

Operation Green Hunt

-a perspective of political economy

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Convention on Operation Green Hunt and
Democratic Rights

Mumbai

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“Naxalism is the single biggest internal security challenge ever faced by our country”

- Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister in 2006



“Naxalism is the greatest internal security threat to India” ... and to development”

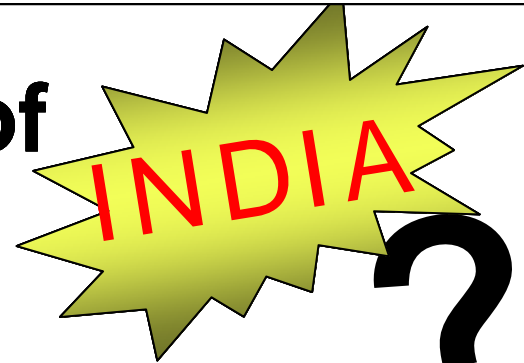
- Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister in 2009



“Naxalites are nothing but cold-blooded murders”

-Advt. issued by the Home Ministry

Threat to Internal Security of



Rural India of Poor Peasants,
Farmers, Landless labourers,
Dalits, Adivasis...?

Which India ?

Urban India of Slum and pavement Dwellers,
Casual Workers, Contract Labourers, ... ?

Middle India of swelling Middle Classes?

Corporate India of Corporate
Honchos?

Globalizing India of Dollar
Millionaires and Billionaires?

**Surely, it is a Threat to the India of
handful Globalist Elites!**

Nothing but **cold-blooded murderers...**

Human life is sacred

No one can and should defend destruction of human life

True, huge loss of life has taken place in Naxal conflict ... both by Maoists and Security Personnel

Statistics show comparable figures of Killings by both..

According to Chhattisgarh Police,

In 2008, **212** people were killed..

63 Sec. and **52** Naxals..

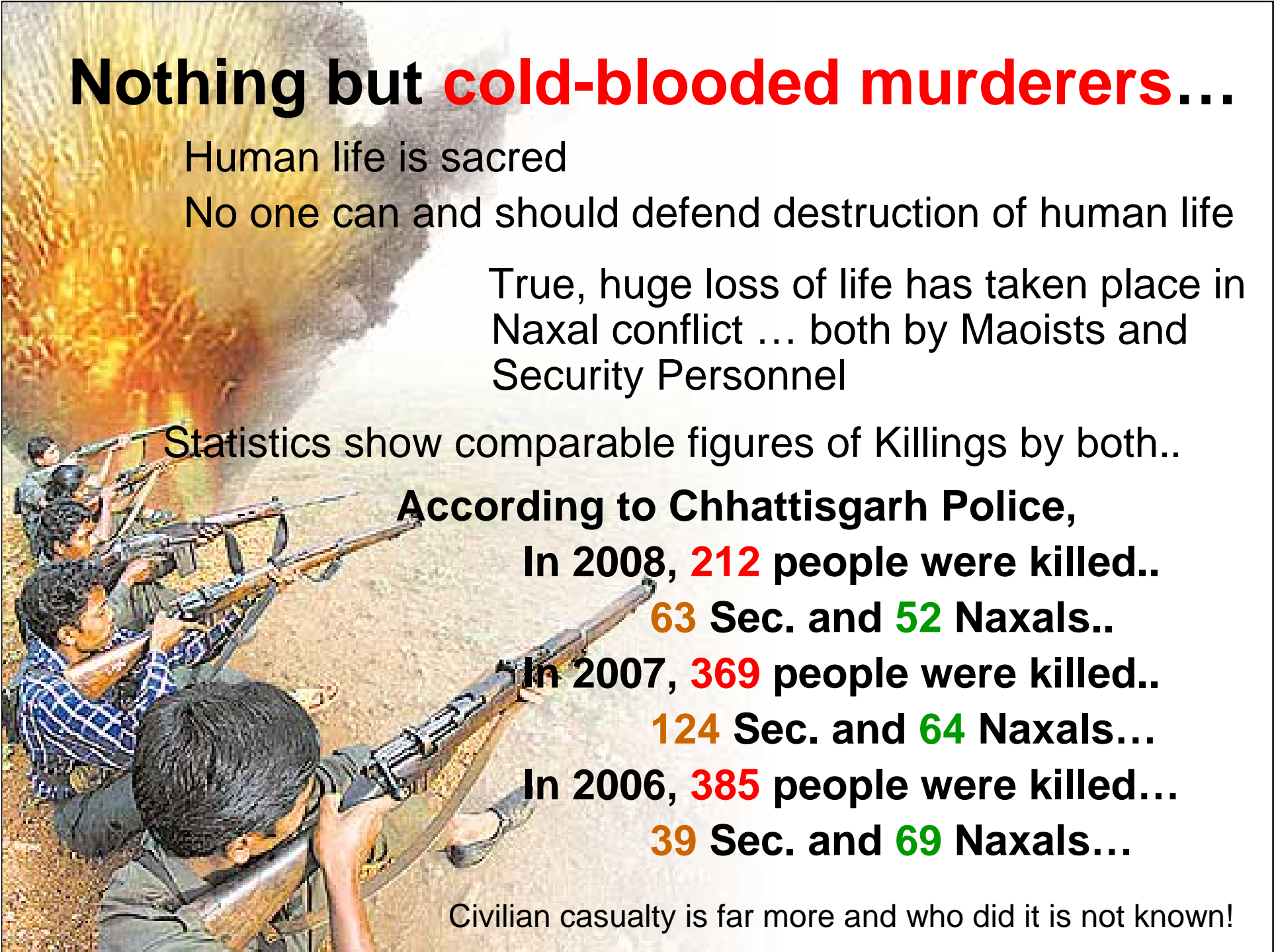
In 2007, **369** people were killed..

124 Sec. and **64** Naxals...

In 2006, **385** people were killed...

39 Sec. and **69** Naxals...

Civilian casualty is far more and who did it is not known!



Nothing but cold-blooded murderers....

What about

Fake encounters?

Custodial deaths? Extra-judicial killings?

and

Structural violence killing people in millions?



Deaths in Pure Police Violence

Direct

7468 Killed in Police Custody in 2002-07 or 7333 deaths (2006-2009) as against total 3116 killings by Police and Naxals

Average 1500 -1850 deaths/y as against estd 417 deaths in naxal violence

These figures do not include deaths in custody of armed forces and Indian army

Structural Violence of State

More than 1.8 lakh farmers committed suicides

2 Million children below 5 years are killed annually

4 lakh new born die within 24 hours every year

Deaths in Naxal Conflict in India

Year	Deaths
1996	156
1997	428
1998	270
1999	363
2000	50
2001	100+
2002	140
2003	451
2004	500+
2005	892
2006	749
2007	384*
2008	938

•As of September 30,2007

•Source: Home Ministry, Home Affairs

Just a Glimpse of Chhattisgarh

According to Police

Total **1416** people lost lives in Naxal conflict;
212 in 2008

Total **1593** farmers committed suicide in 2008 alone!

Average

35 people killed in **Naxal conflict per month**

According to NCRB,

Average **120** farmers are killing themselves per month!

Maoists- the biggest Hindrance to Development



**Yes, they are
the hindrance to development measured by**

GDP-growth, Growth of dollar billionaires, Growth of infrastructure to facilitate corporate loot of people's natural resources, Development to facilitate corruption, Enrichment of political class and its minions in bureaucracy...

**leading to impoverishment and dispossession of
the people on margins**

The fact is that



Maoists have never opposed development oriented to benefit these people

- Building irrigation tanks, wells, health care centers, schools, etc.
- Rather they have undertaken development that should have been done by the State --- as commented by **D. Bandyopadhyay-led Expert committee Group** set up by the Planning Commission

In Terms of Human Development measured by HDI..

there is no significant Difference between the Naxal-Affected states and Others ...

No significant difference between naxal-affected districts and others in any state..

India ranks 134 out of 180 countries in terms of HDI, behind most Asian countries and many African countries

Sr. No	State	HDI		HDI Rise
		1996	2006	
1	AP	0.568	0.627	0.059
2	Bihar	0.484	0.552	0.071
3	Gujarat	0.620	0.674	0.054
4	Haryana	0.631	0.686	0.065
5	Karnataka	0.598	0.658	0.060
6	Maharashtra	0.665	0.716	0.051
7	Rajasthan	0.536	0.591	0.055
8	Tamilnadu	0.629	0.694	0.065
9	UP	0.522	0.582	0.060
10	MP	0.506	0.585	0.079
11	Chhattisgarh	0.516	0.595	0.079
12	Orissa	0.533	0.592	0.059
12	Jharkhand	0.486	0.611	0.125
India		0.584	0.648	0.064

Source:UNDP/Min of Women & Child Development, Gol, India

Thus, from the perspective of vast majority of Indian people

- The biggest internal security threat,
- The cold-blooded murderer, and
- The biggest hindrance to development is



that has been actively facilitating enrichment of a handful rich and dispossession of multitude of masses

No appreciation of the fact that

Naxalism is a socio-economic problem

It is rooted in social oppression and economic exploitation

It has potential appeal among the most oppressed people who constitute vast majority

It is grounded in a particular ideology, one may agree with or not

It challenges prevailing paradigm of political economy



It can only be dealt with by addressing the problem of this oppression and exploitation

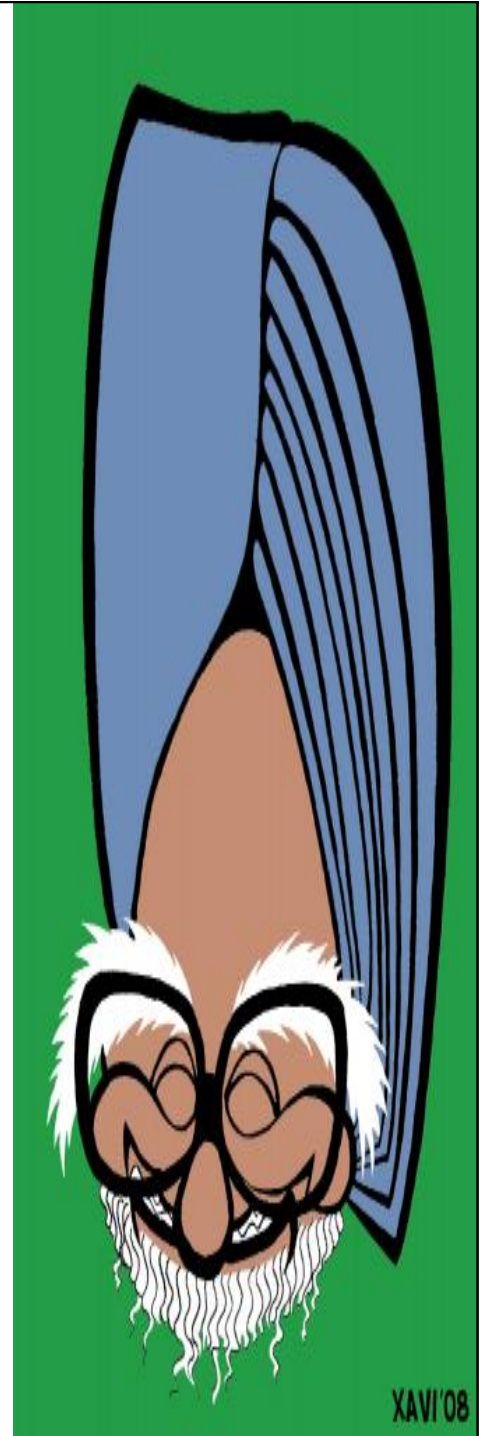
Indeed,

many in the state machinery including politicians individually acknowledged this fact

Manmohan Singh posited that the Naxalite problem had “a strong socio-economic dimension” that was at the very heart of the issue.

However,

As the State their response always reflected that Naxalism was just a Law and Order problem, a menace warranting police brutalities.



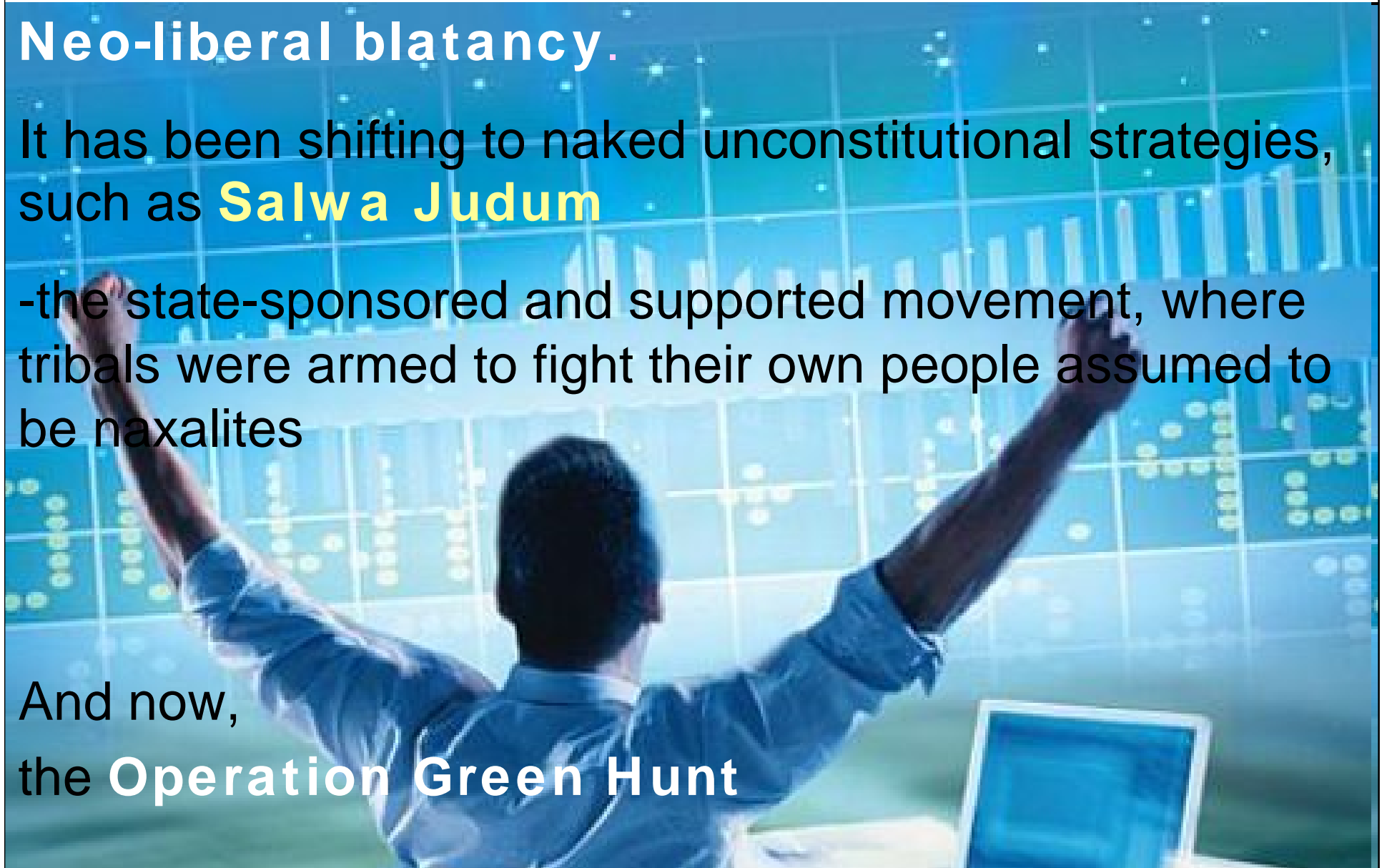
With the transformation of the State character from one constricted by the constitutional social contract to the

Neo-liberal blatancy.

It has been shifting to naked unconstitutional strategies, such as **Salwa Judum**

-the state-sponsored and supported movement, where tribals were armed to fight their own people assumed to be naxalites

And now,
the **Operation Green Hunt**





u11177711 fotosearch.com

Advances in labour displacing technologies, production organization, product-market changes, financialization of economies...

creates a different paradigm which does not need poor people

It's a paradigm of Dispossession, very different from the familiar capitalist paradigm of Exploitation

It means virtual killing of excess people ... some 2 billion of total 6 billion

To make the Planet sustain the super luxurious life style of the Rich



At the root of all this lay the treasure beneath the forest..

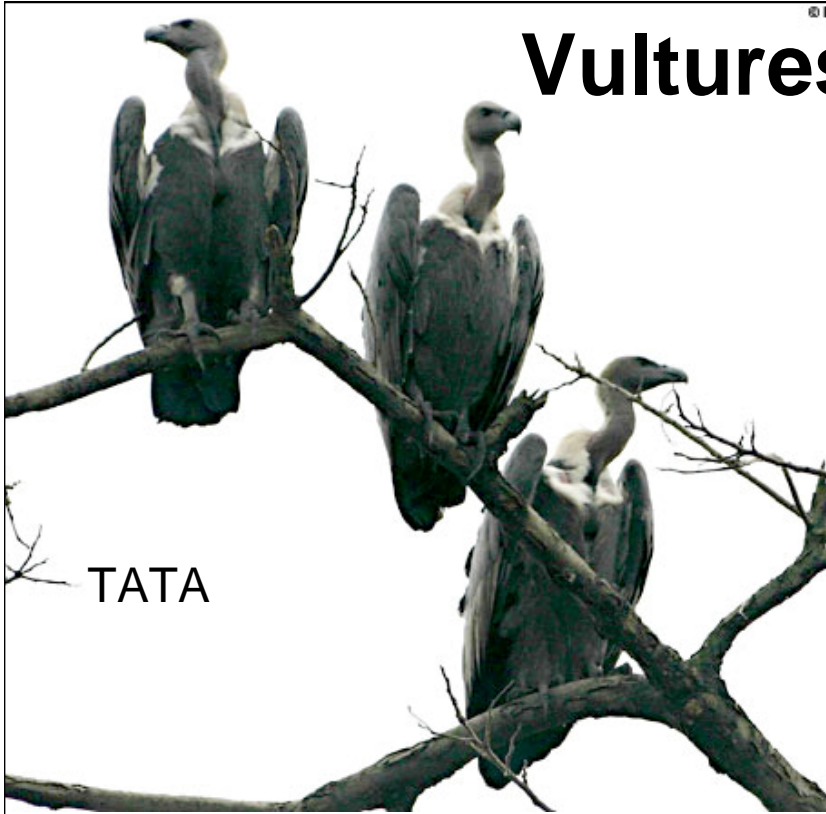
Chhattisgarh is the richest State in terms of natural wealth, with 28 varieties of major minerals, including diamonds....

Name of the Mineral	Reserves in (Million tonnes)	
	India	Chhattisgarh
Iron Ore	14630	2731 (18.67)
Coal	253302	41442 (18.67)
Bauxite	3290	148 (4.50)
Limestone	175345	9038 (5.15)
Dolomite	75.33	148 (4.50)
Quartzite	1145	26 (2.27)
Tin ore	86.55	32.62 (37.69)
Gold	68*	3* (4.41)
Diamond	4.58	1.30 (28.00)
Tin Metal	101237*	11449* (14.27)
Corundum	28337*	25*

With Neoliberal Policies, this huge treasure is suddenly opened up to the corporate vultures.

* Reserves in tonnes

Vultures waiting to devour



TATA

Essar

Rio Tinto

Jindal

Posco

BHP

Mittal

Vedanta

Billiton

Chhattisgarh's Standing in Mineral Wealth

Tin	1 st
Coal	2 nd
Dolomite	2 nd
Bauxite	3 rd
Iron Ore	4 th
Lime Stone	5 th

Came 'Salwa Judum'

In June 2005, a day after Tata Steel signed an MoU to invest Rs. 10,000 crores in a steel plant

Over the last three years, despite all disapprovals and condemnation from everywhere, the Chhattisgarh government unashamedly persisted with it.

However, there is no hiding the fact that the strategy has backfired

It resulted into inhuman tragedy to the local tribals ... killings, rapes, repeated destructions, and displacement ... **over 50,000 still remaining missing.**

Pressure Build-Up

Since 2001, the government concluded deals (MoUs) with several steel and power companies to establish plants by 2010.

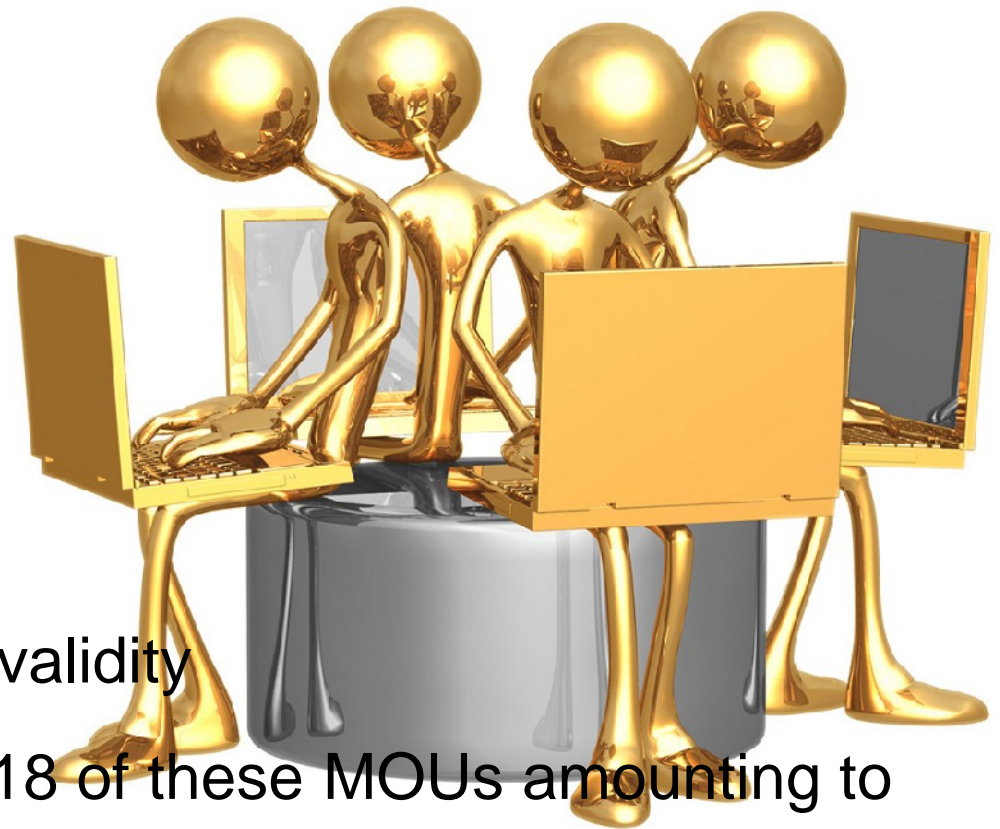
More than 100 MoUs for total investment of Rs.3.26 trillion.

Most MOUs have time frame validity

During the last three years, >18 of these MOUs amounting to over Rs. 10,000 crores investment had lapsed.

While they could be signed again, it created pressure on the government to take drastic measures.

That measure is the Operation Green Hunt



Operation Green Hunt

Virtual zoo of paramilitaries:

Black cats, Cobras, Grey Hounds, Scorpions, Octopus, Tigers with various hues ranging from Green to Black...



Supplementing these carnivores are the Border Security Force, Indo Tibetan Border Police, Central Reserve Police Force, Armed Border Force, Naga Battalion, Rastriya Rifles...laced with sophisticated new weaponry and support from the regular army and air force.

Backed by corporate Honchos in five star hotels and first class airport lounges ...

The objective is



**to clear the area
of Naxalites**

**– (read Tribals),
‘sanitize’ it and hand it over to the MoU’ist
corporates.**

- Huge unprecedented Constitutional crisis
- Risk of politicization of paramilitary and armed forces
- Unlikelihood of success as Adivasis never knew Surrender
- Certainty of increase in Maoist ranks
- May succeed in short term but certain to fail in long term
- Risk to national integrity
- **Huge human cost and human rights tragedy**



All this for Profits

It is alarming enough to wake us against this impending calamity

It is not the Question of

Maoists

Or Tribals

Or Chhattisgarh, Orissa, West Bengal

Or Jharkhand, or Andhra Pradesh

or even Delhi

It is the Question of

People of India,

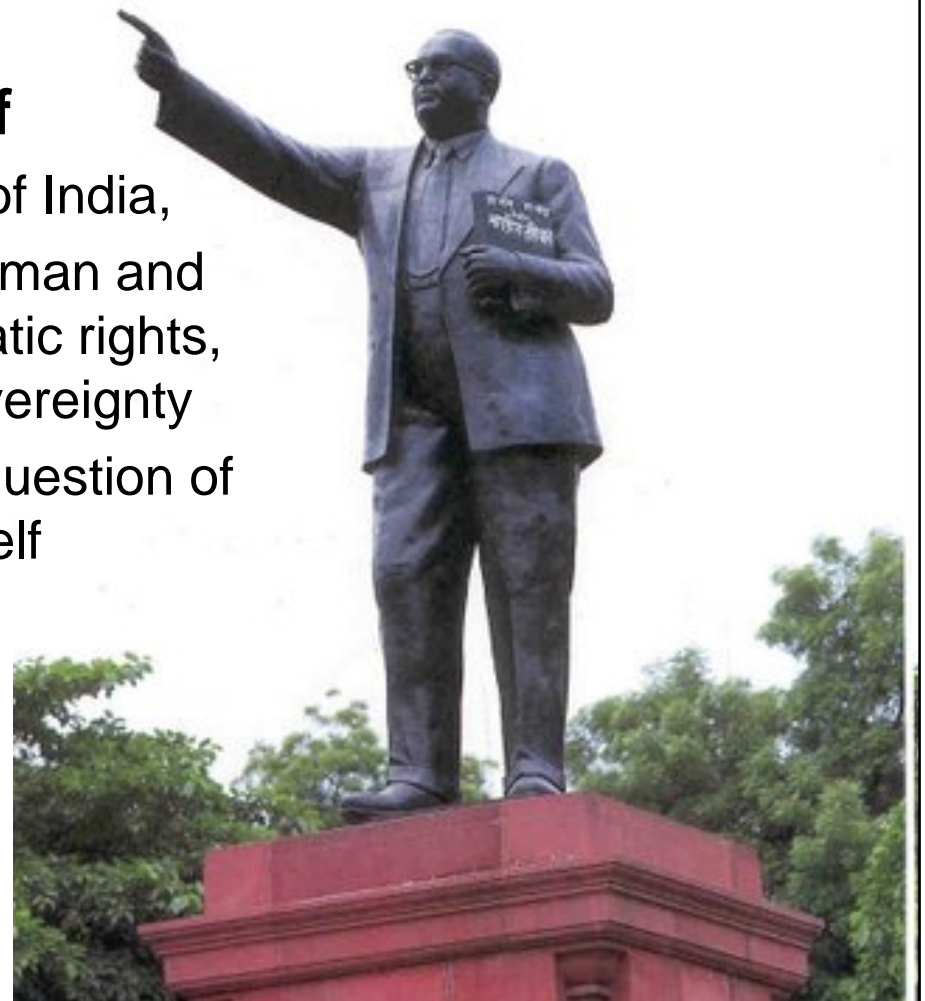
Their human and
democratic rights,
their sovereignty

..It is a question of
India itself

It is the Question of

Its Security and Integrity,
the very basis of its being India,
...the social contract Represented by

The Constitution of India



Does not the growing VIP.. VVIP syndrome
humiliate you?

Does not the filthy life style of the rich put
you down?

Do you really have any voice?



Top of the Dollar
Billionaires

Middle?



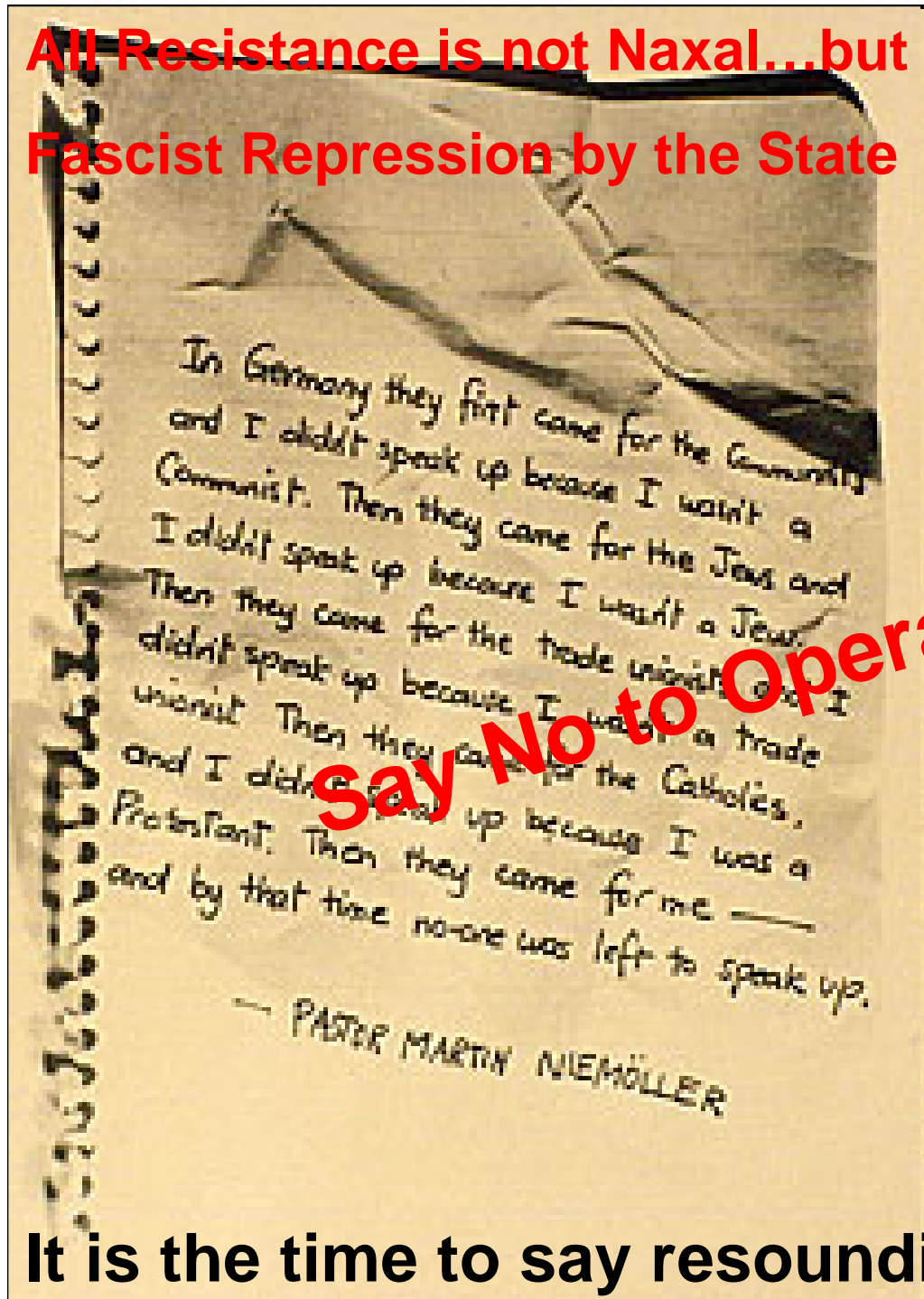
that Middleness of the Middle class is fast
disappearing as the bottom is vanishing and the
top is leaping skyward

Wake up... Lest it should be too late



Devastated Bottom of the
labouring people

**All Resistance is not Naxal...but all resistance is met with
Fascist Repression by the State**



**Wayanad, Pachimada, Singur,
Nandigram, Jagatsinghpur,
Lalgarh, Dantewada, Kashipur,
Kalingnagar, Narayanpatana....**

**The plights of Binayak Sen, Ajay
TG, Javed Iqbal, Iron Sharmila
Thanu, CK Jha, Himanshu
Kumar.....**

**Systematic decimation of
democratic spaces, Choking of
voices of descent, Rising
intolerance of the state.. And
Devastation of people...**

should REMIND US

**Martin Niemoller's poignant
poem... "In Germany, they first
came.....**

It is the time to say resounding NO to this nonsense