

## When the State Declares War on the People

A 15 minute Trailer on the Human Rights Violations in Chhattisgarh resulting from Operation Green Hunt

**Director:** Gopal Menon **Venue:** Delhi Press Club **Date and Time:** 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2009, 2 pm

## **Synopsis**

We have been hearing many stories about the human rights violations before and after Operation Green Hunt was announced. Allegations and counter-allegations have been going around. Fact-finding investigations have uncovered the atrocities security forces are committing in these areas, but now those very findings are being questioned.

At such a time it is crucial to present the reality and tear the veils obscuring the truth. When the State Declares War on the People is a 15-minute trailer by Gopal Menon based on his recent coverage of the ground reality in Chhattisgarh. This short film contains exclusive interviews with victims and their testimony including 1 ½ year old Suresh who had three fingers chopped off his left hand, an old man who was electrocuted and whose flesh was ripped off with knives, women raped by Special Police Officers and CRPF. The film also presents the views of Arundhati Roy and Mahesh Bhatt, two eminent citizens who have been closely following developments in Chhattisgarh. The clear intention of the State - to wipe out all resistance through terror in the name of fighting the Maoists - is demonstrated in this film.

## **About the Director**

Gopal Menon is an activist-filmmaker focusing on caste, communalism and nationality. He was arrested twice while trying to go to Lalgarh and beaten with rifle butts and <u>lathis</u>. He was detained in Dantewada too. This is a trailer of a larger film on the Indian State's war on the people.

Some of Menon's earlier films are *Naga Story: The Other Side of Silence*, *Hey Ram!! Genocide in the Land of Gandhi*, *PAPA 2* (about disappearances in Kashmir) and *Resilient Rhythms* (a rainbow overview of the Dalit situation) amongst others.

## **Contacts**

gopalmenonfilms@gmail.com and +91 98807 42077