement but became martyr. Many of them could not join the movement because of health issues and became away from the underground life. Bachha Prasad Singh (Balraj) brought right deviationist views and tried to split the Party. Party thought of discussing the issues with him and thought of convincing him to work with the Party line, but these efforts became futile because of the hurdles created by Corona Pandemic. As he continued his splittist activities, CC under the leadership of Basava Raju discussed Bachha Singh's activities and was expelled in 2021 from the Party. Another PBM Kobad Gandhi immediately after the arrest, to save his skin, out of his selfish attitude, perhaps reviving his comprador capitalist attitude of his younger days, imbibing the utter bourgeois

ideas, began misinterpreting the party history. He went to the extent of publishing a book as if he were not at all connected with the Maoist movement ever. CC released a document on his bankrupt politics. Com BR played a key role in preparing this document. With the continued arrests of CCMs, and the martyrdom of young and sharp leadership comrades like Milind Teltumbe, the task of BR in shouldering the Secretary's responsibilities had become harder than ever.

Yet, BR's role in finalizing the various documents as Secretary was ideal. He played a significant role in finalizing the documents- China- A New Social Imperialism. In the preparation of the document- Modes of Production in India- Our Programme- BR played the main role. He made an extensive study and according to the decision of the CC, he formulated the document and placed before the CC. In that, he established with examples that CBB has become the primary vehicle for the imperialist exploitation, and it is playing the major role among the ruling classes. He also urged the CC to consider it as one of the fundamental contradictions. He analysed the CBB's origin, development and its contemporary in a very lucid and impressive way. It has not been so far released as though it has got the majority comrades' approval, and it has been circulated and discussed among all the CCMs, to make it final, it is still not come out in the public domain.

BR took special care in releasing the revolutionary messages on different revolutionary days- such as – on the day of 70 years of Chinese Revolution, and 50 Years of Cultural Revolution. When the war broke out between Russia and Ukraine with the support of NATO, the CC released the statement on the attitude of the Proletariat on the war. BR himself prepared that document. His role is tremendous in bringing out the People's War magazine regularly. In a nutshell, he was matchless in completing the tasks decided by the party and he always encouraged the comrades to do so.

In the history of CPI (Maoist), Party has faced rightist and adventurist deviations. It faced many crises situations too. In the 2007 Party Unity Congress (IX Congress) Com. Ganganna participated in the political deliberations and theoretical debates actively. He always held high the majority opinions, and the party line; played significant role in strengthening the movement; and developing the Party line. He always tried to make the rectification campaigns a great success with full efforts. The party took up Bolshevisation campaign in 2013. He made untiring efforts to make them success in the revolutionary areas. He always tried to pen the history of AOB movement. He wanted to take the help of revolutionary writers in this regard. Com BR became martyr without fulfilling his desire of writing the AOB history who knew the movement most from the days of its infancy to where it reached considerable heights before ebbing out. Till his last days he was longing to know the details of wellbeing of the people of - Korukonda, Nagulakonda, Pedabayalu, Kona seema, Ellavaram, Donka Rayi, Chitrakonda – and the changes occurred in these areas. If anyone meets from those places, he took time to talk to them enquiring about the people and conditions. The deteriorating conditions cause immense pain to him. The smell of the AOB soil energized him. He strained every nerve to revive the movement there. He did make special attention to the comrades to rejuvenate the movement there.

Com BR had organized two special meetings with CCMs in February and in March of 2024, who were available at that time. They were meant to rebuff the ongoing enemy attacks in the wake of Operation Kagar. His role in alerting the party rank and file, and the guerilla forces and send proper messages to them. In that process he organized a PB meeting in July 2024. There the current situation was discussed and movement situation was assessed. When reviewing the PB did not confine to the review of Kagar period, nor just based on the 2020 Review of POR, but went beyond and analysed the mistakes that have occurred in the revolutionary practice and a circular had been issued. On the basis of the circular, it was decided that revolutionary forces have to be protected, party practice has to be rectified, and for the victory of the revolution party needs to be ready. BR played his role in bringing out the circular. In that meeting only, he urged the other comrades to take over General Secretaryship after a few months. The former General Secretary introduced the tradition of voluntary stepping down

from the responsibilities, that decision had been carried forward by others consciously. Though BR decided to continue the tradition, before it has come into effect, he became a martyr.

As a CC member he made immense efforts to study military affairs. Especially the Chinese experiences. Mao's writings were on his fingertips. Mao's quotations had been on his tip of his tongue. He met the leaderships of North East movements and learnt their experiences. When the Peoples' War in Nepal was going on, he himself as an instructor gave Nepal guerillas the training, in our country, on guerilla warfare including 'unarmed combat'. Later he went to Nepal and studied the experiences of people's war there. When Indian People's war solidarity committee formed in 2011's efforts lest should not be weakened, the comrade who had been looking after that field was encouraged to continue those efforts saying that 'our party is only the part of the international detachment, and our part should be utmost active and we should shoulder responsibilities properly.' When Philippines Party conducted some seminars, he took the responsibility of penning several papers and sent.

After he became the GS, he took special interest in the matters of political prisoners. However, because of the very difficult situation created due to severe repressive conditions, CC efforts' could not be materialized. Com BR always appreciated the comrades who held the prestige of the red flag showing grit and courage in the jails. Though he did not have much jail experience (except during his student phase) he understood the conditions while discussing with other comrades. Their reports were discussed in the CC and he gave necessary suggestions and took care in allotting sufficient funds.

Com. BR is peerless in observing the revolutionary discipline and ideals. He was known for hard-work and following the communist values. He used to cite the Mao's quote: "Millets plus rifles". Mao once said that if US launches war with planes and A-bomb, the Chinese people can fight "millets plus rifles". He always encouraged the guerillas to be expert in art of war, and improve the physical fitness.

Party recognized the mistakes that it committed in the last five decades. Without its rectification, it thought that Party cannot save the revolution and advance it. Even during the Operation Kagar, it tried to rectify the mistakes. He felt so sad that the movement was in such a position it was not able to find a relatively safer place for protecting the veterans. He expressed great concern that the movement was unable to protect them, despite having great concern about their health and safety, he expressed grief for the inability to protect them from the enemy's ammunition. Amid these conditions, his martyrdom created immense loss to the party. The Centre and states determined to liberate the Maad region that lies in Narayanpur district in Chhattisgarh from the Maoists and exterminate the top most leadership that moves there. With that aim, the government deployed thousands of security forces and combing every hill and every tract of the forest. In this extremely grave situation, every leadership comrade knew very well that sooner or later they should sacrifice their lives for the sake of revolutionary movement. With that awareness, everyone is living and dying for the revolution. They are all writing the history of Indian revolution with letters dipped in their blood.

The situation of every comrade who is working in the Maoist movements is like this. Their sacrifices will stand as a great laboratory in the revolutionary movement. The mistakes that occurred by the Party will be useful as a negative teacher. In that way their sacrifices will not go in vain. The oppressed people will sing their sacrifices. Let us hope that the future generations will advance to make the Indian revolution a success. Com. BR's last written message is true.

"Don't worry about me. I might carry on this responsibilities a couple of years or bit more. You must give utmost care to protect the young cadre. With sacrifices, movement will never get weakened. The sacrifices of martyrs will never go in vain. Nowhere it happened in the

history. In fact, sacrifices gave new energy to the revolutionary movements. I still believe it. ...The revolutionary movement is bound to bounce back strengthened multifold and herald before us. The atrocious designs of the fascists will not gain traction. Ultimate victory belongs to the people”

Com. BR was ill since some time. Since 2021 he was diagnosed with hyper tension. In South Bastar with scorching summer, paucity of water, lack of shadow during the day time deteriorated his health. In addition to that corona attacked him. As a result, during the summer, he was unable to walk after 9 am. His body was unable to bear the sunlight in the summer. Despite all these ordeals, he worked in a planned manner and took imitative in guiding the party. Young Vivek, who was among the BR's staff, was taking all the care of com, BR like a shadow. Regarding food, he never asked any special foods. Com. BR always lived a simple life. As he was aging, in the given conditions, his staff always tried to provide him better food. In running the party affairs, com. BR depended on Naveen (Jung, Madhu, Nageswara Rao, of Chirala Prakasam district). To help Naveen, Party has sent com Rakesh (Vivek). Both the comrades became martyrs along with com. BR.

On 19th May, in the forest of Gundekot, the company 7 was surrounded by thousands of police and paramilitary forces. The battle continued for 60 hours. On the second day, BR's health deteriorated. Because of the earlier days of severe heat, he became dehydrated and vomiting began. He could not control the sounds of the vomiting. He had to be physically carried. Com. Madhu was too feeble to walk. He too had been carried physically. Amidst thousands of troops, thirty-five guerillas, carrying two comrades physically, had to face the troops. Enemy was giving cautions to surrender through the mike. Revolutionaries remembering the BR who often quoted Mao's teaching that 'defense lies in the collective resistance only'. Tippu, the company commander rejected the enemy's cautions and shouted that 'revolutionaries never surrender'. He became martyr while proclaiming that 'we learnt fighting while waging war'. Seven comrades escaped the dragnet and could leave safely. One comrade though could leave the killing zone, became martyr because of the injuries. One woman comrade who hid in the killing zone without enemy's knowledge, recorded every action of theirs in her heart. She saw with her eyes that their leader was caught alive and police killed him before her eyes. She stood in silence, weeping endlessly. Nothing could be done to save him. Her live testimony of the last hours of martyr BR is there before us.

Com. BR began his revolutionary life in Manyam region. He married a local Adivasi comrade. She could not continue in the revolutionary life for long. She returned to normal life. After a decade, in 1990, he married Ramakkka (Sarada, a professional revolutionary). She became martyr in 2010. Immersed in the revolutionary activity, he never thought of another marriage.

Com. BR was guiding directly for the peace talks since Mach 2025. A Peace Committee was formed under the leadership of Justice Chandra Kumar and many intellectuals in Telugu states. Our CC and the North West Sub zone Committee released statements many times proposing the peace talks to the Central and Chhattisgarh government. The government did not respond at all. The Centre and the state governments took the earlier UPA government's stand that 'without disarming and without the assurance that we work according to the Indian Constitution', there would be not talks at all. When this rigid attitude of the government became a hurdle to the peace talks, Abhay announced that even the disarming proposal needs to be discussed with the main leadership and ceasefire should be declared at least for a month to facilitate such consultations. However, the fascist rulers hundreds of troops were deployed and taking the help of surrendered persons from the party who betrayed the revolution, cordoned a wide area and killed 28 comrades. Their sacrifices made revolution more crimson. The fascist Hindutva forces are proving to the world that its chanting of peace was nothing but a hoax and it also shows how it utterly fears the revolution. It never wants peace. It wants the grave yard peace where it is turning vast swathes of Central Indian forests into graveyards for the satiate the ceaseless thirst of the corporate shylocks. It might win temporarily. But people will

relentlessly fight as long as hunger, inequalities, discriminations, unemployment, atrocities, killings and exploitation exist. Countless Namballa Kesavara Raos will come out from these struggles like phoenix birds raising from the ashes. Marx- Engels said in the Communist manifesto: “The spectre of communism is haunting the Europe.”. Now the spectre of the Maoist movement will haunt the exploiting classes and it will certainly bury them.

The martyrdom of com. Basava Raju, the GS of CPI (Maoist) was commemorated by many revolutionaries- organizations; writers, artists, journalists, and leftist organizations. Progressive, democratic and pro people organizations and many illustrious people who respect the Indian Constitution, friends and well-wishers of who support the Indian revolution, all condemned the police atrocious murder and paid revolutionary greetings to the martyr Kesava Rao. Internationally many revolutionary organizations, anti-imperialist organizations, International Solidarity for the Indian People's War held com Basava Raju's martyrdom in high esteem and paid rich tributes. They condemned the Modi government's fascist policies and its murderous acts on the revolutionaries. In many countries, leftist and revolutionary parties in many forms undertook solidarity programmes. Revolutionary forces and organizations took up programmes in Philippines, Turkey, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, America, Britain, Germany, Canada, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, Finland, Portuguese, Denmark, Austria, Russia, and China. Our Central Committee extends its thanks and revolutionary greetings to all those who held high the martyrdom of our Party's General Secretary, who stood in solidarity for the People's War in India, and who condemned the fascist policies of Indian government.

“Don't worry about me. I might carry on this responsibilities a couple of years or bit more. You must give utmost care to protect the young cadre. With sacrifices, movement will never get weakened. The sacrifices of martyrs will never go in vain. Nowhere it happened in the history. In fact, sacrifices gave new energy to the revolutionary movements. I still believe it. ...The revolutionary movement is bound to bounce back strengthened multifold and will herald before us. The atrocious designs of the fascists will not gain traction. Ultimate victory belongs to the people”

-Com. BASAVA RAJU

Central Committee
Communist Party of India (Maoist)