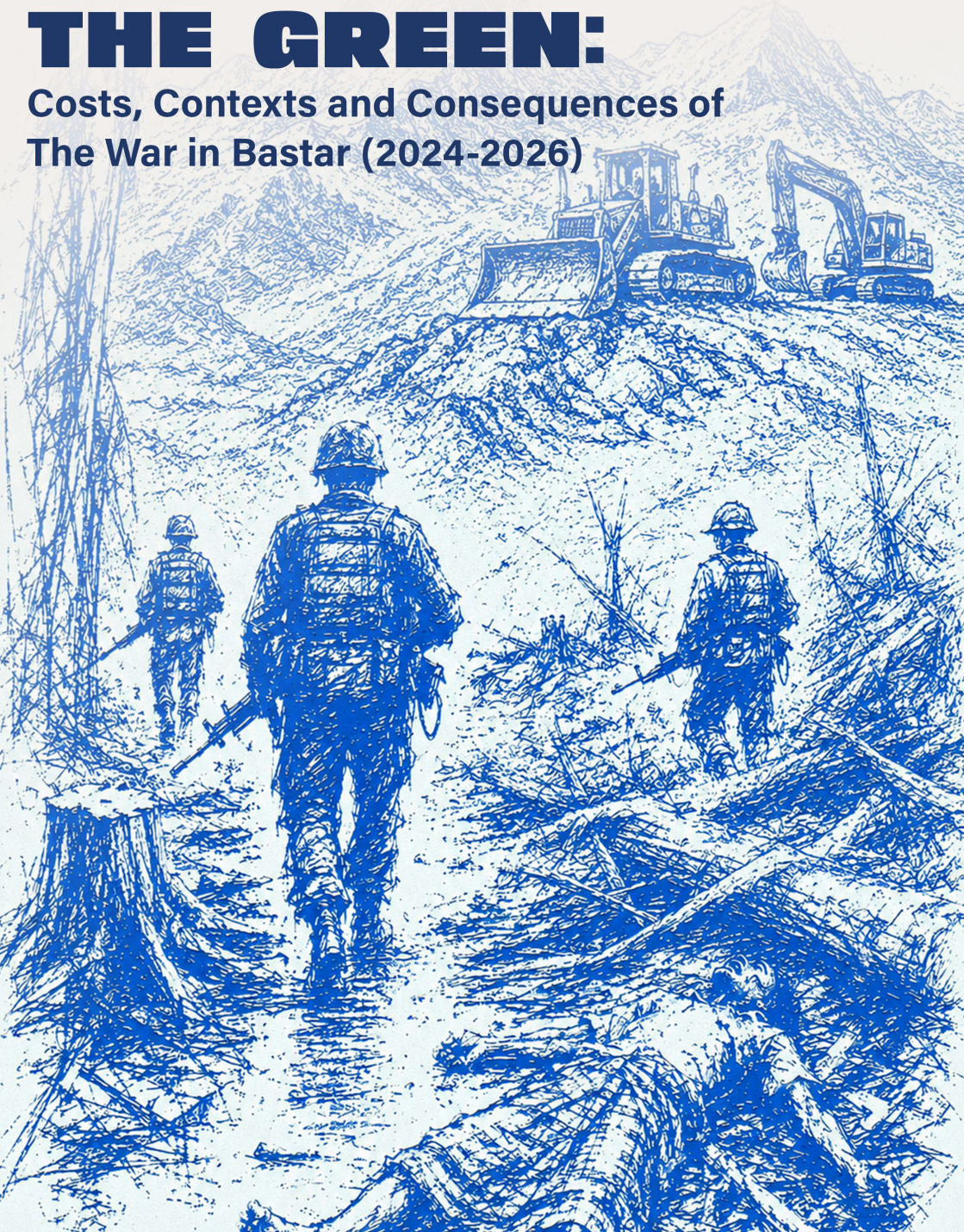


# REDDENING THE GREEN:

Costs, Contexts and Consequences of  
The War in Bastar (2024-2026)



## लापता जंगल

- सुधीर ढवळे

जंगल चुप है  
मगर उसकी खामोशी में  
हज़ारों कटे हुए तनों की चीखें दफ़न हैं  
उसकी जड़ों में दबी हुई हैं  
उजड़े हुए गाँवों की दास्तानें  
आदिवासियों की बेदखली  
और विकास के नाम पर कुचल दी गई  
सदियों की विरासत

हर गिरता हुआ पेड़  
सिर्फ एक पेड़ नहीं था  
वह एक आदिवासी की सभ्यता  
एक नदी की साँस  
एक पक्षी का घर  
और आने वाली पीढ़ियों का भविष्य था

यह जो तपती हुई धरती है  
वह उन जंगलों का बदला है  
जिन्हें हमने नक्षों से मिटा दिया  
यह जो आग उगलती गर्मी है  
यह मौसम की शरारत नहीं  
मुनाफ़े की राजनीति का नतीजा है

याद रखो  
जंगल सिर्फ पेड़ों का नाम नहीं  
जंगल साँस का नाम है  
बारिश का नाम है  
नदी की धड़कन का नाम है  
धरती के जीवित रहने का नाम है  
जंगल बचेगा तो जीवन बचेगा

इसलिए जब एक पेड़ कटे  
तो समझो एक पूरी दुनिया घायल हुई है  
और जब जंगलों पर हमला हो  
तो खामोश मत रहो  
पेड़ों के साथ खड़े हो  
नदियों के साथ खड़े हो  
धरती के साथ खड़े हो  
क्योंकि प्रतिरोध ही जीवन का दूसरा नाम है

और एक दिन जंगल  
अपनी हरियाली की फ़ौज लेकर लौटेगा  
मुनाफ़े के साम्राज्यों के विरुद्ध  
विनाश के इस तंत्र के विरुद्ध  
और उसकी हर पत्ती से एक ही नारा गूँजेगा  
"जंगल बचाओ, जीवन बचाओ!"

(13 जून 2026)

# **REDDENING THE GREEN:**

COSTS, CONTEXTS AND CONSEQUENCES OF  
THE WAR IN BASTAR  
2024 – 2026

PEOPLE'S UNION FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS (PUDR)

JULY 2026

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents an account of 27 months of Operation Kagaar – security operations conducted jointly by the central and state governments between January 2024–March 2026 with the professed object of complete elimination of ‘Naxalism’ or ‘Left-Wing Extremism’. While Kagaar was conducted across several states of central-eastern India, including Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra, this report focuses on seven districts of Bastar division. In attempting an exhaustive documentation of all publicly-reported killings, arrests and surrenders under Kagaar, the report raises unanswered questions on State accountability in pursuit of a policy of militarization (Part I), and the accompanying context of mining, dispossession and violations of Adivasi rights under the Fifth Schedule, PESA and FRA (Part II).

## **PART I**

The documentation of killings, arrests and surrenders has been collated from newspapers, primarily Bastar edition of Dainik Bhaskar (Annexures A, B and C). These accounts have not been independently verified by PUDR. In the absence of formal criminal proceedings in compliance with the Supreme Court guidelines in PUCL v. State of Maharashtra and/or independent inquiries by State or civil society, these figures remain subject to revision, as they are, directly or indirectly, sourced back to representations of the Chhattisgarh government and the security apparatus alone.

KILLINGS: 607

ARRESTS: 487

SURRENDERS: 1496

On the face of it, these 27 months of Operation Kagaar in Bastar have resulted in about 607 deaths, with 85% of those killed alleged to be Maoists (516), 09% civilians (55), and 06% security personnel (36). By comparison, between 2021-23, government sources report the killings of 101 ‘Maoists’, 79 security personnel, and 107 civilians.

The report makes three key findings relating to the nature of Operations and accountability:

1. **Lack of Independent Information**

Operation Kagaar was waged within a paradox, having been conducted in full public view, but with severe restrictions on public access to independent information. While national and local dailies regularly reported on incidents of killings, surrenders, and arrests, these appear to have been sourced solely from information supplied by the government. Scarcely has the media undertaken any independent verification of these claims.

Information supplied by the government and newspaper sources is limited to the site of the incident, numbers, and often, identities of those killed or arrested. There is no reporting on the ensuing legal proceedings, either by way of magisterial inquiries, or the nature of allegations and detention of those arrested.

2. **State Policy of Militarization**

Kagaar represents an escalation of the Indian State's military response to the conflict over land, forests and Adivasi autonomy in central-eastern India, particularly since the turn of the millennium. A military response forecloses a political resolution of a conflict that is fundamentally about the constitutional rights of Adivasis. This rejection of political avenues of resolution was on display even during 2024-25 when the Chhattisgarh government continually rejected calls for ceasefire and peace talks.

Of particular concern are two prongs of this policy of militarization under Kagaar: (i) the proclamation of monetary rewards for security personnel, which set up adverse incentives for State forces to perpetrate unlawful force and extra-judicial killings in the manner of a bounty-hunt; and (ii) the so-called surrender-cum-rehabilitation policy, revised in 2025, which set up a choice for Maoists between surrendering or being killed,

and precluded avenues of dialogue. While the surrender policy is a welcome form of amnesty for political dissidents, those who apparently ‘surrendered’ languish in camps under indefinite and illegal detentions, and subject to conditions entirely outside constitutional and criminal law.

### 3. **Illegality and State Accountability**

This report underlines the urgency of compliance with the PUCL guidelines on extra-judicial killings in each instance and raises questions on State actions on killings, arrests and surrenders as documented. However, the report goes further in finding PUCL guidelines insufficient to determine State accountability to prosecute the adoption of force as a matter of State policy in context of an armed conflict.

The nature and scale of Operations defy categorization of State action within the framework of ‘law and order’. The report finds that the killings were an outcome of a committed State policy of use of force, which was largely one-sided, and unfolded in a systematic and co-ordinated fashion between joint forces under the command and control of the central and state government.

No law in India authorizes the adoption of force as a matter of State policy. The PUCL guidelines, while necessary, are insufficient to establish accountability in the present case, where the entire executive machinery is complicit in the perpetration of force under official command. The report recommends a turn to international law (that the Indian State is bound by), particularly international humanitarian law as under the Geneva Conventions, UN Charter and customary law, for direct guidance on norms and procedures governing the use of force in an internal armed conflict.

## PART II

The report contextualizes Operation Kagaar within ongoing legal and economic measures in pursuit of mining and other development projects, which thwart the constitutional and statutory rights of autonomy and self-governance of Adivasis under the Fifth Schedule, Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act and the Forest Rights Act (FRA).

While these constitutional and statutory rights have never been sufficiently secured in post-Independence India, the period since the COVID-19 pandemic has witnessed a drastic overhaul in the regulatory regime governing mining, forests and environmental protection in the interest of 'ease of doing business'. To note a few, these include amendments to the Mines and Mineral Development and Regulation Act (MMDR), introduction of three new versions of the Forest Conservation Rules under the Forest Conservation Act (FCA), major changes to EIA notifications under the Environmental Protection Act (EPA), among a host of other conservation-related notifications and judgments by Supreme Court and Chhattisgarh High Court.

Cumulatively, these legal and regulatory changes throw the gates wide open for the unaccounted privatization of forests and mineral resources. These amend the definition of 'forest', introduce a category of private forests and delist minerals for privatization; extend the period of mining leases to fifty years while facilitating add-ons to existing leases; expand the list of projects exempt from forest clearance particularly for the establishment of security infrastructure; effectively pardon egregious environmental damage; undermine the requirement of free, prior and informed consent of Gram Sabhas, among others.

The Chhattisgarh government's Industrial Policy 2024-30 proposes investments in Bastar to the tune of Rs.52,000 crores, more than 80% of which is earmarked to the NMDC for mining projects. Other priorities include railways and road infrastructure, which are appendages to the mining infrastructure. For the first time, private corporations have been granted access for

mining in Bailadila hills. The central and state government has also introduced new projects and renewed old ones, such as the dormant Bodh Ghat dam project in Bastar.

This large-scale siphoning of forests and natural resources has been accompanied by mass criminalization and police action against forest rights and anti-displacement movements across central-eastern India. Most notably, the Moolwasi Bachao Manch in Chhattisgarh was banned under the Chhattisgarh Special Public Safety Act in 2024. While the ban has since lapsed, its members and office-bearers were arrested by NIA under UAPA and continue to languish in custody. In Odisha, the Maa Maati Maali Surakhya Manch resisting a 1549 hectare bauxite mine leased to Vedanta for fifty years in Kalahanda and Rayagada districts has been the subject of relentless police action through FIRs, arrests, police firings, among others.

This blind rush for the loot of mineral wealth is stained by the blood of Adivasis. While the State proclaims Kagaar as the death of LWE in central-eastern India, it instead marks the death knell of rule of law and the constitutional aspirations of Adivasis to autonomy and self-governance.

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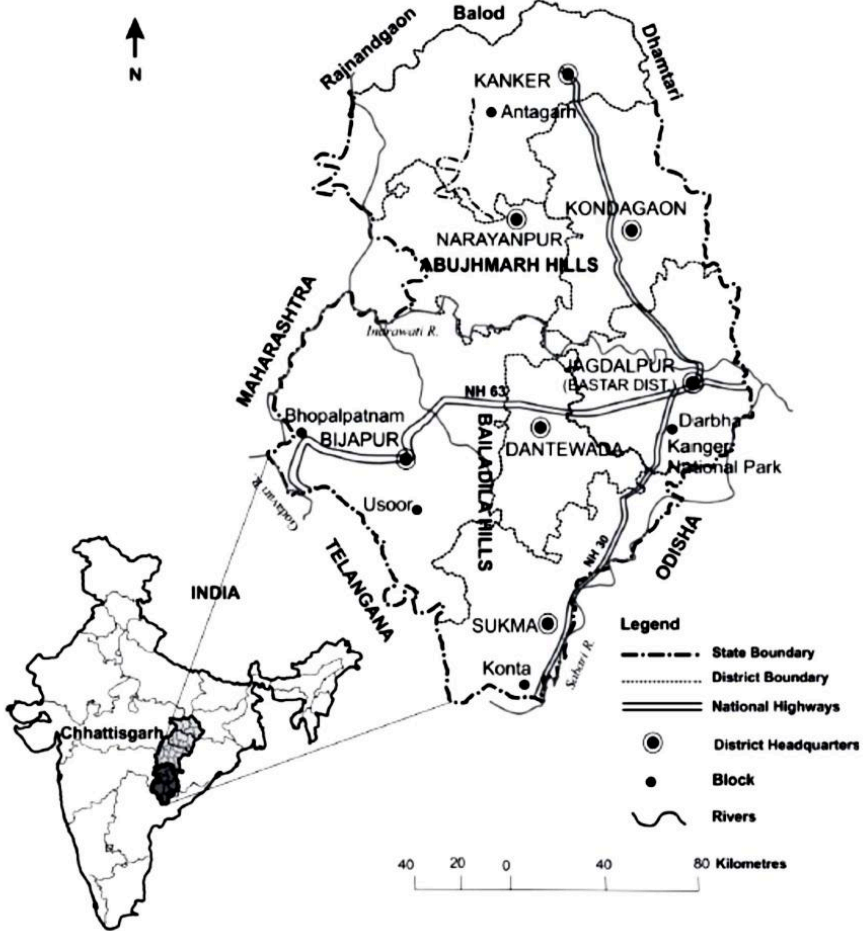
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Excerpts in the inside cover are from scholar activist Sudhir Dhawale's unpublished poem '*Lapata Jungle*'. We are grateful for his permission to carry the excerpts.

# MAP 1: POLITICAL MAP

## Bastar Division in Chhattisgarh



Source: Nandini Sundar, *The Burning Forest: India's War in Bastar* (Verso 2019).

# SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF BASTAR DIVISION

Bijapur district has a total area of 8,530 sq km, of which 83.16% is forest area. In 2024-25, it received 2634 mm of rain. Its administrative sub-units contain 4 sub-districts, 3 towns and 694 villages. As per the 2011 census Gondi was a principal language spoken by 62.79% of the population. The projected population for 2026 is 3,11,250. The estimated sex-ratio based on 2019-21 data is 1069 females per every 1000 males. Economically it is dominated by agriculture, either as cultivation of owned land or from agricultural labour, along with small scale industry. The estimated literacy rate in 2023-24 is 67.26%.

Bastar district has a total area of 10,470 sq km, of which 38.92% is forest area. In 2024-25, it received 1533 mm of rain. Its administrative sub-units contain 12 sub-districts, 6 towns and 1,150 villages. Its administrative headquarter is in Jagdalpur. As per the 2011 census, the principal languages were Halabi (40.05%), Gondi (20.08%), Hindi (19.13%) and Odia (16.58%). The projected population for 2026 is 17,23,382. The population density is 135 persons per sq km. The estimated sex-ratio based on 2019-21 data is 1068 females per every 1000 males. Economically it is mainly dependent on agriculture. The major crop is rice along with paddy, pulses, maize, mustard and gram. In addition, income is earned from sale of forest produce and other forest-related work as well as industrial employment from steel and cement industries. Traditional occupations such as weaving, shoe making, furniture making, chattai weaving and tailoring, bamboo crafting and pottery also persist. The estimated literacy rate in 2023-24 is 82.50%.

Dantewada district has a total area of 8,298 sq km, of which 45.90% is forest area. In 2024-25, it received 1709.2 mm of rain. Its administrative sub-units contain 7 sub-districts, 8 towns and 608 villages. As per the 2011 census the principal languages were Gondi (64.16%), Halabi

(14.88%) and Hindi (11.27%). The projected population for 2026 is 6,50,766. The population density is 64 persons per sq km. The estimated sex-ratio based on 2019-21 data is 1005 females per every 1000 males. Its economy is based on agriculture and small-scale industry. The estimated literacy rate in 2023-24 is 66.30%.

Narayanpur district has a total area of 4,653 sq km, of which 68.38% is forest area. In 2024-25, it received 1651.1 mm of rain. Its administrative sub-units contain 2 sub-districts, 1 town and 412 villages. As per the 2011 census the principal languages were Gondi (53.89%). The projected population for 2026 is 1,70,509. The population density is 30 persons per sq km. The estimated sex-ratio based on 2019-21 data is 1077 females per every 1000 males. Economically it is dominated by agriculture, either as cultivation of owned land or from agricultural labour, along with small scale industry. The estimated literacy rate in 2023-24 is 87.45%.

Kanker district has a total area of 7,161 sq km, of which 48.25% is forest area. In 2024-25, it received 1517.2 mm of rain. Its administrative sub-units contain 7 sub-districts, 6 towns and 1,070 villages. As per the 2011 census the principal languages were Hindi (66.77%), Gondi (17.06%) and Bengali (13.10%). The projected population for 2026 is 9,13,326. The population density is 105 persons per sq km. The estimated sex-ratio based on 2019-21 data is 1030 females per every 1000 males. Its economy is based on agriculture, mainly from the cultivation of rice. Wheat, sugar cane, gram, pulses, and maize are also grown along with fruits like mangoes and bananas. The district is drought prone, with nearly half the population falling under the poverty line. The estimated literacy rate in 2023-24 is 80.70%.

Kondagaon district has a total area of 1839.32 sq km. As per 2020 data, 39% of total area is forest area of which 14% was non-natural tree cover. In 2011, it received 1205.65 mm of rain. Its administrative sub-units contain 5 sub-districts and 552 villages. As per the 2011 census the principal languages were Halbi (42.41%), Gondi (28.04%), Chhattisgarhi (22.20%), Hindi (3.40%) and Bhatari (1.39%). The 2011 population was 5,78,326. The population density is 75 persons per sq km. The sex-ratio in 2011 was 1033 females per every 1000 males. As per Ministry of MSME's industrial profile, the economy is largely agriculture based with some

small-scale craft industry (bell metal, terakotta, iron craft). The 2011 literacy rate in 2023-24 was 57.31%.

Sukma district has a total area of 5897.79 sq km, of which 65% is forest area as per 2011 census. Its administrative sub-units contain 4 sub-districts and 400 villages. As per the 2011 census the principal languages were Gondi (55.24%), Halbi (11.58% ), Dorli (9.30%), Dhurwa (7.82%), Hindi (5.51%), Muria (4.00%), Telugu (1.86%) and Bengali (1.03%). The 2011 population was 2,70,821. The population density is 45 persons per sq km. The sex-ratio in 2011 was 1017 females per every 1000 males. Source of income is limited to non-timber minor forest produce and rain-dependent agriculture. The 2011 literacy rate in 2023-24 was 29%.

NOTE: Data for Bijapur, Bastar, Dantewada, Narayanpur and Kanker have been collected from India Stat, which uses the 2011 census in addition to other projections. Since Kondagaon and Sukma were added as districts in 2012, the data has been sourced from the sites of the respective district administration which itself relies on 2011 census data. Forest data for Kondagaon was retrieved from Global Forest Watch.

## OVERVIEW OF LAWS

Fifth Schedule of the Constitution

Empowers the Governor (acting on the advice of the Tribes Advisory Council) to limit the application of legislative and executive powers over scheduled areas (in which Adivasi communities primarily reside), with the aim of protecting Adivasi rights over land, forests, and customary resources.

Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act

Codifies the right to self-governance through customary institutions in Scheduled Areas and provides for prior consultations with Gram Sabhas before the diversion of customary resources by the State to commercial, industrial or other uses.

### LAND

Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013

Replaced the 1894 land acquisition law and sought to empower local communities by providing for Social Impact Assessments and requiring prior consent of 80% of affected families in the case of land acquisition by private companies, and 70% in the case of public-private partnerships.

However, consent is unduly and unfairly obtained in many cases. The settlement of rights under the Act is understood as being only about individual rights, to the neglect of community rights. Furthermore, the harms of displacement extend beyond the question of mere compensation to those of life and livelihood.

## FOREST

Indian Forest Act, 1927	Empowers the state to notify forests as “reserved” or “protected” forests, bringing such land under state ownership for its use, thereby criminalising existing forest dwellers as encroachers.
Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006	<p>Informally known as the Forest Rights Act (FRA), this law vests individual and community rights over forest land and resources. Transfer of such land for non-forest purposes requires prior consent from the Gram Sabha.</p> <p>However, the protection of these rights is severely poor, and consent of rights-holders and Gram Sabhas are routinely forged. The prohibition on divestment of Adivasi land to non-Adivasis does not extend to acquisition by government and private entities. The existence of rights, therefore, rarely prevents displacement facilitated through other laws.</p>
Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980	Restricts the denotification of reserved forests and use of forest land for non-forest purposes without prior approval of the Central Government. However, the 2023 amendment exempts several types of lands and activities from Central Government approval; these include railway lines, roads, private zoos and safaris, security infrastructure, etc.
Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016	<p>Provides for the creation of national and state funds for the deposit of money realised from ‘user agencies’ in respect of forest land diverted in their favour.</p> <p>The Act essentially legitimises the diversion of forest land and justifies their monetisation through the concept of</p>

“compensatory afforestation”, the money for which is vested in the State and its bureaucratic agencies. Compensatory afforestation is also often done on forest land protected under the FRA, commercialising Adivasi rights.

## ENVIRONMENT AND WILDLIFE

Environment  
(Protection) Act,  
1986

Empowers the Central and State governments to take measures to protect against and set standards for the regulation of environmental pollution.

Recent changes to the Act however have blunted its effects. The 2023 amendment replaces imprisonment with monetary penalties, determined by bureaucratic officers, as the punishment for contravention. In addition, complaints of violation can now be presented only by a prescribed authority. The widely protested 2020 Environmental Impact Assessment notification that severely diluted provisions related to public hearings and mandatory compliance, while stayed by court orders, has been effectuated through various executive orders and circulars.

Wildlife Protection  
Act, 1972

Provides for the protection of wildlife and other species by declaring protected areas within which human access and intervention is prohibited, ostensibly for habitat conservation. However, thousands of communities have been displaced from their land and traditional livelihoods on the basis that such areas were declared ‘human-free’ zones.

## MINES AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957

Formally provides for the Central Government's control over the regulation of mines and development of minerals and determines the framework within which mining operations and the leasing of mines is to take place.

Amendments in 2021 and 2025 have, among other changes, extended the period of a lease from 30 to 50 years; removed the limit on sale of minerals from captive mines; and postponed the stage of public hearings after the granting of mining lease.

Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957

Provides for the acquisition of land containing or likely to contain coal.

The Act has routinely been used to override rights provided by the FRA. Reports have shown that land acquired under the Act have been divested to private entities soon thereafter, making the objective of the legislation (establishing public control over coal mining) in essence moot.

## SECURITY

Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967

Empowers the Central Government to notify organisations and individuals as "terrorist". Those associated with such organisations face greater difficulty in securing bail, do not have the same presumption of innocence as in normal criminal law, and are often incarcerated for long periods of time before completing trial, despite low rates of conviction. The CPI(Maoist) is a designated terrorist organisation under the Act.

Chhattisgarh  
Special Public  
Security Act, 2005

Similar to the UAPA in design, it empowers the Chhattisgarh government to designate certain organisations as unlawful and penalises association with them, as well as the participation in any “unlawful activity” (which includes those activities that pose a danger to public order, peace or tranquillity; interfere with the maintenance of public order; interfere with administration of law; and encourage the disobedience of law). The Act has been used extensively to police rights organisations, most notably the Moolvasi Bachao Manch.

# ABBREVIATIONS

ACM	Area Committee Member
AOB	Andhra-Odisha Border
BSF	Border Security Force
CC	Central Committee
CNM	Chetna Natya Manch
CPI(M)	Communist Party of India (Maoist)
CRPF	Central Reserve Police Force
DKMS	Dandakaranya Adivasi Kisan Mazdoor Sangathan
DKZCM	Dandakaranya Zonal Committee Member
DRG	District Reserve Guard
DVCM	Divisional Committee Member
DVF	District Voluntary Force
GRD	Gram Rakshak Dal
ITBP	Indo-Tibetan Border Police
KAMS	Krantikari Adivasi Mahila Sangathan
LOS	Local Organisation Squad
LWE	Left Wing Extremism
MCC	Maoist Communist Centre
NDMC	National Mineral Development Corporation
PPCM	Platoon Party Committee Member
RPC	Revolutionary People's Committee
SCM	State Committee Member
SDK	Sonabeda–Dharambandha–Kholibatar Area Committee
SDPO	Sub-Divisional Police Officer
SOG	Special Operations Group
STF	Special Task Force
TI	Town Inspector

# INTRODUCTION

On 24 August 2024, Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced the deadline of 31 March 2026 for the complete eradication of naxalism from the country, stating that “time has come to carry out the final assault along with ruthless politics to tackle Left Wing Extremism and naxalism”.<sup>1</sup> The August statement followed a meeting chaired by the minister in Raipur which, as per the government,<sup>2</sup> laid down a coordinated strategy involving security agencies such as National Investigation Agency (NIA), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) including the CoBRA Battalion, Border Security Force (BSF), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP). Forces operating in Chattisgarh including the Special Task Force (STF), District Reserve Guard (DRG), and the Chattisgarh Police too were deployed. On 30 March 2026, the Union Home Minister declared in the Lok Sabha that the country was now “Naxal free”.<sup>3</sup>

“Operation Kagaar”<sup>4</sup> marks what appears to be the final phase of the armed conflict that has been waged between the Indian State and the Maoist Movement (MM) - organized armed groups taking recourse to armed struggle to meet aims and objectives. It is a continuation of the decades old war and one of the many government-backed military operations continuing from the Salwa Judum in 2005, Operation Green Hunt in 2009, National Policy and Action Plan in 2015, and Operation SAMADHAAN-Prahaar in 2017.

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<sup>1</sup> Sumi Rajappan, 'Amit Shah's Chhattisgarh Visit: Naxalism and Left-Wing Extremism Issue' *India Today* (Raipur, 24 August 2024)  
<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/ amit-shah-chhattisgarh-visit-naxalism-left-wing-extremism-issue-2587379-2024-08-24>.

<sup>2</sup> Bureau of Police Research and Development, 'Left Wing Extremism Will Be Eradicated Before March 2026' *Vigilant India* (16–30 September 2024)  
[https://bprd.nic.in/uploads/pdf/17-12-2024-Left-Wing%20Extremism-%20Vigilant%20India,%20\(%2016-30%20Sep,2024\)%20Year-2,%20Volume%20No-12%20Low%20File.pdf](https://bprd.nic.in/uploads/pdf/17-12-2024-Left-Wing%20Extremism-%20Vigilant%20India,%20(%2016-30%20Sep,2024)%20Year-2,%20Volume%20No-12%20Low%20File.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> Vijaita Singh, 'Barring One, Entire Top Leadership of Maoists Wiped Out: Amit Shah Tells Lok Sabha' *The Hindu* (New Delhi, 31 March 2026)  
<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/barring-one-entire-top-leadership-of-maoists-wiped-out-amit-shah-tells-lok-sabha/article70804368.ece>.

<sup>4</sup> While the term 'Operation Kagaar' has not been recorded officially in any government statement, it has been used widely by the press, political parties, civil society organisations and CPI(Maoist) itself to refer to the government's operation that took place between 2024 and 2026.

Government of India's approach towards the MM publicly began shifting away from acknowledging its socio-economic causes, to an avowedly military suppression mode. A centralized, co-ordinated program began being formulated under L.K. Advani, the Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister in 1998 and got publicly acknowledged and was given a veneer of legitimacy by the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government under Dr. Manmohan Singh, the then Prime Minister in 2006. The signs of a militaristic 'solution' became evident first in 2000 when the Chhattisgarh Armed Force, an armed constabulary, was deputed to protect infrastructure, followed by induction of CRPF in 2003, and the establishment of the Jungle Warfare and Counter Terrorism College in Kanker in 2004. In June 2005 the state government inspired Salwa Judum "movement" ensued, during which Naga Battalions were brought in for counter-guerilla operations against the MM (2005-07). CPI (Maoist) and its formations came to be proscribed under the Chhattisgarh Special Public Security Act 2005 in 2006, and as a "terrorist organization" by the central government under the UAPA in 2009. In 2008-2009 CRPF raised an elite commando unit COBRA, and the state police raised STF (2008-09), to carry out surgical strikes. Special Police Officers (SPOs) i.e. state backed militias were being used from 2005 onwards and were formally designated as DRG (2013-14) under Supreme Court pressure. Finally in 2009-10 ITBP was deployed on the interstate border of Bastar region of Chhattisgarh and BSF on districts bordering around Abhuj Madh, in Narayanpur district.

The recent spurt in militarisation and concentrated attacks in the region under Operation Kagaar can be attributed to this final call against MM, that has left the lives of the region's primarily Adivasi inhabitants (across seven states of Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, and Jharkhand), at the mercy of state policy. The government's own figures state that a total of 706 Maoists were killed across "Naxal-affected districts" from 2024 to March 2026 and 2,218 were arrested and 4,839 surrendered.<sup>5</sup> As part of

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<sup>5</sup> Press Information Bureau, 'Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, Replies to the Discussion in the Lok Sabha on the Efforts to Free the Country from Left-Wing Extremism (LWE)' (Government of India) <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=2247134&reg=3&lang=1>.

Operation Kagaar, 6,000 additional security forces were deployed in Chhattisgarh.<sup>6</sup> The militarisation in the area of Operation Kagaar was conducted through the deployment of CRPF camps (around 476 camps have been set up between 2019 and 2025),<sup>7</sup> fortified police stations (656 police stations have been built as per the government),<sup>8</sup> and greater road connectivity which facilitate military operations. Between 2017 and 2025, around Rs. 8,860 crore was released for security expenditure including training and operation of forces, infrastructure development, deployment of jeeps, helicopters, and other bulletproof and blastproof vehicles, and surveillance capabilities. Rs. 20,815 crore has been spent between 2014 and 2025 only on road building and another 4,080 crore on the building of mobile towers.<sup>9</sup>

The root causes of the issue can be traced back to more than a century ago when the British colonial state sought to dispossess the Adivasis for extraction of forest wealth including timber, minerals, and other forest produce. This state-people conflict has carried on even after independence. Despite the presence of constitutional safeguards in the Fifth Schedule (which recognises Adivasis' right to self-governance) and further reinforced through legislations such as The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996 and the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA), the neoliberal drive for wealth that prioritises exploitation of natural resources for capital accumulation nullifies these protective laws (*for an overview of the legal regime, see Box 4 below*). Throughout the past decades, successive governments have expanded the scope for private corporations to extract minerals such as iron, tin, corundum, granite, lapidolite (lithium ore), marble and siliminite. This expansion has taken place through legal provisions that reduce

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<sup>6</sup> Sudeshna Panda, 'Operation Kagar: 3000 BSF Personnel from Odisha to be Deployed in Chhattisgarh to Mow Down Naxals' *Kalinga TV* (Bhubaneswar, 2 January 2024) <https://kalingatv.com/odisha/operation-kagar-3000-bsf-personnel-from-odisha-to-be-deployed-in-chhattisgarh-to-mow-down-naxals>.

<sup>7</sup> People's Union for Democratic Rights, 'Thirteen Months of Kagaar: Securitized and Human Rights in Chhattisgarh' (*People's Union for Democratic Rights*, 10 February 2025) <https://www.pudr.org/press-statements/thirteen-months-of-kagaar-securitization-and-human-rights-in-chhattisgarh>.

<sup>8</sup> Ministry of Home Affairs, 'Left Wing Extremism Division' <https://www.mha.gov.in/en/divisionofmha/left-wing-extremism-division>.

<sup>9</sup> Press Information Bureau, 'From Red Corridor to Naxal-Free Bharat: A Decade of Decisive Gains (2014–2025)' (Government of India, 13 December 2025)

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2203440&reg=3&lang=1>.

protections for forest ecosystems and their biodiversity, as well as through violent dispossession of Adivasis pursued by the state's armed forces. The rhetoric of development, used to justify such exploitation, has consistently been silent on the rights and aspirations of the dispossessed Adivasis.

It is in response to the systematic violation of rights that political movements slowly started arising. Peasant struggles have been ongoing since the 1940s (in Telangana for instance), but one of the first major political mobilisations took place in the mid-1970s under the Communist Party of India (CPI) in the Bailadilla mines (Bastar) around control over mineral resources and work opportunities for locals. Even then, the immediate response of the state was repression such as police firing on protesting workers. Around the same time, a number of Marxist-Leninist parties such as CPI (ML) People's War Group (PWG) (that in 2004 combined with the Maoist Communist Centre (MCC) to become the CPI (Maoist)) took recourse to an armed uprising in support of the peasant struggle, revolving around exploitation of forests by outsiders such as forest officials, police, and moneylenders. Mass organisations like Dandakaranya Adivasi Kisan Mazdoor Sangathan (DAKMS) and Adivasi Kisan Mazdoor Sangathan (AKMS) spread over the region in places like Konta, Bhopalpatnam and Bijapur by the 1980s. By the 2000s, the PWG entrenched itself in forest areas of Bastar, Kanker, and Dantewada and declared the entire tribal forest region that includes Bastar and extends into Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh as a guerrilla zone where the state would be prevented from entering, and alternative institutions would be set up for people's rule. The MM continued mobilising people in the region by appealing to rights over "*Jal, Jungle, and Zameen*".

This report follows from PUDR's previous reports for nearly four decades on the struggle in the region starting from the first report in 1985 to now (*See Back Page for list and links of reports*). The immediate context of this report is what appears to in effect be an indiscriminate suppression policy with little concern for the rule of law in the form of Operation Kagaar. In April 2025, the Central Committee of the CPI (Maoist) expressed readiness for peace talks if Operation Kagaar was ceased. This appeal was turned down by the Government of India. This was the only possibility of a negotiated resolution of the conflict. The armed conflict could have

ended with far less bloodletting had the government held meaningful peace talks. The government rejected the opportunity for addressing the core issues confronting Adivasis, in favour of large-scale violence and unprecedented expense on militarisation and force deployment.

YEAR	ENCOUNTERS	MAOISTS KILLED	ARRESTS	SURRENDER	WEAPONS RECOVERED	STATE FORCES KILLED	CIVILIANS
2021	82	51	494	551	80	46	33
2022	69	30	291	415	61	10	36
2023	68	20	387	398	35	23	38
2024	123	217	929	792	286	19	71
2025	99	256	884	1562	645	23	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>2985</b>	<b>3718</b>	<b>1107</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>178</b>

The above figures and terminology are as per the government.<sup>10</sup>

The aim of this report is to understand the costs and consequences of the armed conflict on Adivasis through a record of the killings, arrests, and surrenders in Bastar as reported in newspapers between January 1, 2024 and March 31, 2026 and situating them in the frameworks of the law that exist (international and domestic) and in the context of the contestations over “development” between people and the state-capital nexus. The focus is on the seven districts of Bastar Division (*See Political Map*) that represent the geographic and political core of the Maoist Movement. PU DR was unable to do a fact-finding exercise in Bastar and therefore the present report is based on newspaper reports and publicly available official information.

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<sup>10</sup> *Dainik Bhaskar* (5 January 2026).

This report offers a record of the documentation of the toll and provides an analysis. We wish to state that the data recorded is, by no means, a complete account as it is completely based on newspaper reporting.

The report is divided into two sections.

**PART I** documents and critically analyses the killings, arrests and surrenders comprising Operation Kagaar and its aftermaths. It examines the shortcomings in Indian law for ensuring state accountability in instances of extra-judicial killings, especially in conflict situations. It argues that bringing Indian law in consonance with international law which recognises internal armed conflict, can go a long way towards curtailing state impunity and ensuring accountability.

**PART II** illustrates how Adivasi struggles are rooted in historical dispossession by a State-capital nexus. The framework for delineation of Adivasi rights after independence as set out by the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution, and subsequent legislation for protecting Adivasi rights over land, forests, community resources have been systematically hollowed out in the interests of capital accumulation, of which the final ‘solution’ of Kagaar is the armed manifestation. The militaristic and changing legal rights’ regimes are related in that both claim to proffer models of development beneficial for Adivasis, while divesting them of rights. The report posits that the costs for Adivasis are arguably at their most devastating at the present moment. Finally, the report concludes with the implications of the alleged end of “LWE” and the decimation of the Maoist movement for the future of Adivasis and their struggles.

Through the documentation of killings, arrests and surrenders, and an analysis of the root causes of conflict, PUDR reiterates the State’s accountability towards its people, in accordance with natural justice and rule of law.

## PART I : OPERATION KAGAAR

Operation Kagaar is marked by three distinct features.

**First**, the high number of incidents of violence allegedly by Maoists on one side, and State police and paramilitary forces operating jointly on the other. The violence appears to be primarily initiated on the side of the State forces. Also noted are killings of civilians including those accused of being informers and allegedly killed by Maoists.

**Second**, statements regarding the violence by senior State officials, particularly the Home Minister, Government of India and Inspector General of Police, Chhattisgarh i.e. a command structure – political and police – beyond the regular operations of law and order.

**Third**, limited public information (whether on official websites or newspaper reports) regarding the details of the incidents and the legal process followed. Limited news reporting, primarily by local Hindi dailies, is often only on the nature of the incident (i.e killing, surrender etc) with some personal details and almost no information on the legal follow up by the police. It also appears that the newspaper reports are primarily based on police/government provided information.

This situation, represented by the State as the “final” stage of the war, warrants close scrutiny. PUDR monitored violent incidents (alleged encounters/extra-judicial killings, deaths caused by IEDs and killings of alleged informants and civilians) and arrests and surrenders in Bastar, as reported in local and national media (*Dainik Bhaskar*, *Navbharat Times*, *The Hindu*, *Indian Express* and *Hindustan Times*). ANNEXURES A, B AND C are charts summarizing this information with primary reference to *Dainik Bhaskar*, Bastar edition. No claim is made that all incidents have been covered. Only those sourced in the newspaper reports are listed along with information as provided. The information is not independently verified by PUDR and

therefore no claim can be made on the authenticity of the details including the identity of those killed, recoveries as shown or the circumstances of the incidents.

This Chapter proceeds in two parts: first, a brief overview of the numbers and scale of extra-judicial killings, arrests and surrenders and second, the questions of law and accountability that arise.

## 1. THE OPERATION

### EXTRA-JUDICIAL KILLINGS

The call for the end of the MM resulted in increased violence on the ground.

Annexure A provides detailed accounts of instances of extra-judicial killings in Bastar under Operation Kagaar between 1 January 2024 and 31 March 2026.

From 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2026, the record for Bastar indicates the killing of 607 persons - 516 alleged Maoists, 36 State forces and 55 civilians killed (including those reported to having been identified as “informants”).

In most of the incidents, more than one force is involved in a joint operation, from the state and central reserves. The following formations of forces are referred to as being involved: District Reserve Guard (DRG), Special Task Force (STF), CoBRA, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Bastar Fighters. 44 incidents where “Maoists” are alleged to have attacked “informants” or IEDs blasts attributed to their cadre.

The incidents are spread out over the 27-month period fairly equally with every month having some incidents.

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF INCIDENTS OF KILLING
Bijapur	69
Sukma	25
Narayanpur (including incidents in the Abujhmarh forest)	27
Dantewada	14
Bastar	6
Kanker	4
Kondagaon	1

Therefore, the violence is of a consistent pattern and systematic in nature. The disproportionate initiation of violence (higher incidents initiated by State forces) - between the State and non-state - may be noted and should further strengthen the demand for investigations into every incident as required by law (frameworks detailed below).

One incident is in relation to a death in police custody. The incidents reported are primarily on official information and relate to “encounters”. Information on other extra-judicial killings is not present. The newspaper record reflects only one case where a judicial enquiry (for the death in police custody) was ordered and three cases where a magisterial enquiry was ordered. Newspapers that we monitored did not report on the fate or conclusion of these inquiries, nor on whether FIRs were registered and investigated. It is also not clear whether newspapers undertook any independent verifications of the claims presented by the state police and government. There are also numerous cases of “unidentified” persons said to be Maoists. Therefore, across the incidents recorded, there is scarce public accountability or reporting that could enable us to ascertain the basis of the claims regarding the incident, circumstances, casualties, identities, or even recoveries reported in the newspapers.

Some of the cases as reported bear mentioning. In a case of 12.05.2024 in Korba/Bijapur, 12 Maoists were said to have been killed but relatives who came to claim the bodies denied that they were Maoist. The case received attention from civil society and political groups but there is no information on whether any investigations were carried out on the claims of the families.

Similar claims countering the police version were made in the case of a 02.07.2024 encounter in Abhujmarh where police claimed to have killed 5 Maoists in a joint forces action. In a case of 29.05.2024 in Bijapur, the police claimed the killing of 2 Maoists and arrests of another 2 Maoists, but villagers claimed that 8 people were missing from the village. In the case of 11/12 December 2024 where a 1000 personnel strong joint operation claimed the killing of 7 Maoists, the Maoist party responded and claimed that only 2 were Maoists and the others villagers. The scale of killings is illustrated by the case of Indravati National Park, Bijapur where on 9/10.02.2024, a 600+ forces strong joint operation claimed the killing of 31 Maoists (17 men and 14 women), and of 2 State forces personnel. The Karregutta operation of April/May 2025 also saw a claim of killing of 31 Maoists (16 women and 15 men) with forces involved estimated as 24000-27000. These cases highlight the scale of violence alongside the serious questions that arise on the legality of these State operations

There are no updates on legal procedures on the cases reported as it appears that no inquiries or investigations have been carried into these incidents. No information is provided on what basis individuals named “Maoists” were identified. No information is provided on whether there were any pending criminal cases against the identified persons. No information is provided on whether the identified persons were already identified in any state intelligence or other dossiers or were identified as “wanted” (publicly shared earlier or otherwise). Similarly, where ranks/designations of the alleged Maoists are provided, there is no information on the basis for this identification. In many of the incidents recorded, a “reward” amount against each person killed is noted. The concern with a rewards policy is that by its very existence, it sets up adverse incentives to violate legal norms. Further, there is no basis provided for these “rewards” or the process followed in marking such individuals. What then is one to make of cases where no rewards are identified? In multiple cases the State claims to have seized arms and ammunition from those killed. Recoveries in criminal cases are subject to close scrutiny and adherence of strict procedures. They would necessarily have to be subject to independent investigations. In cases where there are no recoveries further doubt is created on whether the killing was required - as opposed to arrest. Therefore, there is no transparency and accountability in the manner in which the State has addressed the killings.

## ARRESTS

From 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2026, the record for Bastar indicates the arrest of 487 alleged Maoists.

This is based on a collation and analysis of the newspaper survey conducted by PUDR. **Annexure B** provides accounts of arrests in Bastar as part of Operation Kagaar.

There are instances of more than one incident of arrest on the same date and in a number of cases the arrests are a result of a joint operation between the central forces and the state police formations.

The record reflects the following:

1. In 50 cases, the date of arrest is not provided and in almost all of the cases recorded there is no information on the specific spot or place of arrest.
2. In 33 cases, the specific crime the person is being arrested for is provided but no details of FIR number or present status of the case are provided.
3. In 41 cases, there is a claim of recoveries of arms/ammunitions or items used for making explosives and reference to Maoist literature/propaganda material.
4. In a large majority of the cases, no circumstances of arrest whatsoever are provided around the actual arrest or the spot of arrest. Where provided, the following circumstances are noted: arrest connected to an “encounter” or violent engagement between the state forces and Maoists (4), arrest as a result of prior information received (7), person arrested was “running” or “suspicious” (9).
5. In none of the cases reported are the FIR numbers provided.

## SURRENDERS

Annexure C provides accounts of surrenders in Bastar as part of Operation Kagaar.

Echoing the Union's stance, the Inspector General of Police of Chhattisgarh's Bastar region Sundarraaj had threatened, "*Shun violence, surrender and join mainstream or be ready to face the same fate as Basavaraju Rao*" in an interview.<sup>11</sup> Surrender is the only 'choice' – other than death – that the government has extended to members of the proscribed party.

Consequently, from 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2026, the record for Bastar indicates the surrender of 1496 alleged Maoists.

The Union government has a surrender-cum-rehabilitation policy<sup>12</sup> in place as part of its combat against what it calls as the 'Left-Wing Extremism' ('LWE') which State governments having Maoist presence have modified. On March 28, 2025 the Chhattisgarh Home Department notified<sup>13</sup> the 'Chhattisgarh Naxalwadi Aatmsamarpan/Peedit Raahat Punarwaas Neeti 2025' (copy available with PUDR). The Chhattisgarh policy calls upon all those people to surrender who are part of the CPI (Maoist) and a list of frontal organizations which the Union or State governments have proscribed under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 or the Chhattisgarh Special Public Safety Act, 2005, respectively (Part 2, S.5).

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<sup>11</sup> Nishant Kumar Azad, 'Shun Violence, Surrender, Join Mainstream or be Ready to Face Same Fate as Basavaraju' *Organiser* (24 June 2025) <https://organiser.org/2025/06/24/298518/bharat/shun-violence-surrender-join-mainstream-or-be-ready-to-face-same-fate-as-basavaraju-rao-sundarraaj-p/>.

<sup>12</sup> Ministry of Home Affairs, *Guidelines for Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation of Naxalites in the Naxal Affected States* (10 January 2023) [https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-01/SCRLWEDIVISION\\_10012023\\_0.pdf](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-01/SCRLWEDIVISION_10012023_0.pdf).

<sup>13</sup> Vishnu Deo Sai, Tweet (X, April 13 2025) <https://x.com/vishnudsai/status/1911370259690369108>.

## 2. LEGALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Has the rule of law been followed in Operation Kagaar? The law is a contested space but certain principles find universal application - right to life and liberty, the right to be treated with equality and fairness, clear definitions on what is unlawful, and clear limits of power and mandatory responsibilities to citizens: limited and regulated power to use violence AND a fair, independent and speedy oversight mechanism such as the judiciary.

The Indian legal system has in place laws (as interpreted by the judiciary) for use of force, arrest, criminal investigation and pardon. Further, the State is subject to international law (treaty and customary) including the UN Charter, judgments of the International Court of Justice, International Humanitarian Law including the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols (India is party to the Conventions but not the Additional Protocols though it is contended that most of the rules in the Additional Protocols are now considered part of customary international law and therefore binding).

The information in the annexed charts is limited not least because of the regulated flow of official information and consequently there is doubt on each of the incidents and their legality in principal and/or execution: Was force to kill required in each of the alleged operations? Were the basic protections under international humanitarian law followed by all armed parties to the war which may be characterised as an internal armed conflict? Was there a substantive basis warranting arrest and were the rights of those taken into custody maintained? Surrender of persons is supported by Indian criminal law and as part of amnesty treaties at the end of wars - a recognised means to be employed to peacefully resolve wars. This must extend to those arrested as a part of the war to date.

### EXTRA-JUDICIAL KILLINGS

The legal framework with regard to investigations of extra-judicial killings where State forces are involved has been deliberated upon by the Indian judiciary.

On the general proposition of law, the Supreme Court in *Peoples Union for Civil Liberties v. State of Maharashtra* (2014) 10 SCC 635, considered a situation where the genuineness or otherwise of 99 encounters by Mumbai police resulting in deaths of 135 persons from 1995 to 1997 was in issue. The Court noted that the killing of criminals projected as encounters was akin to “State-sponsored terrorism”. The Court noted the guidelines laid down by the Bombay High Court in this case, National Human Rights Commission in such cases, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, United Nations Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officers and past orders of the Supreme Court. The court observed that killings in police encounters require “independent investigation” as they affect the “credibility of the rule of law and the administration of the criminal justice system”. The Court then proceeded to lay down the “requirements to be followed in the matters of investigating police encounters in the cases of death as the standard procedure for thorough, effective and independent investigation”. The below chart lists out a summary of each “requirement” as against the present information available in relation to Bastar.

PUCL

BASTAR 2024-2026

Police will record intelligence tip-off.

No record available.

Death by firearm shall be registered “to that effect” and forwarded to the court.

Except for one case there is no information on registration of FIR and whether forwarded to court. Further, as PUDR has not been able to access the FIR either physically or online, it is not possible to state if the PUCL judgment has been followed and whether FIR has been registered

	“to that affect” i.e. FIR has been filed for the death.
“An independent investigation into the incident/encounter shall be conducted by the CID or police team of another police station under the supervision of a senior officer (at least a level above the head of the police party engaged in the encounter).”	No record available.
Magisterial Enquiry and report to be sent to the Court.	No record available.
Information to be sent to National Human Rights Commission or State Human Rights Commission.	No record available.
Injured should be provided medical aid and statement recorded by a Magistrate or Medical Officer with statement of fitness.	No record available.
No delay in sending FIR, diary entries, panchnamas, sketch etc., to the concerned Court.	No record available.
After investigation, report to be filed in court.	No record available.
“In the event of death, the next of kin of the alleged criminal/victim must be informed at the earliest.”	No record available.

“Six monthly statements of all cases where deaths have occurred in police firing must be sent to NHRC by DGPs.”

These statements must include the findings of the Magisterial Inquiry and “whether use of force was justified and action taken was lawful.”

The NHRC website is presently updated only with the 2023-2024 Annual Reports and therefore it cannot be verified if there has been compliance on this aspect.

“If on the conclusion of investigation the materials/ evidence having come on record show that death had occurred by use of firearm amounting to offence under the IPC, disciplinary action against such officer must be promptly initiated and he be placed under suspension.”

No record available.

Compensation to be provided to family of person killed in encounter.

No record available.

Police personnel must surrender weapons and other material for forensic and ballistic analysis.

No record available.

Intimation about incident to be sent to family of police for lawyer/counselling.

No record available.

“No out-of-turn promotion or instant gallantry rewards shall be bestowed on the concerned officers soon after the occurrence. It must be ensured at all costs that such rewards are given/ recommended only when the gallantry of the concerned officers is established beyond doubt.”

No record available.

“If the family of the victim finds that the above procedure has not been followed or there exists a pattern of abuse or lack of independent investigation or impartiality by any of the functionaries as above mentioned, it may make a complaint to the Sessions Judge having territorial jurisdiction over the place of incident.”

No record available.

Notably, the Supreme Court in the *PUCL* judgement specifically lists the “minimum” investigations to be carried out by the “independent investigation” in the following terms:

1. Identify the victim;
2. Recover and preserve evidentiary material;
3. Identify witnesses at the spot of the incident and record statements of witnesses and the police personnel involved;
4. Cause, manner, time and location of death AND pattern or practice that may have brought about the death;
5. Fingerprints of deceased and other prints to be located and sent for analysis;
6. Post-mortem to be video graphed and done by two doctors at District Hospital, including, if possible, the Head of the hospital;
7. Evidence of weapons used to be preserved.

The question of extra-judicial execution in situations of wider conflicts has also been considered.

In the case of *EEVFAM v. Union of India* (Manipur fake encounters case) ((2016) 14 SCC 536), the Supreme Court considered 1528 “fake encounters” involving the Manipur Police and the armed forces, including the Indian Army. The question of the constitution of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) was before the court. The Court considered affidavits of the NHRC, including NHRC guidelines and also constituted a three-member Commission (which

included a retired Supreme Court Judge) for a limited enquiry into six cases. All six incidents were found to be “fake encounters” (NHRC findings in these cases were also considered) i.e. “...the encounter (if any) was not genuine or the use of force was excessive”. Before the passing of final orders, the Court considered a preliminary objection by the State that regular law / procedure may be used in this case and that the Supreme Court may not entertain the petition. This was rejected by the Court in the following terms:

“We are not impressed by this submission. This is not an ordinary case of a police complaint or a simple case of an FIR not being registered. This case involves allegations that the law enforcement authorities, that is, the Manipur Police along with the armed forces acting in aid of the civil power are themselves perpetrators of gross human rights violations. This is also not a case where the ordinary criminal law remedy provides an adequate answer. A particular situation of internal disturbance has prevailed for decades and the ordinary citizens of Manipur have had little access and recourse to law in the situation that they find themselves placed in. To make matters worse, FIRs have been registered against the victims by the local police thereby leaving the next of kin of the deceased with virtually no remedy under the Cr.P.C ” (*emphasis added*).

But the State further countered in the following terms:

“The principal contention of the learned Attorney General in opposing any investigation or inquiry into the alleged extra-judicial killings is that a war-like situation has been and is prevailing in Manipur. It is to control any escalation of the situation that vast powers have been given to the armed forces under AFSPA and the constitutionality of AFSPA has been upheld by the Constitution Bench in *Naga People’s Movement of Human Rights*, (1998) 2 SCC 109. It is only due to the efforts of the Manipur Police and the armed forces of the Union that the security environment in Manipur has not deteriorated but has vastly improved over the years. The efforts made in the past and the successes gained, the efforts being presently made and the efforts that will be made in the future should not get hamstrung through wanton and sometimes

irresponsible allegations of violations of human rights and use of excessive force. These have a deleterious and demoralizing impact on the security forces to no one's advantage except the militants, terrorists and insurgents. This is apart from the submission that the deaths caused were justified, being deaths of militants, terrorists and insurgents in counter insurgency or anti-terrorist operations.”

The Court rejected the above submission and differentiated between a “war or war-like” situation and “internal disturbance”. In characterizing the situation in Manipur as the latter, the Court held:

“In view of our discussion, it is not possible to accept the contention of the learned Attorney General that a person carrying weapons in violation of prohibitory orders in the disturbed area of Manipur is ipso facto an enemy or that the security forces in Manipur in such a case are dealing with an ‘enemy’ as defined in Section 3(x) of the Army Act. This is far too sweeping and general an allegation and cannot be accepted as it is or at its face value. Each instance of an alleged extra-judicial killing of even such a person would have to be examined or thoroughly enquired into, to ascertain and determine the facts. In the enquiry, it might turn out that the victim was in fact an enemy and an unprovoked aggressor and was killed in an exchange of fire. But the question for enquiry would still remain whether excessive or retaliatory force was used to kill that enemy.”

Finally, in this order, while passing directions for further enquiry, the Court upheld the following principle:

“We respectfully follow and reiterate the view expressed by the Constitution Bench of this Court in Naga People’s Movement of Human Rights that an allegation of excessive force resulting in the death of any person by the Manipur Police or the armed forces in Manipur must be thoroughly enquired into.”

Subsequently, as proceedings in this case continued, and further information was collated, the Court directed the constitution of a five-officer SIT of the Central Bureau of Investigation. In the context of **Jammu and Kashmir**, the case of *State of J&K v. Lakhwinder Kumar & Ors.* AIR 2013 SC 3163, related to the killing of a minor Zahid Farooq Sheikh on 5 February 2010 by personnel of the Border Security Force (BSF) in Srinagar city (*note: this was not presented as an encounter by the BSF but a result of a “verbal duel” with some boys*). Following investigations by local police a chargesheet was filed before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Srinagar. At this point the BSF moved an application seeking custody of the accused on grounds that under the BSF Act proceedings had been instituted before the Security Force Court. Despite opposition by the relatives of the deceased victim, the Magistrate allowed the application on grounds that the BSF personnel were on “active duty”. This position was upheld by the Jammu and Kashmir High Court and finally the issue of law was summarized by the Supreme Court as follows:

“It may be mentioned here that Section 47 of the Act bars trial of a person subject to the Act by a Security Force Court who has committed an offence of murder or of culpable homicide not amounting to murder or rape in relation to a person not subject to the Act. However, this bar will not operate if the person subject to the Act has committed the offence while on active duty. In other words, if a member of the Force commits offence of the nature specified above and the victim of crime is a civilian member, he cannot be tried by a Security Force Court but this bar will not operate if the offence has been committed while on active duty. The expression ‘active duty’ has been defined under Section 2(1)(a) of the Act, it reads as follows:

- “2. Definitions.-(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, –
- (a) “active duty”, in relation to a person subject to this Act, means any duty as a member of the Force during the period in which such person is attached to, or forms part of, a unit of the Force –
- (i) which is engaged in operations against an enemy, or
  - (ii) which is operating at a picket or engaged on patrol or other guard duty along the borders of India, and includes duty by such person during

any period declared by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette as a period of active duty with reference to any area in which any person or class of persons subject to this Act may be serving;”

The aforesaid provision makes the duty of the nature specified therein to be active duty and includes duty declared by the Central Government by notification in the official Gazette.”

As noted by the Court, “The Central Government by Notification SO.1473(E) dated 8th of August, 2007 in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 2(1)(a) of the Act, had made a declaration that the **duty of every personnel serving in the State as mentioned in the said Notification for the period 01st of July 2007 to 30th of June, 2010, shall be ‘active duty’** (*emphasis added*).

The court further held that: “There is no connection, not even the remotest one, between their duty as members of the Force and the crime in question. The situs of the crime was neither under Force control nor the victim of crime was in any way connected with the Force.” But, finally, based on the notification, the Supreme Court ruled in favour of the BSF.

The law cited above raises fundamental questions of accountability.

First, the specifics of Bastar make it apparent that the *PUCCL* guidelines would be inadequate in a situation of an armed conflict where two parties are armed, organized and the violence is protracted. The direction of operations flows from the highest level of both parties. The operations are often led by joint forces of the State with the command at the level of the Inspector General of Police. The framework for investigations in *PUCCL* would prove inadequate and beyond the fair remit of a Sub-Inspector or Inspector investigating. This reality is borne out by the experience of both Manipur and Jammu and Kashmir. In Manipur, even the constitution of an SIT has not resulted in accountability.

Second, the Courts have stressed on accountability and the basic principle that all encounters must be investigated. That is clearly lacking in the case of Bastar. But, there appears to be some uncertainty – as evidenced by the submissions of the State in the Manipur case and the treatment of the same by the Court – with regard to “war or war-like” situations. Is it the contention of the State that “war” is not subject to law? Does the court agree? In light of the failure of judicial intervention in cases such as Manipur and Jammu and Kashmir, are there avenues under international humanitarian law that India is bound by that may be introduced to end conflict by the adherence to rule of law? Government of India is party to numerous international treaties, including the Geneva Conventions, and otherwise subject to customary international law, wherein the civilian is to be protected. Therefore, the “defence” of war cannot under any circumstances absolve the State to wage the war as per rules, protect civilians and follow the rule of law. Further, the submissions of the State in the Manipur case also raises the double-speak of the State which in public discourse and in courts through its investigating agencies, shifts between discourses of “war” and “terrorism” as convenient. This double-speak only serves to strengthen impunity across the board as the State – through its arbitrary actions – implicates the courts in a process of “implementing” State police through the law.

In principle, whether relying on the Supreme Court judgments or international law pertaining to “non-international armed conflict”, rules are to be followed by all armed parties and civilians are to be protected. Article 3 common to the 1949 Geneva Conventions that provides for the minimum standard to be respected and requires humane treatment without adverse distinction of all persons not or no longer taking active part in hostilities. It prohibits murder, mutilation, torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, hostage taking and unfair trials. The combatants (in this case both the State forces and armed cadres of the MM) are also mandated to follow certain rules when they operate - their actions cannot be indiscriminate. The purpose of international humanitarian law is to regulate - with basic guardrails - a situation of war. With the underlying fundamental purpose to end war, the law lays down basic principles that armed parties must follow. Further, international human rights law continues to apply during armed conflict and the State is mandated to prevent and investigate human rights violations. International mechanisms exist in the form of treaty bodies (some of whom India is subject to),

the UN Human Rights Council (recommendatory in nature) and the International Court of Justice and International Criminal Court (that India is presently not a party to). Rare instances of judicial and political will for accountability are seen when it comes to situations of armed conflict<sup>14</sup>. On the contrary, in cases where civil society has sought to draw attention to crimes within such contexts, the Court has lately taken an adversarial position. In 2022, the Supreme Court dismissed a 2019 petition by activist Himanshu Kumar into the alleged massacre that took place on 17.09.2009 and 01.10.2009 in the villages of Gachhanpalli, Gompad and Belpocha situated in the district of Dantewada, State of Chhattisgarh. Himanshu Kumar sought an independent investigation by the CBI and compensation to the families. The Supreme Court finding no merit in the specific case dismissed it and imposed costs. The State pressed for further action against Himanshu Kumar. The State claimed regarding the armed forces that “Unwittingly and unfairly, they become easy targets of such accusations leading to a resigned acceptance of such blemishes as an incident of duty”. The Court granted the plea of the State and stated as follows:

“Thus, we leave it to the State of Chhattisgarh/CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) to take appropriate steps in accordance with law as discussed above in reference to the assertions made in the interim application. We clarify that it shall not be limited only to the offence under Section 211 of the IPC. A case of criminal conspiracy or any other offence under the IPC may also surface. We may not be understood of having expressed any final opinion on such action/proceedings. We leave it to the better discretion of the State of Chhattisgarh/CBI to act accordingly keeping in mind the seriousness of the entire issue. Thus, the relief prayed for in terms of Para 67(b) herein above, of the subject interlocutory application is hereby granted.”

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<sup>14</sup> As illustrations: the Supreme Court order dated 05.07.2011 in *Nandini Sundar v. State of Chhattisgarh W.P.(C) 250/2007* declaring the Salwa Judum unconstitutional and the Justice VK Aggarwal Commission of 2019 in relation to the Sarkeguda encounter.

BOX 1:  
ENCOUNTERS IN WHICH MORE THAN 10 MAOISTS WERE KILLED  
(SOURCE: ANNEXURE A)

1.	April 2, 2024	13 killed in Bijapur
2.	April 16, 2024	29 killed in Narayanpur
3.	May 1, 2024	10 killed in Narayanpur
4.	May 10, 2024	12 killed in Bijapur
5.	October 4, 2024	38 killed in Narayanpur
6.	January 16, 2025	18 killed in Chhattisgarh near border with Telengana, Sukma/ Bijapur
7.	January 20-21, 2025	27 killed in Chhattisgarh border with Odisha, Sukma
8.	February 9, 2025	31 killed in Bijapur
9.	March 20, 2025	30 killed in Kanker-Narayanpur and Bijapur-Dantewada borders
10.	March 29, 2025	17 killed in Bijapur-Sukma
11.	April 22, 2025	31 killed in Bijapur
12.	May 21, 2025	27 killed in Bijapur
13.	December 3, 2025	18 killed in Bijapur
14.	January 2, 2026	12 killed in Sukma

BOX 2:  
INCIDENTS OF IED BLASTS WITH LARGE CASUALTIES OF  
SECURITY FORCES PERSONNEL

1.	March 15, 2007	55 killed in Rani Bodli, Dantewada
2.	July 9, 2007	24 killed in Errabor, Dantewada
3.	April 6, 2010	76 killed in Tadmetla, Dantewada
4.	June 29, 2010	27 killed in Dhodai, Narayanpur
5.	May 26, 2013	31 killed in Jheeram Ghati, Bastar
6.	March 11, 2014	15 killed in Jahakwada, Sukma
7.	April 25, 2017	25 killed in Burkapal, Sukma
8.	March 21, 2020	17 killed in Minpa, Sukma
9.	April 3, 2021	22 killed in Tekulguda, Jarrem

(*Source: Md Imran Nabi, Dainik Bhaskar, 31 March 2026, 'Nau hamle jinme sabse zyada shaheed'*)

## ARRESTS

The absence of details with regard to those arrested (and for that matter those surrendering) - which case they have been arrested in and the circumstances of their arrest - raises the very real possibility of arbitrary arrests.

Arrests in relation to Operation Kagaar – and not just specific to the Bastar division – need to be understood and appraised in context and not divorced from the state and non-state actors engaged in the ongoing armed conflict. The ban on CPI (Maoist) from 2006 onwards extends

not only to the party but also its ‘frontal organizations’. What organizations comprise, or what constituted a ‘frontal organization’ was not clearly spelt out. Resultantly, the security apparatus has wide discretion to label any organization as a front arbitrarily and without basis, and the law does not place this labelling subject to any disclosure, reporting or requirements of justification.

Consequently, sections of the UAPA criminalizing association and support of Terrorist Organizations apply and the vague and broad nature of definitions of association and support under the UAPA now entrap a wide section of people living within this region: political activists, social activists, cultural activists, lawyers representing persons accused of such crimes, Bar Associations, student groups and unions, trade unions etc. Most crucially, those connected to the land – villagers, farmers – are directly affected as they are the first to be suspected, harassed, beaten and arrested. Thus, a person arrested in Bastar as an alleged “Maoist” comes from within a large group of peoples – all under constant suspicion and surveillance. Therefore, the rigors of the law that favor the prosecution and not the defence– with presumptions, protections (of prosecution witnesses) and stringent bail rules – gain further rigidity from the existence of an ongoing armed conflict.

This has been recently illustrated vividly with a report from Chhattisgarh regarding the mass surveillance including numbering of villagers houses in Chhattisgarh.<sup>15</sup>

Therefore, each arrest in Bastar by the police and central para-military forces under counter-insurgency operations must draw close scrutiny and attention. Have the procedures in law been followed? Was the person ill-treated or subject to torture? Has he been compelled by force to give up any of his legal rights? Has he been provided adequate and prompt legal assistance? Does the police have any credible material to warrant his further custody even in jail? References to seizure of “Maoist literature” are vague and it is not clear if there is any order

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<sup>15</sup> Malini Subramanian, ‘House Numbers, Drones, Family Registers: Bastar Villages under Web of Surveillance’ *Scroll.in* (26 February 2026) <https://scroll.in/article/1090988/house-numbers-drones-family-registers-bastar-villages-under-web-of-surveillance>.

“banning” such material and its possession. Does the police have any material to credibly connect him to the CPI (Maoists)?

The record thus far of the state police in fairly investigating and prosecuting cases has been poor.

Accompanying arrests are often unlawful practices of detention including illegal detentions, torture where judicial review is limited or mechanical. In the present study, one incident draws attention to this aspect. Annexure B, entry 30 records a 10.05.2024 case where villagers claim that post the killing of 14 persons falsely claimed to be Maoists, the state forces illegally detained 50 people.

From police custody, the persons arrested find themselves in overcrowded prisons with poor treatment and little to no judicial oversight. Illustrating this reality, it was reported in February 2026 that the Deputy Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Vijay Sharma, informed the assembly in response to a question that 66 jail inmates had died over the last 13 months. Judicial inquiries as mandated had been completed in just 18 cases.<sup>16</sup>

One feature of the investigative and legal process in areas including Chhattisgarh is that of “permanent warrants”. As noted by PUDR in 2015, FIRs are mainly registered against “unknown Naxalites” – or a few known people and then 50-200 unknown others. Names, where provided, are often common in usage in the villages and may account for more than one person. When police investigate the case they usually arrest only a few people but the chargesheets notes the names of others as “absconding”. Consequentially, the court directs for the arrest of those absconding by issuing “permanent warrants” that remain in the hands of the police to be executed – at their choosing. Convictions in such cases are few. This reality – persons arrested but not convicted – was noted by the Quill Foundation in its report titled:

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<sup>16</sup> Shubhomoy Sikdar, ‘66 inmates died in Chhattisgarh jails since January 2025, govt. tells Assembly; tribal leader’s custodial death triggers uproar’ *The Hindu* (Raipur, 26 February 2026). <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/chhattisgarh/66-inmates-died-in-chhattisgarh-jails-since-january-2025-go-vt-tells-assembly-tribal-leaders-custodial-death-triggers-uproar/article70679665.ece>.

“Presuming guilt: A study highlighting patterns of prosecution and trial in “Naxal” cases in Gadchiroli, 2002-2015” (2024), where 141 criminal cases from district Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, were studied wherein 140 cases resulted in acquittals.

In most of the cases recorded, rewards are indicated. There appears to be no official record to access to verify the basis and procedures and implementation the government has in place for this reward system that effectively incentivises arrests and provides an opportunity for corruption.

One feature that is not captured in the record is the involvement of the National Investigation Agency (NIA). Created in 2009 the NIA operations in Chattisgarh significantly increased from 2024 onwards. As per the PIB on 13.12.2025, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) established a dedicated anti-Naxal vertical that investigated 108 cases and filed charge sheets in 87 cases<sup>17</sup>. As per reports in the *Dainik Bhaskar* (dated 9.11.25), the NIA raided 12 places in Dantewada and Sukma in connection with IED blast at Aranjpur on 26 April 2023 when a bomb planted on the road exploded in which ten DRG personnel and the driver died. Further, as per *Dainik Bhaskar* (dated 31.12. 2025), on 25 September 2024 Sukma Kotwali P.S registered a case against two persons Mantosh Mandal and S Nagarjun arrested the same day. Recoveries shown include tiffin bomb, detonators, Potassium Nitrate, Aluminium powder, packaging material, and “Naxal literature” and a mobile phone. The case was transferred to the NIA in 2024 (as is the situation with multiple cases in 2024 as seen on the NIA website) because the Sukma police investigation “uncovered” “terror funding” and being part of Maoist “supply” chain. On 30 December 2025 the NIA filed a supplementary chargesheet before a special court in Jagdalpur against five persons: Sodi Kesa, Manila, Madkam Kesa, Sodi Lakhma and Mantosh Mandal.

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<sup>17</sup>Press Information Bureau, 'From Red Corridor to Naxal-Free Bharat: A Decade of Decisive Gains (2014–2025)' (Government of India, 13 December 2025)

[https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2203440&reg=3&lang=1#:~:text=The%20National%20Investigation%20Agency%20\(NIA,security%20personnel!%20fighting%20the%20insurgency.](https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2203440&reg=3&lang=1#:~:text=The%20National%20Investigation%20Agency%20(NIA,security%20personnel!%20fighting%20the%20insurgency.)

## SURRENDERS

Although the policy is worded as a rehabilitation instrument in the form of amnesty that is to be welcomed and claiming to offer vocational training, cash, and in some cases land and employment to those who surrender, it appears in substance nothing other than a military policy intended to decimate the proscribed organization militarily, organizationally, and culturally. Its execution on ground requires urgent and close scrutiny. The following aspects of the policy illustrate this.

Firstly, anyone who surrenders is expected to support the government's "LWE" eradication campaign before any rehabilitation and financial support accrues to them (S.6.8, 6.9). The Ministry of Home Affairs has been running a counter-insurgency program in east-central India against what it describes as 'Left-Wing Extremism' or 'LWE'.<sup>18</sup> As part of this campaign, the government has a strategy involving increased militarization, infrastructure spending, and civic action program. Special help to the police in 'anti-Naxal' operations attracts guaranteed housing or employment (S.7.2.2, S. 7.3.1). What is considered as 'special' or 'vishesh' is not stated in the policy.

Secondly, there is compensation attached to helping police with recoveries of weapons, of IEDs and of big dumps of explosives and weaponry (S.7.1.1, 7.1.2). Thirdly, those in higher military and non-military positions within the organization and who carry a reward of INR 5 Lakhs or more are incentivized to surrender by offering a higher cash amount, land, and employment offer (S.7.2.1, S.7.3.2, S.8.1, S.8.5).

Thirdly, in an affected 'LWE' district, if a Gram Panchayat ensures surrender of all members and militia such that it is declared 'Naxal-free', INR One Crore will be approved for development works. According to this provision, in severely affected districts like Sukma, Bijapur, Dantewada, Narayanpur, and Kanker, if the District Collector and Police

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<sup>18</sup> Ministry of Home Affairs, 'Left Wing Extremism Division'  
<https://www.mha.gov.in/en/divisionofmha/left-wing-extremism-division>.

Superintendent manage to obtain surrenders of entire active Naxalite group members and militia in flagged areas due to which an entire Gram Panchayat is declared Naxal-free, they will be rewarded with INR Crore of funds for development works. The list of active Naxalites in a Gram Panchayat area maintained by the District Police will be considered final (S.7.6.2).

Fourthly, there is cash assistance for surrenderees who are unmarried or widowers to be given at the time of their marriage and to get reverse vasectomy operations (S.7.1.4, S.7.5.6).

The claim of rehabilitation itself deserves scrutiny since the relief is deferred and distant for most part. In case of higher reward amounts, land, and employment offers, obtaining relief is contingent upon certified 'good conduct'. Any reward amount shall be given to a surrenderee only as a Fixed Deposit in a nationalized bank payable after three years when the Police Superintendent has certified good conduct (S.8.6). In another illustration, consideration for entry into government service for those who carry an award of INR 5 Lakhs or more is again contingent upon six months of good conduct among other criteria and the position itself is one of the lowest grades (S.7.3.2 (a)). The policy provides powers to the administration for closure of past criminal cases against a surrenderee, upon consideration of their contribution toward eradication of Naxalism and six months of good conduct (S.7.7.3).

Media reports suggest that rehabilitation centers or transit camps where surrenderees are first admitted for 'vocational training' are nothing but detention centers (S.6.10). According to an August 2025 report,<sup>19</sup> people are being involuntarily held up for months in these camps without letting them off to their homes on the pretext of protection from Maoists. Their families are not permitted to meet them at the centers. According to a surrenderee, apart from cleaning and construction work, they have not been involved in any vocational training. Women detainees were asked to clean rooms and bathrooms, clear weeds, and cook for police staff on the

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<sup>19</sup> Malini Subramaniam, 'Skill Training for Surrendered Maoists or Forced Illegal Detention by Chhattisgarh Police' *Scroll.in* (22 August 2025) <https://scroll.in/article/1085674/skill-training-for-surrendered-maoists-or-forced-illegal-detention-by-chhattisgarh-police>.

premises. Based on these reports, they are being held without constitutional due process. This aspect requires close consideration and follow up.

The concerns with the policy become apparent in another provision which endorses and encourages killings by offering monetary rewards to police personnel who “apprehend the Naxalites alive or dead” (S.8.1, Part 3). As already mentioned above, extrajudicial killings during police encounters are governed by the Supreme Court guidelines in *PUCL v. State of Maharashtra 2014 (10) SCC 635*. By legitimizing encounter killings, the Chhattisgarh surrender policy runs counter to this law by predetermining the outcome of any possible investigation about whether use of force was justified and whether action taken was lawful [Para 31(10)]. The policy also specifically violates the judicial guideline which bars any rewards to concerned officers soon after the occurrence [Para 31(15)].

Apart from those who die, the implications of a policy endorsing extrajudicial killings backed by the government are also borne by family members, many of whom received decomposed bodies, in some cases covered with maggots,<sup>20</sup> of their slain kin due to the delay in handing over bodies. In a few instances, they did not even receive the bodies that the police cremated without involving the kin of the deceased.<sup>21</sup> Often family members are able to report physical injuries on bodies like signs of torture or gunshot injuries which form a strong piece of evidence in forming an opinion about the manner and cause of death in encounter killings. Returning decomposed bodies or not returning them at all precludes the possibility of an effective investigation into the killings as envisaged by the PUCL guidelines [Para 31(9), (16)].

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<sup>20</sup> Malini Subramanian, ‘The Claims, the Truth and the Body Bags of Karregutta Op’ *The Reporters’ Collective* (17 July 2025) <https://www.reporters-collective.in/trc/the-claims-truth-and-body-bags-of-karregutta-op>.

<sup>21</sup> Raunak Shivhare, ‘Ma Had Been Waiting for Him’: Kin of 8 Slain Maoists Allege ‘Illegal’ Cremation’ *The Quint* (30 May 2025)

<https://www.thequint.com/news/maoists-basavaraju-killed-cremated-families-cry-foul-operation-black-forest#read-more>.

The surrender policy - welcome as a principle of amnesty - appears to be part of the military action of the State. If news reports are to be believed, the rehabilitation programme, purportedly as means to end violence, appears to be a means to arbitrarily detain.<sup>22</sup>

BOX 3:  
LANDSCAPE OF SURRENDER POLICIES IN 'LWE' AREAS

Surrender of 'naxalites' has been dealt under central government's Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme since 1996 which was revised comprehensively in 2005<sup>23</sup> and 2009.<sup>24</sup> Under the SRE, the Central Government would reimburse the state government for compensation toward those who surrender as per the state government policy.<sup>25</sup> As per the 2009 policy, every surrendered Maoist would be rewarded Rs. 1.5 Lakh after three years of surrender (Rs.50,000 per annum/ Rs 4167 per month) upon demonstrating good conduct along with a monthly stipend of Rs. 2000 for receiving vocational training.

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<sup>22</sup> Subramaniam, 'Skill Training for Surrendered Maoists or Forced Illegal Detention by Chhattisgarh Police' (fn 19).

<sup>23</sup> Ministry of Home Affairs, *Annual Report 2004–05* (2005) 47-48,

[https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport\\_04\\_05.pdf](https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_04_05.pdf);

Ministry of Home Affairs, *Annual Report 2005–06* (2006) 26

[https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport\\_05\\_06.pdf](https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_05_06.pdf);

Ministry of Home Affairs, *Annual Report 2007–08* (2008) 21

[https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport\\_07\\_08.pdf](https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_07_08.pdf);

Ministry of Home Affairs, *Annual Report 2008–09* (2009) 19

[https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport\\_08\\_09.pdf](https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_08_09.pdf);

Ministry of Home Affairs, *Revised Guidelines for Reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure to 'LWE' Affected States under the SRE Scheme* [https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/2022-09/NM-SRE-Scheme\\_160614\\_1%5B1%5D.pdf](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/2022-09/NM-SRE-Scheme_160614_1%5B1%5D.pdf).

<sup>24</sup> Ministry of Home Affairs, Guidelines for Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation of Naxalites in the Naxal Affected States (7 September 2009)

[https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/2022-09/surrenderPolAendments070909\\_0\\_2%5B1%5D.pdf](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/2022-09/surrenderPolAendments070909_0_2%5B1%5D.pdf);

Press Information Bureau, 'Naxals Surrender and Rehabilitation Policy' (Government of India, 1 December 2010)

<https://www.pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=67973&reg=3&lang=2>.

<sup>25</sup> MHA Annual Report 2013-14, Page 27.

[https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport\\_13\\_14.pdf](https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_13_14.pdf)

In April 2013, the central government issued specific guidelines titled 'Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation Scheme of Left Wing Extremists in the affected States'.<sup>26</sup> Continuing 100% reimbursement to state governments, the guidelines promised Rs. 1.5 to 2.5 Lakhs reward depending on rank of surrendered person in the organization. The money would be given as Fixed Deposit contingent on good behaviour and would accrue only after three years. Vocational training with a stipend of Rs. 4000/- was also promised.

In January 2023, MHA again issued revised 'Guidelines for surrender-cum-rehabilitation of naxalites in the Naxal affected States'.<sup>27</sup> The policy increased the grant to 2.5 Lakhs for lower/mid-ranked members and to 5 Lakhs for high ranked members of the CPI (Maoist). The monthly stipend for those receiving vocational training would be Rs. 10,000/- for three years. However, the central government assured to reimburse the states only up to 60%. Like previous policies, there was additional reward for surrendering with arms.

Meanwhile, states devised their own policies over these years. Andhra Pradesh prepared its first one in 1997, Jharkhand in 2001, Bihar in 2001, Chhattisgarh in 2004, Madhya Pradesh in 2004, Maharashtra in 2005, Odisha in June 2006, Karnataka in 2014, and West Bengal in 2010.<sup>28</sup> Over the years states have revised their policies like the one by Chhattisgarh analyzed in this section.

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<sup>26</sup> MHA Annual Report 2013-14, Page 32.

[https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport\\_13\\_14.pdf](https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_13_14.pdf)

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Press Information Bureau, 'New Policy for Surrendered Maoists' (Government of India, 10 December 2014)

<https://www.pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=112966&reg=3&lang=2>.

<sup>27</sup> Ministry of Home Affairs, Guidelines for Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation of Naxalites in the Naxal Affected States (10 January 2023), [https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-01/SCRLWEDIVISION\\_10012023\\_0.pdf](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-01/SCRLWEDIVISION_10012023_0.pdf).

<sup>28</sup> Jacob Shapiro and others, 'Indian State Counterinsurgency Policies: Brief Historical Summaries' Empirical Studies of Conflict (2017).

There are also similar policies in other conflicted terrains. For instance, in the North Eastern region, the Ministry of Home Affairs launched a surrender policy in April 1998. It saw a revision in 2005<sup>29</sup> and 2018.<sup>30,31,32</sup> Jammu and Kashmir first prepared its own surrender policy in January 2004 offering Rs. 1.5 Lakhs three years after surrender and a vocational training along with monthly stipend of Rs. 2000.<sup>33</sup>

### 3. LAW IN THEORY AND LAW IN PRACTICE

The scale and expanse of the violence present a challenge which is not a case of law and order or even public order or internal disturbance as referred to by the courts and the State. It is an armed conflict – an area of international humanitarian law – that the Indian State is well versed with and legally bound to adhere under the Geneva Conventions and other international law treaties and customs.<sup>34</sup>

It is evident that the domestic remedies – the police station and magistrate who investigate an encounter OR the judiciary that provides judicial review OR the substantive penal laws that do not capture the horror of war – are inadequate and likely unwilling to act. Further, there is evidently an unwillingness on the side of the State to allow for any accountability or review of the violence.

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<sup>29</sup> Ministry of Home Affairs, *Annual Report 2005–06* (2006) 20, 26

[https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport\\_05\\_06.pdf](https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_05_06.pdf).

<sup>30</sup> South Asia Terrorism Portal, 'Surrender of Militants'

[https://www.satp.org/satporgtp/countries/india/document/papers/scheme\\_4\\_surrender\\_of\\_militants.htm](https://www.satp.org/satporgtp/countries/india/document/papers/scheme_4_surrender_of_militants.htm);

<sup>31</sup> Press Information Bureau, 'Policy towards surrendered insurgents' (Government of India, 7 February 2018)

<https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1519502&reg=3&lang=2>; Press Information Bureau,

'Surrender Cum Rehabilitation of Militants' (Government of India, 20 March 2018)

<https://www.pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=177726&reg=3&lang=2>;

<sup>32</sup> Ministry of Home Affairs, *Annual Report 2003–04* (2004) 37

[https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport\\_03\\_04.pdf](https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_03_04.pdf).

<sup>33</sup> Ministry of Home Affairs, *Annual Report 2004–05* (2005) 31,

[https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport\\_04\\_05.pdf](https://गृहमंत्रालय.सरकार.भारत/sites/default/files/AnnualReport_04_05.pdf); Government of Jammu and Kashmir,

*Rehabilitation Policy* (31 January 2004) <https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/JK-RehabilitationPolicy.pdf>.

<sup>34</sup> International Committee of the Red Cross, *The Geneva Conventions of 1949 and Their Additional Protocols* <https://www.icrc.org/en/law-and-policy/geneva-conventions-and-their-commentaries>.

The State today offers a surrender policy (the execution of which is yet to be enquired into and reviewed) to the most senior of political leaders and decision makers and armed combatants of the same party. That the State does this in an opaque manner where its past record with those taken into their “custody” is poor is one matter. But, as a principle of international law and politics – Amnesty<sup>35</sup> – is to be welcomed at the end of armed conflict. In fact, we may draw inspiration from our own Constitution which allows for imaginative political resolution. Not only amnesty but even allowing self-governance for the Adivasis’ is in line with the Constitution. This amnesty should extend to those arrested as part of this conflict, powers recognized in the Constitution and domestic criminal law. The only exception would be where “war crimes” have been perpetrated – by any of the parties to the conflict.

What are some of the issues concerning Adivasi rights that took the shape of the armed conflict between the MM and the State? What now as the State declares the end of the MM? What of the people of the region? Will the state address their demands and struggles? Now that the MM, or as per the State narrative the largest security threat to the nation and primary obstacle in the development of Adivasis, has been neutralised, how will the state ensure Adivasi rights? What is the writing on the wall in the form of amended laws, mining policies, Adivasi movements over resources in other tribal areas? The next part of this report addresses the implications of the State’s ‘victory’ for addressing Adivasis’ rights in the contexts of a state-capital nexus over mining and resources in Bastar. For at the moment, though Kagaar might be over, these Adivasi concerns remain unresolved.

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<sup>35</sup> International Committee of the Red Cross, *Amnesties* (Factsheet, October 2017) [https://www.icrc.org/sites/default/files/document/file\\_list/170545\\_amnesties\\_factsheet\\_october\\_2017\\_clean\\_en.pdf](https://www.icrc.org/sites/default/files/document/file_list/170545_amnesties_factsheet_october_2017_clean_en.pdf).

## PART II : CONTEXTS

The Maoist Movement, (what the state terms 'LWE'), the other party in the war, was spread across vast forests and tribal villages and the CPI (Maoist) ran a parallel administration with a uniformed armed force of 10,000 personnel. The spatial and socio-political reach of the movement among Adivasi communities is evident in that it took the government 26 years, and in the last two years a force of 66,000 security personnel,<sup>36</sup> to defeat the MM. The death count of 607 in Bastar, arrests of 487, and nearly 1496 surrenders, recorded in the foregoing tables, invites attention to the success of the Operation as well as the numbers of the 'enemy'. The impact of Kagaar on the Adivasi society of Bastar, however, extends far beyond these directly affected individuals and the immediate moment, as this Part will illustrate. The one common factor between those killed and arrested and those who surrendered is that they are primarily Adivasis, people who have been regarded as members/ associates/ sympathisers of the Maoist party across successive governments and operations. The DRG too is composed of Adivasis. With Adivasis as this civil war's principal protagonists, the conflict is very much rooted in their rights: while the MM might be over as per the government, the issues behind the movement remain.

Historically, Bastar was part of what was known as Dandakaranya (Forest of Punishment), encompassing Bastar Division's seven districts, and parts of Odisha, Telengana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. Until recently, these were the areas where the MM was present and active. Although the data covers only the Bastar region, the underlying causes behind the struggles are common to other Adivasi regions.

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<sup>36</sup> Alok Putul, 'Why Indian Forces have Launched a Deadly Assault on Maoists' *Al Jazeera* (22 May 2025) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/5/22/warzone-why-indian-forces-have-launched-a-deadly-assault-on-maoists>.

## BOX 4: LEGAL REGIME

The conflict between the Indian State and Adivasis of central-eastern India is fundamentally one relating to economic and political rights over their customary lands, forests and natural resources.

British rule established the doctrine of eminent domain, through which the colonial State appropriated legal, economic and political rights over land, forests and natural resources. Series of forest legislations in the late nineteenth century, culminating in the Indian Forest Act of 1927, disenfranchised and dispossessed Adivasis from their customary lands through the devices of administrative and criminal law. Under this, the State arrogated to itself the authority to categorize forests into reserved, protected and village forests, thereby extinguishing existing customary rights of Adivasis, and vesting the power in the State, particularly the forest bureaucracy, to undertake piecemeal and discretionary recognition of their rights to use and inhabit forest lands. Through large tracts of forests in India, the rights recognition process did not occur at all, rendering Adivasis and forest dwellers into a legal limbo where they occupied their traditional homelands only upon state sufferance. Simultaneously, unauthorized use of forest lands were declared as forest offences, turning Adivasis into encroachers and criminals on their own lands.

The doctrine of eminent domain percolated the entirety of the colonial legal regime, particularly those relating to land, forests and natural resources. General and specific land acquisition laws, including the colonial LA Act, Railways Act etc., as well as those relating to natural resources, such as Coal Bearing Areas Act (CBA), as well as the postcolonial Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation Act (MMDR), the Forest Conservation Act (FCA) and others, are all premised on the doctrine of eminent domain. As per this, the State has the ultimate authority to own, control and dispose of natural resources, in pursuit of whatever it deems as 'public interest'. Eminent domain empowers the State to auction off minerals to State or private corporations for mining, to acquire land and to divert forests and its resources for dams, industries and commercial activities, to undertake deforestation and reforestation to suit the commercial needs of the State, to regulate the use of forest resources for livelihood needs. These colonial policies of resource appropriation engendered violent revolts across central-eastern India. These revolts resulted in concessions from the British government in the form of the Chhota Nagpur Tenancy Act (CNTA), the Santhal Pargana Tenancy Act (SPTA), as well as certain rights under the regime of 'Partially Excluded Areas', under which Adivasis retained partial rights to autonomy and self-governance over their customary lands and resources, limiting the legislative writ of the colonial government, and recognizing the political rights of customary institutions like the Gram Sabhas and village councils.

Article 244 of the Constitution of India, along with the Fifth Schedule, were believed to be the independent Indian State's constitutional guarantee to secure the right to autonomy and self-governance of Adivasis over their customary lands and forests. Under the Fifth Schedule, the Governor, acting on the advice of the Tribes Advisory Council, is empowered to delimit the legislative and executive writ of the centre and state in scheduled, or Adivasi-dominated areas, in the interest of protecting Adivasi identity and their rights over land, forests and customary resources. The Fifth Schedule prohibits the

alienation of tribal lands to non-tribals. In 1997, the Supreme Court of India in *Samatha v. State of Andhra Pradesh*, held that this prohibition on alienation of tribal lands to non-tribals includes alienation to or acquisition by the State. The Fifth Schedule further recognizes the right of Adivasis to self-governance through their customary laws and institutions.

Under the National Forest Policy of 1988, the central government for the first time recognized the livelihood rights of Adivasis to forest resources, and in 1996, Parliament enacted the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act to give statutory basis to the rights of customary institutions to self-govern in Adivasi areas, as well as recognizing the right of Gram Sabhas to prior consultation in case the State decides to put their customary resources to any commercial, industrial or other developmental uses. The Fifth Schedule remained largely unimplemented in Chattisgarh since the state government did not enact PESA rules until 2022.

This was followed, in 2006, by the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, in an attempt to undo the historical injustice that extinguished the customary rights of Adivasis and turned them into encroachers on their own lands. Apart from recognizing individual and collective forest rights, the FRA significantly gives form to the guarantee of autonomy by recognizing the right of Gram Sabhas to decision-making over their customary forest resources, and to protect, manage and conserve their forest resources. In 2013, in the landmark *Niyamgiri* decision, the Supreme Court held that this included the right to the free, prior and informed consent of Gram Sabhas before the State can undertake any activities affecting their customary forest resources. Cumulatively, this constitutional and statutory scheme departs from a view of land and forest resources through the lens of eminent domain, as mere economic resources meant for commercial exploitation, to essential economic, political, cultural and ecological resources that are inextricably tied to the lives, livelihoods and identity of Adivasis.

At least in principle, these constitutional and statutory guarantees have subsequently found mention in legislations relating to eminent domain as well. For instance, the EIA Notification 2006 under the Environmental Protection Act 1986 enjoins upon the state/ central government to avoid setting up development projects in scheduled areas as far as possible, and to explore alternatives outside scheduled areas. The EIA notification 2006 also mandates prior public hearings and consultations on the environmental impact of proposed projects before the central/ state government accords them environmental and forest clearance to operate. The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013 (LARR), which repealed and replaced the archaic 1894 land acquisition law, also mandates Social Impact Assessments and prior consent of affected communities before their land is acquired for any development projects particularly in Scheduled Areas, as well as the guarantee of compensation and rehabilitation to displaced forest dwelling communities. Similarly, Rules under the Forest Conservation Act, again until recently, encoded the Supreme Court *Niyamgiri* decision, to recognise forest rights and obtain the free, prior and informed consent of Gram Sabhas, before any proposed projects on forest lands are granted final forest clearance. The MMDR too requires corporations benefiting from the exploitation of mineral resources on Adivasi lands to pay the state governments royalties for the welfare of affected populations. Further, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act was amended in 2016 to specifically recognize dispossession and obstruction of forest rights as a punishable offence under the law.

However, these constitutional and statutory guarantees have scarcely translated into secure legal, political and governance

rights for Adivasis in central-eastern India. Although there is no authoritative single statistic on the scale of displacement since Independence, estimates up to 2013 peg the figure at 50 million persons across the country, out of which 40-60% are Adivasis, who otherwise represent a meagre 8.5% of the national population. There is scarcely any estimate of the scale of dispossession of rights since Independence, although that would likely bring almost every single Adivasi into account. That Adivasis have borne the disproportionate brunt of development-induced displacement is a testament to their political marginalization in the Indian republic, given that the states of Odisha, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh alone account for 70% of India's mineral reserves. The Report of the High Level Committee on Socio-Economic, Health and Educational Status of Tribal Communities of India (Xaxa Committee Report) of 2014 notes that almost 60% of India's forest resources fall in tribal areas. Independent India, however, persists in its avowed adoption of eminent domain in pursuit of its development goals at the cost of Adivasi rights and livelihoods, and has adapted colonial laws to further entrench State control over land and forest resources. This includes, for instance, the Forest Conservation Act of 1980, which, contrary to its name, was enacted for the purpose of empowering the central government to divert forests for development projects, and was recently amended in 2023 to allow even more such diversions in the name of "ease of doing business."

The long history of Adivasi dispossession through laws can be traced to 19th C British colonial legislation. The Indian Forest Act of 1865, later revised in 1878 and re-enacted in 1927, stripped indigenous communities of their traditional way of life- economically, socially and culturally. Their land and forests turned into "government property", activities such as gathering forest produce, collecting fuel, cultivation now required permission of the Forest Department which treated every Adivasi activity in the forests, including habitation, as an act of "encroachment" and an offence. One instance of the colonial state exploiting forest wealth for commerce and building infrastructure, was the felling of primal forests to meet the requirement for railway sleepers. Laws criminalizing traditional tribal lifestyles met with resistance, which is now remembered as the early sparks of the Adivasi struggle in India. In Bastar the 1910 Adivasi uprising over land, forests, survival and dignity, remembered as *Bhumkal*, was revived by the MM and is celebrated to this day. This legacy of struggle echoed in Bastar's forests as post-independent India pushed for industrialisation. The discovery of minerals, in particular the iron ore deposits, made Bastar lucrative for its mineral resources.

The Constitution of free India acknowledged that the Adivasis needed the right to self-govern and this finds expression in the Fifth Schedule. But independent India didn't respect the constitutional rights of tribal communities to self-govern and their control over forest resources.

The PESA (Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act) in 1996, and the Forest Rights Act of 2006, are key legislations that devolve power to the Gram Sabhas, the village council. However, their introduction and enforcement have been lax, and progressively undermined by subsequent policies/legislations and administrative actions. The hiatus between the promise of self-governance and actual implementation of this constitutional provision has resulted in conflict in India's Adivasi regions for over seven decades.

It is a myth that Adivasis believe in subsistence level existence without any improvement or betterment of their lives. Their lived experience has been of losing their forests, land and natural resources in the name of a corporate led, state-sanctioned "development" that destroys their lives and livelihoods, with decisions made without their participation, representation and consent as required under law. Mining and industry involved clearing forest cover and felling millions of trees, which not only destroyed primal deciduous forests but also the complex eco-systems in which Adivasis live. Making Adivasi rights to "Jal, Jungle, Zameen" a core part of their ideology, the MM gained and sustained support as defenders of Adivasi society. The MM did slow down deforestation,<sup>37</sup> although it could not halt forest diversion. However, their presence was leveraged by the Adivasi and social activists, to push the UPA led central government to introduce reforms in the 21<sup>st</sup> century such as through the enactment of the Forest Rights Act (FRA). In some tribal areas, the FRA enabled individual and community rights over forests. The administration increased the area under irrigation significantly. In 2001 an estimated 1.58 lakh hectares of cultivable land rose to 2.05 l ha, and irrigated land grew from a mere 9000 ha to 66,000 ha.<sup>38</sup>

Simultaneously, the central and state governments continued to undermine the foundation of the law without repealing it, by exempting a burgeoning number of project categories from its

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<sup>37</sup> The Polis Project, 'Years of Oppression in the Name of Development: A Tale of Ongoing Human Rights Violations in Bastar'

<https://thepolisproject.com/read/years-of-oppression-in-the-name-of-development-a-tale-of-ongoing-human-rights-violations-in-bastar/>; Ajoy Ashirwad Mahaprashsta, 'The War in Bastar', *Frontline*, (Darbhajaldalpur, June 12, 2013).

<sup>38</sup> Sanjay Singh, 'Jam Kar Sichai, Bhar-Bhar Kamai' *Dainik Bhaskar* (Bastar, 2 November 2025).

application, misplaced conservation measures if any, falsifying Gram Sabha consent, and the large-scale rejection of claims under the FRA processes. These have been frequently upheld by the judiciary, for instance in the recent Bilaspur High Court order, upholding the rejection of community forest rights which had been recognised in Hasdeo Aranya in north Chhattisgarh to facilitate coal mining by Adani Company. (*See Box 6*)

The BJP led central government during the COVID-19 pandemic introduced a major overhaul of the regulatory scheme on mining, environment and forests through amendments to the MMDR Act, enactment of new Rules under the Forest Conservation Act, and series of executive notifications under the Environmental Protection Act relating to EIAs. Such interventions to enable acquisition of forest land for mining, have been accompanied by an increased paramilitary and police presence. The overarching concern now is that changes in law, policy and rules, together with the apex court resiling from its decades old judgements on environment, forest and Adivasis' consent, are increasingly easing the entry of public and private sector corporations into mining and augmenting non-forest activities.

## WHAT MOTIVATED THE PURSUIT OF MILITARY OPTION?

In April 2006, in a meeting of Chief Ministers, former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh described Left Wing Extremism as the “single biggest internal security challenge”. By June 2009, the government had extended the existence of the MM as a security concern to one deleterious to “investment”: “If Left Wing Extremism continues to flourish in important parts of our country which have tremendous natural resources, that will certainly affect the climate for investment”. The Salwa Judum which began in June 2005, followed upon popular protests by Adivasi villagers against the newly created state of Chhattisgarh prioritising mining in its development plan in 2000. During Salwa Judum, villagers were driven away from their villages and forced into camps so as to suppress the MM, which was considered as the organiser and motivator of the popular protests against mining, and for forest rights. In 2009 under

Operation Green-hunt, security forces carried out area domination exercises in the contested terrain, with the enactment of FRA and promise of “development” as a parallel track.

In 2024 the government rolled out Operation Kagaar, its largest offensive against the MM in Bastar, where the body count and other tolls multiplied manifold, as tabulated in the Annexures. The scale of Operation Kagaar can be estimated from its co-ordinated character involving the state armed battalions (CAF/STF/DRG), central armed police forces (CRPF/BSF/ITBP), and even the Indian Air Force, along with “technical assistance” received from the ISRO, NTRO, ITBP & NSG.

BOX 5:  
THE BAN AND PERSECUTION OF THE  
MOOLVASI BACHAO MANCH (MBM)

A notable incident is that of the 30 October 2024 ban of the Moolvasi Bachao Manch (MBM) and targeting of its members. While the notification was dated 30.10.2024, it was notified in the Official Gazette only on 08.11.2024, and the MBM received information about it indirectly through Whatsapp channels on 18 November 2024. The MBM was banned for ONE year under Section 3 of the Chattisgarh Special Public Security Act, 2005 (CSPSA) and declared an “unlawful organization”. The notification of the ban states as follows:

“Whereas, the State Government has reports that the organization Moolvasi Bachao Manch is continuously opposing the development works being carried out by the Central and State Governments in the Maoist affected areas and the construction of the security force camps being built to conduct these development works and is instigating the general public. At the same time, interfering in the administration of law and promoting disobedience to institutions established by law and disturbing public order, peace and endangering safety of citizens, which is prejudicial to the security of the State”.

Formed during the 2021 Silger protests against the establishment of a security camp, the MBM had been actively raising its voice against displacement, State violence, militarisation, and mass incarceration of Adivasi youth under criminal and security laws. As per its own petition filed (through its founder and former President Raghu Midiyami) in the Chattisgarh High Court (Bilaspur), the MBM describes itself as: “...a peaceful and decentralized grassroots platform formed by Adivasi youth in the aftermath of the police firing at Silger in May 2021. It functions lawfully to defend constitutional rights and statutory protections of Adivasi communities in Fifth Schedule Areas of Chhattisgarh—especially the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA), and the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA). The organisation has consistently employed nonviolent methods, including representations to authorities, press briefings, community meetings, and commemorative

public gatherings”.

The Silger police firing of May 2021 refers to the death of four persons, including one woman, when the police opened fire on an assembly of Adivasis who had gathered to protest the establishment of security camps on their customary lands without their free, prior and informed consent. The petition also provides extensive narration of the work and interventions of the MBM in full public view and the manner in which the State has regularly sought to thwart its protests and work.

MBM challenged the ban on several grounds, including those of vagueness, lack of adequate reasons, non-compliance with requirements of fair notice, along with a constitutional challenge to several provisions of the CSPA, particularly its violation of the rights to association and due process. Further, the state government had not constituted the statutory Advisory Board for the confirmation of the ban within the six week period prescribed under Section 5(2) of the CSPA. By its order dated 5.05.2025, the High Court dismissed MBM’s petition against the ban finding it to be premature as the proceedings before the Advisory Board, belatedly constituted, were still pending, and MBM had filed its representation before it on 23.11.2024. However, the matter is now infructuous since the Chhattisgarh government did not renew the ban under CSPA since its lapse one year since. However, the lapse of the ban does not mark the end of MBM’s plight.

The CSPA had previously been challenged in the Bilaspur High Court in PUCL v. State of Chhattisgarh, which was dismissed in 2014. The petitioners later appealed before the Supreme Court, where the petition is still pending. The CSPA, like the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), enables the government to ban organizations, broadly on grounds of public order disturbance, incitement to violence, and disobedience of State institutions. The notification banning MBM invoked grounds of public order disturbance and disobedience to State institutions, and did not allege any incitement to violence.

While the power to proscribe organizations under the CSPA are themselves vague and over-broad, the procedure prescribed for such proscription lacks fairness and independence of decision-making. Under this law, notifications proscribing unlawful organizations are to be placed before an ad-hoc three-person Advisory Board, to be appointed by the state government itself. The law provides no substantive qualifications for members of these Advisory Boards beyond the fact that they must have ten years of legal practise behind them. In this matter, the CSPA dilutes even the pretense of due process under the UAPA, which at least requires the constitution of a Tribunal to post-facto confirm the notification, where the Chairperson must be a sitting or retired judge of the High Court. At these confirmation hearings, the government may withhold the reasons for proscription from the affected organization in the interest of security, rendering them unable to make an effective representation against the ban.

MBM’s petition before the High Court noted that its members faced harassment and arrest under the UAPA and CSPA both prior to and after the ban. For instance, Suneeta Pottam, Vice-President of MBM and member of PUCL, was arrested in June 2024 by plainclothes policemen outside their jurisdiction without an arrest warrant or informing her of the grounds of arrest. Pottam faced prosecution under sixteen cases filed between 2020-23, all in different villages of Bijapur. Allegations include offences relating to attempt to murder, grievous hurt unlawful assemblies, obstructing public servants, among others under the IPC, as well as offences under Arms Act, Explosive Substances Act, Destruction of Public Properties Act, UAPA etc. She was also declared as a proclaimed offender. She has since been acquitted in at least eleven cases but continues in detention. Similarly, Krishna Kumar Kadti was also arrested in June 2024 prior to the notification. On the date when the ban was notified,

the High Court petition points out that nine members of MBM and fifty other villagers were arrested under the CSPA. On 03.05.2025, Pottam was re-arrested by the NIA under RC-02/2023/NIA/RPR under UAPA on allegations of supporting and raising funds for a banned organisation and identifying the MBM as a frontal organization of the CPI(Maoist) and was transferred to six days of police custody under the NIA. Pertinent to note that the notification of the Chhattisgarh government banning MBM under CSPA made no such allegations. As per this FIR and subsequent NIA chargesheets, the MBM organized protests against security camps, including the one at Silger, at the behest of the CPI(Maoist).

Prior to Suneeta's arrest, MBM's founder, Raghu Midiyami was arrested by the NIA under the same case on 27.02.2025. Presently, at least four members of MBM face incarceration in this NIA case, including Midiyami, Pottam, Gajendra Madvi and Dashrath Modiyam. While Dashrath was arrested by the NIA on the same day as Pottam, Gajendra Madvi was the first to be arrested two years prior, on 25.05.2023, even before the case had been transferred to the NIA. At the time, this was registered as FIR No.61/2023 at PS Bijapur under Section 8(1), (3) and (5) of the CSPA and Sections 10 and 13 of UAPA, naming four accused persons, Gajendra Madvi, and three other alleged members of CPI(Maoist), namely, Laxman Kunjam, Mallesh Kunjam and Shankar Muchaki. The case was transferred to the NIA Raipur on 24.08.2023. Raghu Midiyami, Suneeta Pottam and Dashrath Modiyami were only later added as accused in the matter and arrested. All four MBM members continue to be in detention in the matter presently.

The state has also used the proscription of the CPI (Maoist) as “terrorist organization” to construct the category of ‘Urban Naxals’, using arrests under UAPA to silence dissident voices opposing military operations and violation of Adivasi rights. The combination of military suppression and curbing of dissent contributed to the shrinking of districts under “influence” of the MM from 125 in 2014, to 2 as on March 31, 2026.

Along with the military suppression of the MM, the government has been curtailing local people’s protests and agitations. On October 30, 2024 the Chhattisgarh state government under Chhattisgarh Special Public Security Act 2005, proscribed an Adivasi organisation, Moolvasi Bachao Manch (MBM) accusing it (and its leaders) of being fronts of the Maoist party (*See Box 5*). The Manch had led campaigns against displacement, exploitation of natural resources, and setting up of security forces camps. It was demanding a participatory approach to development, better health and education services. The ban on the organisation (since lifted) and arrests, have significantly not stemmed the protests.

## WANING OF THE MAOIST MOVEMENT AND WAXING OF THE GOVERNMENT'S MINING POLICY

As the MM appears to draw to an end in Bastar region there is fear that there would be a renewed Government push for mining activities.<sup>39</sup>To begin with, Chhattisgarh state's Industrial Policy 2024-30 claims to have "prioritised" promotion of sectors such as pharma, agro-processing, textiles, tourism, IT, defence, aero-space, and digital technology for the Bastar area. However, out of the Rs 52,000 cr worth of development plans announced for Bastar, majority are driven by investments by NMDC (Rs 43,000 cr), Railways (Rs 5200 Cr), road infra-structure (Rs 2300 cr) and Rs 200 cr, for a Super Speciality Hospital. Only Rs 1000 cr are proposed by the private sector in services and MSMEs.<sup>40</sup>

So, almost 98% of the investments planned are in mining or linked to mining. NMDC increased its iron ore production from 44 million tonnes in 2024-25, to 53.15 MT in 2025-26, and its target is to raise it to 100 MT by 2030, implying a near doubling of production in just four years, as per its website. The company's target for 2026-27 is 67 MT, an increase of 14 MT. So, the fears of the Adivasi people, that with the end of the MM there will be an increase in mining related activities, are well grounded.

Apart from expansion of mining, it is striking that for the first time the private sector has acquired mining leases in Bailadila Hills. It is worth remembering that 61% of all iron ore mine leases in the country are held by private companies, and just 39% are state owned entities<sup>41</sup>. Bailadila Hills are unique in this respect, where until recently no private company has been granted mining lease. Private corporations such as Adani Enterprises did sign a joint venture with NCL (a joint company of NMDC and CMDC) to develop Deposit 13; whereas Essar Ltd

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<sup>39</sup> Santoshi Markam, 'Maoism weakens, Mining strengthens: Bastar's Forests at Stake in the Race for 'Development' *The Wire* (8 January 2026).

<sup>40</sup> Ejaz Kaiser, 'Rs 52,000 cr worth of development investment projects outlines in Bastar' *The New Indian Express* (11 September 2025)  
<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/chhattisgarh-bastar-emerges-as-hub-of-investment-and-development-with-rs-52000-crore-projects20250911163626/>.

<sup>41</sup> Indian Bureau of Mines, Ministry of Mines, *Indian Minerals Yearbook 2022* (Part III: Mineral Review, 61st edn, March 2024) 'Iron Ore' [https://ibm.gov.in/writereaddata/files/17125794946613e3a6b3a5dIron\\_ore\\_2022.pdf](https://ibm.gov.in/writereaddata/files/17125794946613e3a6b3a5dIron_ore_2022.pdf).

(now owned by Arcelor Mittal Corporation) has a slurry processing unit in Bachel. But neither held mining leases in their name. In 2025, four mines were leased for an unprecedented 50 years, three in Bailadila in Dantewada district, and one in Halahaddi deposit in Kanker District. Deposit-1 (a) and (b) mines were leased to Arcelor Mittal Co, and 1(c) to Rungta Steel. So, all the three mines leased in Bailadila Hills went to private companies, and NMDC was granted just one lease in Halahaddi.<sup>42</sup>

There is anxiety over mining leases especially with respect to procuring Gram Sabha consent. Fraudulently acquired consent has been the bane of actual operation of PESA in rural Bastar region, just as elsewhere. For instance, public sector NMDC-CMDC received clearance to mine Deposit-4 of Bailadila mines, based on a public hearing allegedly held on 12 September, 2023 at ITI, Bhansi. Villagers told Dainik Bhaskar that 350 villagers who gathered at the public hearing site were protesting outside and refused to join the meeting or sign the attendance register. The report claims that the 22 signatures shown in the attendance register are all government employees and not a single villager's sign is present.<sup>43</sup>

Local media in Bastar reported that on 10 January of the current year, representatives from twenty Gram Sabhas from Dantewada, Bijapur and Sukma districts protested at Bhansi in district Dantewada, against what the Adivasis claimed was an illegal public hearing. Rejecting the NMDC officers' assurances that benefits in form of employment, health facilities, drinking water, solar lights, schools etc would be made available to them if they withdrew their opposition, the villagers demanded to know what had the company provided them in over 60 years of mining in the area, pointing out that in Bailadila's L1 and L2 mines, local people have been denied employment.<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> 'Simatte Naxalvad Se Badta Nivesh, Arcelor Mittal, NCL Aayenge Bastar' *Dainik Bhaskar* (12 April 2025).

<sup>43</sup> 'Dava: Deposit 4 Par Logon Ki Manjuiri, Tab Khanan Ko Hari Jhandi, Haqiqat Farzi Gram Sabha 22 Hastakshar Bhi Sarkari Karmiyon Ke' *Dainik Bhaskar* (17 March 2026).

<sup>44</sup> '60 Saal Bailadila Khodkar Kya Diya? Yahi Puch Raja Bangla Mein Khanan Ka Virodh', *Dainik Bhaskar* (11 January 2026).

Along with several of them losing their land, villagers fear contamination of both farmland and water bodies. Mining in Bailadila hills takes place in 'open cast mines'. Black iron metal effluents have been entering the various tributaries of Indravati river in Bastar region for decades, affecting human and animal life alike. Arcelor Mittal Company was in the news in Dantewada district in February 2026 for dumping red earth from their slurry plant close to water bodies and on the shores of river Shankhani and Dakhni, which can flow into them during monsoons. So, tensions arose when the Company issued notices for acquisition of 53 ha of farmland which they claim to have bought in 2008. The farmland located in Gram Panchayat Phoolpad and Palnar of Dantewada belonged to two farmers Mokol and Gokol. Both told Dainik Bhaskar that they never sold their land and had only signed an agreement for selling Sagaun trees. According to the Tehsildar (revenue officer) while the mutation exercise was being undertaken by his office, farmers protested and insisted that they had not sold their land. What upset the villagers was that the land being acquired by the Company is meant for dumping red earth. It is easy for the effluents and dumped red earth from mines to spill over into surrounding fields, damage crops and contaminate cultivable land.<sup>45</sup> These reported instances are not aberrations but a reminder that the Adivasis of Bastar face challenges at every stage of the process meant ostensibly to protect their interests.

Like central laws, state laws too gave special rights to Adivasis, which barred transfer and alienation of their agricultural land. The Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, (subsequently Chhattisgarh Land Revenue Code) 1959 [Section 165(6)], debars the transfer of agricultural land belonging to Adivasis in an area 'predominantly inhabited' by Adivasis [6(i)], and in other areas, the transfer requires the permission of Revenue Officer with reasons recorded in writing [6(ii)]. Further, Section 170-A stipulates restoration of land that has been transferred in contravention of the above sections, and Section 170-B provides for the reversion of land of members of Scheduled Tribes that was transferred by fraud. Section 170-B of Chhattisgarh Panchayat Raj Evam Gram Swaraj Adhiniyam 1993 (amended in 1997) empowers the Gram Sabha to act to restore alienated land, with the final responsibility in this matter resting with the

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<sup>45</sup> 'Mittal Ka Dava- 132 Acre Zameen Apni, Adivasi Bole-Dhoke Se Registry', *Dainik Bhaskar* (1 February 2026).

Revenue Administration. Due to a special provision in the Constitution, the Panchayat Act 1993 was exempted from application in the Scheduled Areas and new provisions were made in the form of the PESA 1996. The Act provides for self-governance as per Adivasi traditions and customary practices and gives power over a range of subjects including land alienation and even land acquisition.

But these laws too are marked by the lack/subversion of implementation. The widespread fears and uncertainty about displacement, dispossession, loss of land and forest rights can be gauged from a meeting held on 3 January, in Tokapal block of Bastar district. At the meeting Adivasi villagers voiced their demand for a separate Bastar state vested with powers under 5<sup>th</sup> Schedule as provided for by Article 244 (2) of the Constitution.<sup>46</sup>

## THE RESOURCES WHICH ARE COVETED

Land and forest are the most contested resources in Bastar. The Adivasis live in a resource rich region, but these very resources have made them vulnerable because of sustained and reckless mining. They fear its environmental, social and economic consequences. Large scale tree-felling is endemic to mining as apparent for instance from the Maharashtra Chief Minister's claim that 50 million trees would be planted as part of Compensatory Afforestation in south Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra.<sup>47</sup> The thrust of such compensatory afforestation is finally monetization of forest resources. Mining in deforested eco-systems causes rising dust levels, polluting effluents which poison cultivable land, contaminates rivers, destroy floral and faunal biodiversity, and contribute to human-animal conflicts. While on paper there are provisions which protect Adivasi rights and confer authority on them for self-governance, governments' denying Adivasis full benefits as provided in the Constitution, has for long been a matter of concern for the Adivasis. Successive Governments in New Delhi and state capitals continue to prioritise attracting investments in the mining sector. This trend of facilitating corporate mining is

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<sup>46</sup> 'Graminon Ne Uthai Prithak Bastar Rajya Ki Maang' *Dainik Bhaskar* (04 January 2026).

<sup>47</sup> Shishir Arya and Soumitra Bose, 'Ex-Maoist Gets Llyod Metals offer to be 'Brand Ambassador'', *Times of India* (Nagpur, 16 October 2025).

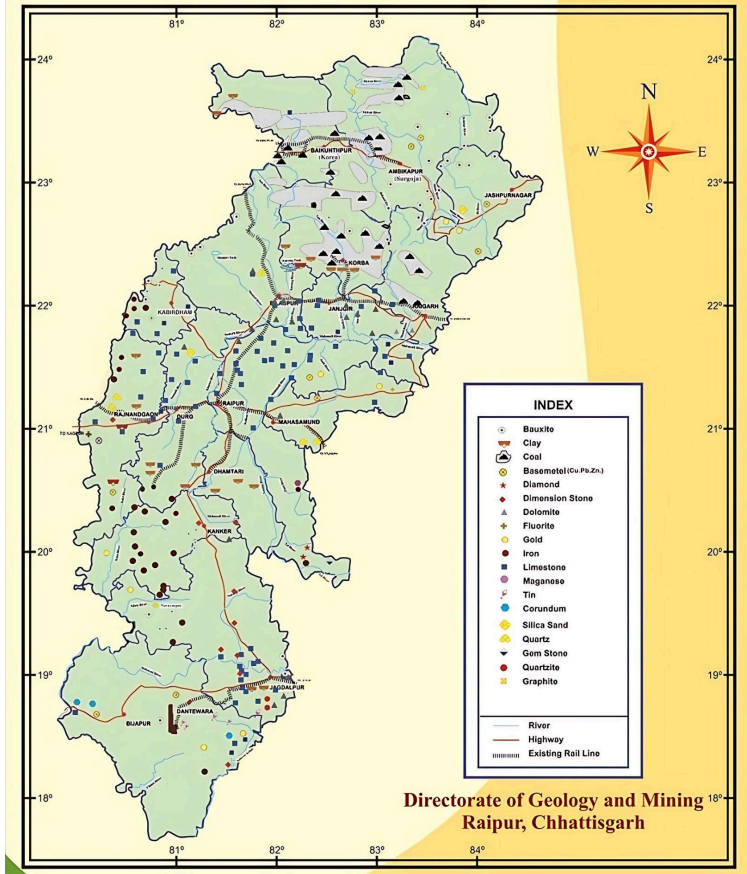
evident also from changes in the policy and legal eco-system governing mining, forest diversion etc.

First consider the mineral resources of Bastar Division.

Seven districts in Bastar Division hold not only large reserves of iron ore but also Bauxite, Dolomite, Tin ore and Limestone besides Gold, Diamonds etc. The Bastar region is known for its rich iron ore and other mineral deposits. Dantewada alone contributes about 50% of the state's mineral revenue, 51 mining leases have been granted in the Bastar Division, of which only 14 are with the Public Sector.

MAP 2:  
MINERAL MAP OF CHHATTISGARH

# Mineral Map of Chhattisgarh



Source: Mineral Resources Department,  
Government of Chhattisgarh  
(No date. Last Accessed 9 April 2026)

1. Iron Ore: The Bailadila hill range in the Dantewada district is one of India's largest iron ore fields, with multiple deposits (e.g., Deposit No. 5, 10/11A, 11B, 11C, 14, 14 NMZ) that are mined by the NMDC. Other deposits are found in the Rowghat, Chhote Dongar, Chargaon, Metabodeli, and Hahaladdi deposits are in neighboring Kanker and Rajnandgaon districts.
2. Tin Ore: Bastar and Dantewada districts are the primary, and in many cases the sole, source of tin ore in India.
3. Bauxite: Occurrences are noted in the Bastar, Dantewada, and Kanker districts.
4. Limestone: Deposits are widespread in the Bastar and Kanker areas.
5. Gold, Garnet, and Marble: These minerals also have identified occurrences or deposits in various districts across the division.

## AN INVESTOR FRIENDLY APPROACH

A report prepared by Ernst Young & Parthenon on behalf of the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries and published by the Union Ministry of Mines (January 2025)<sup>48</sup> states:

“Minerals are vital to any modern economy. However, the extraction of minerals impacts the environment, economy and people. To ensure that the needs of tomorrow are met, the negative impacts need to be minimised and the benefits or positives to be maximised. It is also important to prioritise specific exploration and mining efforts to develop minerals which may not be commercially viable but carry domestic strategic interests in the world of new technological development and areas such as Defence.” (p 13)

The Report issued by the Union Ministry of Mines acknowledges that mining “impacts” the environment, economy and people, including “negative impacts”. But when the Report speaks of “stakeholders” and “seamless collaboration” it confines the collaborators to the central and state governments and industry. Conspicuous by their absence, Adivasis and other forest

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<sup>48</sup> Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (for the Ministry of Mines), *Report on States' Best Practices in Mining* (January 2025) <https://mines.gov.in/admin/download/685a874e549cd1750763342.pdf>.

dwellers are not recognized as “stakeholders” in mining policy as per this report, although it is their abode over which other “stakeholders” are being created.

The report states that:

“While this report aims to help various stakeholders improve awareness of best practices, its implementation will require seamless collaboration between the central government, state governments and the industry. The report outlines five thematic pillars of recommendations to drive not only the adoption of initiatives, but also the achievement of their expected outcomes” (p 15).

As per the report, although India is among the ten richest mineral rich countries, mining only contributes 2% to the country’s GDP, unlike in Russia, China, Australia, Brazil, Canada, South Africa etc where it ranges between 7-10%. It observes:

“The mining sector can make significant measurable contributions to GDP, employment generation, reducing costs of production for domestic downstream industries, bringing FDI in the country and preparing our nation for the future by identifying and mining strategic rare earth and deep-seated minerals” (p 13).

## INVESTOR FRIENDLY MINING POLICY

Starting 2015, the Government of India began to amend its mining policy in favour of the mining industry. In 2015 the Government brought in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act 2015. The Act under Section 6, clause (b) of sub-section (1) increased the area limits with respect to prospective license and mining leases without specifying any maximum limit. Also, under Section 8 (2) & (3) it extended the duration of mining leases from 20-30 years to an additional 20 years. The new Act made it more industry friendly. The amendments were significantly different from the draft MMDR bill referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee in 2011, which after much debate, deliberation, and civil society

interventions had brought the proposed lease duration to 10 years, and proposed to restrict the area limit of mine lease to 10 sq kms.

Who the policies were designed to profit, and at whose cost became even clearer in changes which followed. The National Mineral Policy (2019),<sup>49</sup> in its Para 6.12(c) “Welfare of Tribal Communities” says that

“Existence of minerals in tribal areas with rich biodiversity requires a comprehensive assessment. Land acquisition and displacement of tribal communities due to mining projects may lead to distress in tribal communities living in Scheduled Areas. Grant of mineral concessions in Scheduled Areas shall be guided by the provisions contained in article 244 read with Fifth and Sixth Schedules to the Constitution relating to administration of the Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas and the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 and the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 or any other relevant statutory acts protecting the interests of tribals. All Relevant Acts/Rules related to rehabilitation and resettlement like The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, subsequent amendments or any other relevant acts/rules shall be strictly implemented.”

The NMP 2019 in 6.12 (b) *Devolution of Mining Benefits to Project Affected Persons* says:

“The mining legislation has been amended to provide for the establishment of a District Mineral Foundation (“DMF”) with the objective of working for the interest and benefit of persons, and areas, affected by mining related operations. The objectives for devolution of mining benefits under DMF for inclusive and equitable development of project affected persons and areas are to be guided by the provisions of the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY).”

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<sup>49</sup> Ministry of Mines, *National Mineral Policy 2019*  
<https://mines.gov.in/admin/storage/app/uploads/64352887bcfa41681205383.pdf>.

A District Mineral Fund was set up which receives 33% of royalty from old mines and 10% for the new ones to provide for various measures such as drinking water, healthcare, education and physical infra-structure etc. The proposal of 26% equity for local community in the Company granted a mining lease under Section 9 B (5) of the 2015 Act, was changed into a provision of 33% of royalty to be paid by the Company to DMF. This removed the real stakeholders, the Adivasis, from ownership and receipt of a 26% share of the profit from mining. Thus, the provisions of the District Mineral Foundation/Fund underwent a devastating anti-Adivasi change.

At first glance the DMF appears an attractive measure. It is a non-profit institution with the District Collector as the Chairperson and CEO of the Zila Panchayat as its member secretary. The Governing Council comprises 20 members and includes three public representatives, three from among the Mineral Concession Holders, and 2 members of the Gram Panchayats of the directly affected areas, and rest are all ex-officio members and includes the District Collector, Superintendent of Police & the Divisional Forest Officer. Day to day management rests with the Managing Committee and this comprises only government officers. In other words, Adivasis have a token presence, mere 10% representation in this body. They neither control decisions or influence or play any role in preparation of the plans. Also, it is not clear as to what happens to residents of other districts, not considered “directly affected” by mining activities? Especially, when we know that contamination of soil, felling of trees, and effluents flowing into rivers and water bodies impacts livelihood of a much larger area than those considered “directly affected”.

As against ‘devolution’ in accordance with PESA, where power is devolved to the Gram Sabha, here the authority is merely delegated from a higher to a lower government echelon, which is an administrative arrangement, and skirts the provisions of PESA. By setting up DMF the government has now formally transferred the “devolution of mining benefits” to its own administrative officials especially the DM, SP, DFO among others, who directly manage and control the funds collected from mining royalty, and disburse them based on official annual

plans. People and areas affected are therefore passive recipients of “benefits” from mining, as per decisions made by government officials.

This top-down model turns people into beneficiaries of government munificence, and robs them of their entitlement. It makes Adivasis dependent on the government and does not enable them to self-govern. So however laudatory the aim of bringing benefits to Adivasi communities affected by mining, the structures established to achieve this robs them of autonomy, agency and rights. It may appear that the adverse effects of mining to an extent will be offset by some benefits, but this seeming munificence is designed to mask the real costs and allow uninterrupted degradation and dispossession as a consequence of mining and other related activities, at the expense of local people. In 2023 in yet another amendment in the MMDR Act, the National Critical Minerals Mission which aims to secure supply of minerals vital for clean energy, semiconductors and defence industries was set up. Further, a State Mineral Exploration Trust was constituted which will receive 2% royalty to enhance mineral exploration activities. The setting up of these two bodies promises to extend the search for new minerals together with expanding the area under mining, in the forest areas.

In addition to the changes in law, administrative orders and procedures too can serve the same purpose of undermining Adivasi interests, especially when backed by the judiciary. Take the Environment Impact Assessment (Notification) of 2006 which watered down the condition of “prior” Environmental Clearance, not once but twice; first in 2017 the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change issued a notification permitting those who commenced work on site without an environment clearance (EC), or expanded production beyond the limit of the ECs were allowed retrospective license from March 14, 2017 to 2021. Then in 2021 MoEF & CC through an “Office Memorandum” instituted a Standard Operating Procedure allowing projects which were in violation of law to get regularised by paying penalties and costs. This is what the Supreme Court upheld by 2:1 majority in *CREDAI v. Vanashakti* judgment on November 18, 2025, which recalled the apex court’s own May 16, 2025 landmark judgment which aimed to uphold the ‘Rule of Law’ over economic expediency, and barred the MOEF and CC, from granting retrospective ECs to projects, which did not

fulfil the laid down conditions. The impugned judgment had explicitly rejected the proposition that penalties under the “Polluter Pays Principle” could be a substitute for prior compliance. It had, therefore, ruled that illegal construction lacking prior clearance must be halted and demolished.

In contrast, the November 2025 judgment by the Review Bench of three judges by a 2:1 majority overturned the May 2025 order and they instead upheld post-facto EC as well as agreed with the Government of India that the May judgment would require demolition of “national assets” valued at over Rs 20,000 cr. thus lending weight to logic of economic expediency over ‘Rule of Law’. It entrenches the logic that violations of law on a large scale become practically irreversible and that payment of penalty compensates for the violations, regardless of the ‘Rule of Law’. Ironically, a one-time exception rejected by the 2 judge bench, has been made a norm by a 3 Judge bench.

The gravity of this order of the Review Bench (by 2:1 majority) further lies in undermining the apex Court’s own history of judgements which had crafted environmental jurisprudence to prescribe precautionary principle, inter-generational equity as well as the need for sustainable development. One of the judgments, which the majority judgment of the Review Bench cited in its favour, *Electrosteels Ltd v. State of Jharkhand*, is illustrative of how indulgent the Court was towards the violators, in this case a private company. The company, owned by the Vedanta group since 2018 under Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process, was found to have setup the 3 MTPA integrated steel plant 5.3 kms away from the Mauza Parbatpur site, for which they had received permission, to Bhagabandh in Bokaro district (Para 25). The company was also found to have encroached upon 220.88 acres of notified forest land (Para 28).<sup>50</sup>

Latest in this series of administrative measures was a MoEF&CC circular of 2 January, 2026, to the state governments and the Union Territories, directing them to allow for “utilization of

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<sup>50</sup> *Electrosteel Steels Limited v. Union Of India SLP (C.) Nos. 11226-11227 of 2020*, <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/170633682/>.

silviculturally available sustainable harvest from the forests”. And “Consequently, the requirements of Compensatory Afforestation and payment of Net Present Value shall not be applicable to such activities”. This would enable pulp and paper and other wood-based industry industries to start bamboo or tree plantations on forest land without having to pay or undertake other compensatory afforestation activities.

There are two issues of concern in this circular. Afforestation and plantation are used interchangeably (“afforestation/plantation”) as though they mean one and the same; afforestation is *meant* to restore natural forest eco-system, whereas plantations are commercial ventures where monocultural crops are harvested for industrial use. The difference in what afforestation means and what is practised as in India where mono-culture plantations are considered part of afforestation is apparent from the administrative sanction given to it, as evident in the Circular. Besides, unlike afforestation, the plantations are enclosed entities where local populations have no access. More significantly, if restoring forest coverage was the intended objective behind this Circular, then why is it that it is the private sector being favoured for this forest regeneration project, and the Adivasis, native to, and organically linked to the forests, ignored for this very purpose?

There is, besides, also a problem with the compensatory afforestation (CA), which includes regeneration of forests, pest and disease control, soil conservation, and above all ‘relocation of villagers from the protected areas’ in order to provide land for afforestation. If the land provided by the government were either degraded forests or revenue land it would be one thing. But when the parcel of land earmarked for CA means uprooting an existing village then it is another matter altogether. So, not only are Adivasis driven away from forest land diverted for non-forest use (mining), they also get displaced to provide the land needed for CA.

## BOX 6: AN ORDER WHICH CONFOUNDS

The Chhattisgarh High Court upheld the illegal revocation of community forest rights of Ghatbarra village residents. By dismissing the petition filed by Hasdeo Arand Bachao Sangharsh Samiti, challenging the illegal revocation under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA), the court has validated the arbitrary subversion of constitutionally safeguarded rights, legitimized administrative overreach in favour of mining interests, and undermined the constitutional protections guaranteed to forest-dwelling tribes.

The petitioners had sought restoration of community forest rights (CFR) that was unlawfully revoked in 2016 and they challenged the forest diversion approvals for Phase-II of the Parsa East Kete Basan (PEKB) coal mine, operated by Adani Enterprises through a joint venture with Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd (RRVUNL). This order has grave and immediate consequences for the tribal community as well as on the constitutional and statutory regime governing forest rights. The Hasdeo Arand forests spanning 170,000 hectares and recognized as one of central India's, and #39 of the world's largest unfragmented forest ecosystems, have been a site of relentless struggle since 2007. The dispute over PEBK has persisted for more than ten years. Home to endangered species as well as the primary source of sustenance for Adivasi communities in the area, these forests were classified as a "no-go-zone" for mining by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 2010 due to dense forest cover exceeding 60%. Despite this, the Central government had allotted the PEBK coal block to RRVUNL in 2007. The following year, RRVUNL appointed Adani Enterprises as the developer and operator of the mine and it is currently the largest operational mine of the Adani group. The Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) stated that the clearance was given without proper consultation and consent of the Gram Sabhas and the tribal communities residing in the area, as required under the FRA. This position of the FAC played a crucial role in the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) 2014 decision to cancel forest clearance for the PEBK coal blocks. However, the Supreme Court stayed the NGT's order, allowing mining activities to continue unabated amid ongoing protests and legal contradictions.

In fact, railway records reveal that millions of tonnes of coal from Hasdeo – allocated to Rajasthan for power generation – have been diverted to Adani-owned private power stations, raising serious questions about the legitimacy of this "public purpose" justification for land acquisition. Phase-I reserves were exhausted in six years instead of the projected timeline, triggering premature Phase-II clearance in 2022.

Thousands of Adivasis have been dispossessed from ancestral lands without adequate compensation or alternative livelihoods, violating both FRA and constitutional safeguards.<sup>51</sup> In 2013, CFR were formally recognized for Ghatbarra villagers, including rights over nistar (customary rights), minor forest produce, and grazing. However, in January 2016, the District-Level

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<sup>51</sup> Shruti Mokashi and Sharachandra Lele, *Community Forest Rights Recognition in Chhattisgarh State: Progress and Challenges* (Centre for Environment and Development, ATREE, Bengaluru, revised October 2021) [https://cfr.atree.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Copy-of-ATREE-Chhattisgarh-CFR-Study-Report-Draft\\_12Nov21.pdf](https://cfr.atree.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Copy-of-ATREE-Chhattisgarh-CFR-Study-Report-Draft_12Nov21.pdf).

Committee (DLC) in Surguja revoked these rights, claiming that they had been “issued by mistake” since the forest land had already been diverted for coal mining in 2012 for the PEKB block operated by Adani Enterprises

Twenty Gram Sabhas had passed resolutions opposing coal mining in 2015, invoking FRA and PESA protections. Despite these legal objections and pending petitions before the High Court and Supreme Court, tree-felling and mining operations resumed under heavy police protection. A 2024 investigation by the Chhattisgarh State Scheduled Tribes Commission confirmed forged documents and coerced Gram Sabha consents for obtaining forest clearances, including forged signatures of deceased persons. Over 81,000 trees have already been felled, with the Union Environment Minister confirming 368,217 trees will be “affected” for PEKB expansion alone. The proposed Kente Extension threatens an additional 450,000-600,000 trees.

The 2016 CFR revocation, now validated by the High Court, is patently illegal on multiple grounds. It violates the protections afforded under the FRA. Section 4(5) of the FRA provides that no forest dweller shall be evicted until the recognition and verification procedure is complete. The revocation order effectively evicted Ghatbarra residents without completing any fresh verification process. The 2016 revocation was passed without affording any opportunity of hearing to affected community members, violating the fundamental principle of natural justice enshrined in Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution.

Moreover, the Ministry of Environment and Forests through its 30 July 2009 directive clarified that forest land diversion proposals shall be considered only after recognition of forest rights and Gram Sabha consent. The forest clearances for PEKB preceded and sought to nullify CFR recognition. The 2016 revocation cited that community forest rights interrupt “mining work” and clearance was granted due to a “mistake”, ignoring the orders issued by MoEF & CC. The PESA Act mandates Gram Sabha consultation before land acquisition in Scheduled Areas. Multiple Gram Sabhas passed resolutions opposing such coal mining as early as 2011, which were systematically ignored or bypassed through forged consent documents as confirmed by the 2024 Tribal Commission investigation. The FRA was enacted as a remedial statute to correct “historical injustice”. The Supreme Court in *Orissa Mining Corporation v. Ministry of Environment and Forests* (2013) emphasized that FRA protections must be given full effect. Allowing such arbitrary revocation of rights not only violates the constitutional principles underpinning the Act but also undermines the very foundation of rights jurisprudence.

The High Court’s acceptance and validation of the State “mistake” theory subordinates FRA rights to prior administrative approvals obtained without FRA compliance. The judgment ignores systematic fraud documented by the Tribal Commission and gives an overriding effect to the Coal Mines Act, 2015 creating an absurd hierarchy where a subsequent coal allocation statute can retrospectively nullify rights recognized under the protective FRA.

Adivasis as any other people of India desire an improvement in their social conditions of existence with access to education, health and above all their consent and participation in decision-making over the diversion of forests for mining, road building and other projects. Earlier concerns were to ensure that forests, land and rivers were not destroyed in the process of so-called ‘development activities’, and that Adivasis benefitted from these projects. However, the consequences of the ‘corporate led development model’ in the past only brought workers

from outside to perform the various jobs created by the mining and allied sector & services. Their presence also deeply impacted the social life of the local population.

#### AMENDED DEFINITIONS: “FOREST”, NON-FOREST USE AND MILITARISATION

The amendment to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in 2023 has wide-ranging implications for Adivasis with forests being made available for non-forest purposes, most significantly mining and militarization. The 2023 amendment overturned the Supreme Court’s landmark judgement in *N. Godavarman Thirumulpad v. Union of India and Ors* (1996) which had laid down that “forest” recorded in the 1927 Act as well as any land which satisfied the dictionary meaning of forest i.e. a “large area with trees and undergrowth”, would define a forest. The 2023 amendment to the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 and the new Section 1A(1) has returned it to pre-1996 status, restricting the definition of “forest” to the area notified by the 1927 Act, and recorded as forest on or after 25 October 1980 (*See Box 7*). The amendment arbitrarily permits several categories of projects and activities in forest land, while exempting them from the purview of the Act. These “non-forest purposes” include eco-tourism facilities, safaris and zoos etc. It also exempts tree plantations and reforested areas.

Clauses (ii) and (iii) enable setting up of security camps inhabited by security forces, whose presence adds another social and cultural dimension to Adivasis experiences of dispossession of land and forest. In Bastar Division 412 security forces camps were set up at a distance of 2 to 5 kms of each camp. There has been a general mushrooming growth of police, paramilitary and army camps in Bastar region. Each para-military force requires secure compounds, helipads and fortified perimeters. Thus, the average camp size has grown. In addition, there is a mushrooming of police stations. With a camp every 2 to 5 kms range, it means abnormally high density too (*See Box 9*). The amendment 1A(2)(c)(i), it is worth noting, effectively covers 85% of Mizoram, 79% of Arunachal Pradesh, 76% of Meghalaya, 74% of Manipur, 74% of Nagaland, and 74% of Tripura!<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>52</sup> PRS Legislative Research, “The Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023” <https://prsindia.org/billtrack/the-forest-conservation-amendment-bill-2023>.

The end of the 'LWE' as claimed by the Government, should result in the shutting down of security camps, reduction of security forces and return of this land to Adivasis. However, the Chhattisgarh state Home Minister on 25 March 2026, announced in Jagdalpur, that 'the end of MM does not mean that security forces camps would be closed', implying that the government would not vacate the land, but that the camps would change character. He claimed that the camps will be used for development and administrative purposes. He was reported as saying that the camps would now have hospitals, schools, godowns for minor forest produce and their processing and skill development, while some camps would be turned into Police Stations.<sup>53</sup> According to Chhattisgarh IG (Bastar Range) there are 412 security forces camps in Bastar Division. It is unclear as to how many of such camps will become Police Stations and how many "development centres".<sup>54</sup>

There is, moreover, no mention of state police's own armed constabulary (CAF, STF and DRG) and now that the armed conflict has ended, what is to become of them? A civilian police force is very different from armed police. Since "internal disturbance" has transitioned to "law and order", there are questions about the Bastar police, which until recently was engaged in an armed conflict. So, what programme does the government have for them to transit to a civilian police force maintaining law and order?

As Box 9 shows, securitisation of Bastar may not cease with the pulling back of some central forces. The CRPF is setting up a battalion strength Counter-Insurgency training centre covering 700 ha of primal forest in Bijapur district. The Indian Army is likely to get over 53,000 acres of forest area, displacing 9000 villagers from Abuj Madh area of Narayanpur District.

Besides, there has already been a rapid spread of the footprint of police with more than 100 police stations, and many new ones in the making, with setting up of police stations in security

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<sup>53</sup> *Dainik Bhaskar* (Jagdalpur, 26 March 2026).

<sup>54</sup> PTI, 'Rise, reign, and fall of Naxalism: Chhattisgarh's 'red' corridor hits dead end' (Raipur 31 March 2026) <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/rise-reign-and-fall-of-naxalism-chhattisgarhs-red-corridor-hits-d-ead-end/articleshow/129928042.cms?from=mdr>

forces camps. What remains to be seen is also whether the DRG, a force made of irregulars of Salwa Judum and ex-Maoists, will get regularised or will they be disbanded. In other words, thinning of security force presence would be a positive development provided it does not just involve withdrawal of central forces, but also addresses other remaining concerns with regard to the state armed police forces and military projects being promoted by the central government.

## BOX 7: MORE THINGS CHANGE, MORE THEY BECOME WORSE

### THE FOREST (CONSERVATION) AMENDMENT ACT, 2023 (NO. 15 OF 2023)[4th August, 2023]

'1A. (1) The following land shall be covered under the provisions of this Act, namely:— (a) the land that has been declared or notified as a forest in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under any other law for the time being in force; (b) the land that is not covered under clause (a), but has been recorded in Government record as forest, as on or after the 25th October, 1980: Provided that the provisions of this clause shall not apply to such land, which has been changed from forest use to use for non-forest purpose on or before the 12th December, 1996 in pursuance of an order, issued by any authority authorised by a State Government or an Union territory Administration in that behalf.

Explanation: For the purposes of this sub-section, the expression "Government record" means record held by Revenue Department or Forest Department of the State Government or Union territory Administration, or any authority, local body, community or council recognised by the State Government or Union territory Administration.

(2) The following categories of land shall not be covered under the provisions of this Act, namely:— (a) such forest land situated alongside a rail line or a public road maintained by the Government, which provides access to a habitation, or to a rail, and roadside amenity up to a maximum size of 0.10 hectare in each case;

(b) such tree, tree plantation or reforestation raised on lands that are not specified in clause (a) or clause (b) of sub-section (1); and

(c) such forest land,— (i) as is situated within a distance of one hundred kilometres along international borders or Line of Control or Line of Actual Control, as the case may be, proposed to be used for construction of strategic linear project of national importance and concerning national security; or (ii) up to ten hectares, proposed to be used for construction of security related infrastructure; or (iii) as is proposed to be used for construction of defence related project or a camp for paramilitary forces or public utility projects, as may be specified by the Central Government, the extent of which does not exceed five hectares in a Left Wing Extremism affected area as may be notified by the Central Government.

(3) The exemption provided under sub-section (2) shall be subject to such terms and conditions, including the conditions of planting trees to compensate felling of trees undertaken on the lands, as the Central Government may, by guidelines, specify.'

## WILL BASTAR REGION EMULATE GADCHIROLI?

The impact of the decline in the MM is best observed in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra where the state government has announced its intent to turn the district into a “Green Steel Hub” with a spurt in mining activities and mining industries (See Box 8). In June 2025 the state issued an ordinance to establish a special authority, Gadchiroli District Mining Authority, headed by the Chief Minister in order to ensure speedy and faster clearances to turn Gadchiroli into a steel manufacturing hub. GDMA is an 11 members executive committee with the CM, four of his cabinet ministers, Chief Secretary and other senior officers. Managing Director of the Maharashtra State Mining Corporation is its member secretary. Three meetings are to be held each year in Nagpur with a gap of no more than four months between them. The objective is to help investors with clearances to set-up base and focus on their core business.

### BOX 8: TURNING GADCHIROLI INTO A “GREEN STEEL HUB’: VULNERABILITY OF MADIA GONDS AND THEIR VOICES

Madia Kuitur Gonds inhabit the Surjagarh Hills in Etapalli Tehsil of south Gadchiroli. They are a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal group, but their land has been allocated to mining corporations, notwithstanding their opposition. In March 2023 the villagers set up bamboo and straw huts on the paddy fields and water bodies to mark their protest at Todgatta village. Villagers expected the administration to talk to them. In the same month, the Llyod Metals and Energy Ltd (LMEL) had received environmental clearance to expand its capacity more than three times, from 3 MTPA of iron ore to 10 MTPA. In addition, LMEL was allowed to build a crushing processing plant each in Aidri, Malampadi and Bamle villages.

In May 2023 five companies were given six mining leases covering 4684 ha to Omsairam Steels and Alloys Pvt Ltd, JSW Steel Ltd, Sunflag Iron & Steel Co Ltd, Universal Industrial Equipment and Technical Services Ltd and Natural Resources Energy Pvt Ltd.

Villagers say that they were given Community Forest Rights under FRA 2006. They have been protesting since 2005, reminding the administration that they are covered by the Fifth Schedule under PESA 1996. Without any consultation the government issued mining leases and allowed setting up of steel and pellet units. A staggering 40,900 Adivasis face displacement. The ADM held public consultations in Gadchiroli town, which is inaccessible for the directly affected Adivasis.

In November 2023 when villagers had been holding their protest for 253 days police cracked down on them and razed their

huts. Protestors had organised themselves under the banner of Damkondawaha Bachao Samiti.<sup>55</sup>

Naili Minj writing in the Scroll<sup>56</sup> described her journey from Gadchiroli Town to Todgatta village, 150 kms away. She wrote that Google Maps does not show any drivable road and one travels on rocky, winding roads for 6 hrs to reach there by car.

On 16 October 2025 Times of India (Mumbai) reported that a senior leader of the MM received an invitation from the Llyod Metals Ltd to become their “brand ambassador”.<sup>57</sup> LMEI, which runs the country’s largest iron ore mine in Surjagarh Hills, wanted to set up a steel plant with an intended capacity of 26 MTPA. For years, because of the local population’s opposition and MM’s support, the Llyod Company had to suspend its operations or to maintain production below its capacity.

The state government announced that it was going to turn Gadchiroli into a “Green Steel Hub”, the first in the country and in June 2025 signed a MOU with Jindal Steel Work to invest Rs 3 lakh crore to set up the country’s largest integrated Steel Plant in Gadchiroli. This would, the state government claimed, create 1 lakh jobs, locally.

The CM announced that 5 cr trees would be “planted” to replace the same number of the “original” primal trees part of the eco-system as part of compensatory afforestation. The promise of 1 lakh jobs appears as vacuous as the claim of compensatory afforestation. The CM had claimed on October 16th, 2025 that his government had planted 40 lakh trees so far and that by the end of 2026 they would plant 1 crore trees.

According to the ‘Report on State’s Best Practices in Mining January 2025’, it takes 4-5 years in India to get mining approvals and permission including Grant of Mining Lease, Forest Clearance and Environmental Clearance from the Central Government on the recommendation of the state government. Constituting GDMA is to speed up this process and reduce the waiting time for investors.

Gadchiroli contains huge reserves of iron ore, hematite, magnetite, BHQ, limestone, dolomite and coal. In order to improve the extraction of minerals Gondwana University signed an MOU with Australian Curtin University to launch a “mining focussed education programme”. Lloyd Metals & Energy Ltd joined as an industrial collaborator and pledged “significant funding” to establish a University Institute of Technology for these programmes. The signing ceremony was attended by the state Governor, CM, Australian Consul General, Lloyd Co.’s MD and VC of the Gondwana University. The education programme would accommodate 30 students each in Diploma Courses covering mining technology, steel technology, computer science with mining

<sup>55</sup> Sumedha Pal, ‘Why Adivasis Protest Against Mining in Gadchiroli’, *Behan Box* (New Delhi, 26 November 2023).

<sup>56</sup> Naili Minj, ‘The Cost of Protesting Against Mining in Gadchiroli’ *Scroll.in* (27 September 2023).

<sup>57</sup> Arya and Bose, ‘Ex-Maoist Gets Llyod Metals offer to be ‘Brand Ambassador’ (fn 47).

applications.<sup>58</sup> Indeed, the push for REE mining is tied to India's drive to compete globally in the technology space, from electric vehicles to artificial intelligence<sup>59</sup>.

Finally, it is of interest to note that the Government of India's National Mineral Policy (2019) in particular para 6.2, "Conservation and Mineral Development & Conservation", says that:

"Conservation of minerals shall be construed not in the *restrictive* sense of abstinence from consumption or preservation for use in the distant future but as a positive concept leading to *augmentation* of reserve/resource base. There shall be an adequate and effective legal and institutional framework promoting zero-waste mining as the ultimate goal and a commitment to prevent sub-optimal and unscientific mining...." (*emphasis added*).

This semantic shift from "restrictive" to a 'positive concept' of "augmentation" opens the way for eroding inter-generation equity and "precautionary principle", the reason being that "restrictive" does not mean cessation of mining. It only sets limits and regulated non-forest use. Conservation did not prevent the diversion of forest land for mining in the past. What it did was to lay down guardrails to prevent unregulated and unfettered exploitation. So, the shift from "restrictive" approach to "augmentation", could lead to an expansion of mining and other non-forest activities. It is interesting to note that whereas the legal definition of "forest" through a constitutional amendment becomes *restrictive*, the mining policy of the government conspicuously becomes *permissive*. Accompanying this shift is the diminution in the powers of Gram Sabha over forest land divestment, and their control over minor forest resources.

The commitment of the State to needs and interests of mining industry are evident in NMP's 6.6 Infrastructure Development where it says that:

"Mining infrastructure requires a special thrust as the economic efficiency of evacuation of minerals from pit mouth to user point or port or rail head is closely

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<sup>58</sup> Abhishek Choudhari, 'Gondwana University signs MOU with Australian Curtin Varsity', *The Times of India* (8 May 2025).

<sup>59</sup> Kumar Shankar Roy, 'India's AI future needs Rare Earth Magnets: Decoding the global supply chain from China to the US, Australia, Brazil etal' *BusinessLine* (21 February 2026).

linked to the end use value of the mineral and of the viability of the industry producing and using the mineral.”

The focus on speedy evacuation of minerals is visible in a 490 km long railway line being laid to link Gadchiroli to Bachel to provide better rail connectivity for faster “evacuation” of minerals from Maharashtra. It is therefore significant that whereas there are 32 goods trains from Kirandul mines to Vishakapatnam (via Jagdalpur) which transport iron ore from the mines, there is just a single passenger train from Kirandul to Jagdalpur - the divisional HQ Bastar. Another 180 km long railway line is being constructed in north Chhattisgarh to link Korba to Ambikapur to provide faster coal “evacuation” from mines to the end users.

The cause for concern, in this case directly concerning the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh, stems from the fast-paced and wide-ranging changes in policies and laws facilitated by a government with a single-minded focus on investment. A surge in mining is imminent now, having been linked to “national interest” and “national security”. Mining in general and attracting private capital into mining was linked by the UPA I government to national ‘development’. This was more energetically pursued by the BJP led government. The global supply chain disruptions and criticality of REE, rare earth elements, will inevitably accelerate mining citing ‘national security concerns’. This was articulated recently by Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, Chief of the Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman of Chief of Staff Committee, in his lecture at the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies and IP Bazaar on December 23, 2025. He insisted that “critical minerals are critical for national security, defence capability, development and technological sovereignty”.<sup>60</sup> The Press Information Bureau of the Central Government released a list of 30 “critical minerals” on July 24, 2023: Antimony, Beryllium, Bismuth, Cobalt, Copper, Gallium, Germanium, Graphite, Hafnium, Indium, Lithium, Molybdenum, Niobium, Nickel, PGE (Platinum Group Elements), Phosphorous, Potash, REE (Rare Earth Elements), Rhenium, Silicon, Strontium, Tantalum, Tellurium, Tin, Titanium, Tungsten, Vanadium, Zirconium, Selenium, and Cadmium.

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<sup>60</sup> The Hindu Bureau, ‘Critical minerals important for national security and technological sovereignty’, *The Hindu* (24 December 2025).

So, with a spurt in search for minerals and production of minerals, now projected to be for “national security”, the scenario confronting Adivasi people does not look promising. All the reported laws, policies and administrative measures taken by the governments suggest a new vigour to promote mining and divestment of forests for non-forest activities. Absent in such public discourse is the voice and concerns of the primary stakeholders, the Adivasis.

### BOX 9: DR. STRANGELOVE

Pamed Wildlife Sanctuary falls under Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh and was established in 1983-85. It covers a vast area spread over 262 sq kms. It is known for its Sal and Teak trees, wild buffalo, tigers, panthers, gaurs and many deer species. In September 2025, the MoEF&CC's Wildlife panel board altered the boundaries of the wildlife sanctuary in such a way that CRPF can acquire 700 acres to set up a Jungle Warfare College at a site close to the Telengana border for sheltering a battalion strength.<sup>61</sup> The state authorities had told the Wildlife Panel that the area is inaccessible because of 'LWE', which is hampering wildlife conservation and making conservation work risky.

It is worth noting that in Kanker district of Bastar region already hosts a Jungle Warfare and Counter-terrorism College, established in February 2004 by the NDA Government led by the Ex-PM the late AB Vajpayee. So why does the government feel they need to set up another military College? Importantly, the Union Home Minister, has already announced the complete end of Maoist insurgency by March 31, 2026. At such a moment when the MM have been vanquished, why is the Centre and the state Government so keen to expand the military presence in Bastar Division, when the footprint of war is nearing its obliteration?

Besides, the army is setting up a Maneuver Range spread over approximately 54,543 hectares of rich forest land in Abhuj Madh, which could potentially affect 52 'un-surveyed' villages with a population of over 9,600 people, according to a district administration report.<sup>62</sup> It is claimed that the presence of the Army will bring confidence among the local population. How is this possible when 9,600 people face displacement as per District authorities own report in 2017, by the army range? How does the Indian Army inspire confidence among people when the indigenous people would get uprooted?

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<sup>61</sup> Nikhil Ganekhar, 'Months after Op Black Forest, sanctuary boundary in Chhattisgarh Naxal hotbed to be shifted for jungle warfare college' *The Indian Express* (13 November 2025).

<sup>62</sup> Subodh Kumar Mishra, 'Abujmad Mein Sena Ke Yudhabhyas Ke Liye Khali Karana Hoga 52 Gaon, Dena Hoga Bhari Muawza' *Hindustan* (20 September 2024).

## CONCLUSION

History is cruel to the vanquished. The historical and lived experience of India's Adivasis regarding development has been traumatic. Acquisition of forest land, its diversion for non-forest activities, has not been a boon for the Adivasis. Loss of livelihood and land was compounded by availability of few jobs, and unavailability of education, health system, irrigation which catered to their needs. PESA and FRA have been hollowed out. Even public pronouncements of government leaders are marked by the absence of Adivasi rights and these Acts. Neither the December 13, 2025 speech of the Union Home Minister at Raipur, where he spoke at length about how by 2030 everything Adivasis conceivably desired would be provided; nor the Chhattisgarh Home Minister's speech on March 26 at Jagdalpur refer to PESA and FRA. There was no acknowledgement of the issue which troubles the Adivasis most, while the Government promotes rapid expansion of mining and other non-forest activities by introducing new projects and reviving old ones, overhauling the regulatory regime relating to mining, forests and environmental law; and systematically subverting the FRA through executive means.

PESA empowers Gram Sabhas of the Scheduled Areas to approve plans, programmes for social and economic development, to identify beneficiaries under poverty alleviation. PESA is meant to recognize, empower and promote the social, economic, cultural and political way of life of the Adivasis. Under the FRA, Gram Sabhas have a right to protect natural resources, to certify utilization of funds by Gram Panchayats, and to accord their free, prior and informed consent to land acquisition. And FRA confers rights to Adivasis in individual / community forest land. So, absence of even a mention of these by a government leader sends a signal that these concerns of Adivasis are not shared by the government.

PUDR urges the Central and State governments not to allow military victory to become a moment to speed up the dispossession of the Adivasis of Bastar. It was precisely this anxiety that drew the Adivasis towards the MM in the first place, and it grew from a few squads to become a

movement, one which for decades ran a parallel administration. So, while PUDR believes a critically honest appraisal of the MM may be necessary, it is the here and now, and the future of the people of the region that beckons our attention.

What is to replace the dismantling of a MM-governed region after 45 years? What is to become of the struggle for “Jal, Jungle, Zameen”; this long struggle against encroachment and forcible takeover of Adivasi land and forests, and for realisation of the Constitutional promises and provisions? As the din and dust of the armed conflict settles, no longer can the demand for self-governance be obfuscated/jettisoned by the government (*for forest rights struggles outside the armed conflict area, see Box 10*).

#### BOX 10: ADIVASIS AND DALITS FACE INTENSE STATE REPRESSION AS THEY STAND UP FOR THEIR RIGHTS IN FIFTH SCHEDULE AREAS IN SOUTH ODISHA

Since 2023, Adivasis and Dalits of the Sijimali region are resisting a mining project in the bauxite-rich hills of South Odisha. In early 2023, Vedanta Limited was declared the preferred bidder to mine bauxite reserves under the mineral block auction conducted by the Odisha Govt. Known as the Sijimali Bauxite Mining Project, the project spreads over both Thuamal Rampur block in Kalahandi District and Kashipur block in Raygada District. The area covers 1549.022 hectares of the hills, estimated to have 311 million tons of bauxite. There was no prior consultation with the local villagers nor any consent taken from them before leasing out the hills. This area spreads over more than 18 tribal dominated villages protected under the Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution given the dense presence of indigenous communities. Bauxite mining is planned also for the adjoining hill ranges of Katurumali and Majhingimali. In fact, when the stocks of the Adani group came crashing down with the release of the Hindenberg report accusing the company of stock manipulation and fraud, the BJD government salvaged the situation by declaring the Adanis as the preferred bidder for the Katurumali bauxite reserves. The stocks went 15 percent higher overnight.

Despite the persistence of the company and administration to carry out mining operations, the people's organization Ma Mati Mali Surakhya Manch remains opposed to mining as Sijimali is the source of their sustenance and livelihood and home to all that they hold sacred. They have access to tubers, underground roots and legumes that is part of their staple diet and access to forest produce like wood and leaves and many other daily necessities of life. And there is an abundance of livestock. The main sustenance is paddy and a variety of millet. Even though the youth migrate to the distant states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu for wages, the chief source of sustenance and cultural affinity remain the hills.

Villagers challenged the fake Gram Sabhas that had been held by the administration coercively in the presence of company personnel and huge presence of police on 8 December, 2023. As per records, 10 Gram Sabhas were held on the same day around the same time. Some people testified to their not being present and yet their signature was included as consent. As reported, there was stiff opposition from Ma Mati Mali Surakhya Manch as they wanted to call Gram Sabhas as per due process to refuse the diversion of forest land for mining. The Collector's report suggests that the Gram Sabhas went unopposed. And, on December 2, 2025, the FAC recommended Stage-I (in-principle) approval for the diversion of 708.204 hectares of forest for Sijimali Bauxite Mines. The FAC also noted that several representations had been received alleging irregularities and fraudulent conduct of Gram Sabha proceedings. This has happened without any environmental clearance. Most importantly, people also conducted their own Gram Sabhas from August 30 to September 4, 2024, in eight villages of Kashipur block and two villages of Thuamal Rampur block following the due process under the Forest Rights Act & PESA act opposing the diversion of forest land.

As villagers organized themselves and demanded fulfillment of necessary provisions of the FRA and Environment Protection laws, the violations have risen. From mid-2025, construction work for the approach road to the mining area was attempted several times by the administration accompanied by the police. It was met with villagers not allowing their entry into the area. The number of criminal cases and incarcerations soared. As a result of peaceful and determined resistance to part with the land, the entire region is doused with criminal cases revealing the state-corporate- military nexus.

Just as in geo-politics the centrality of the principle of “enlightened self-interest”, so in the realm of domestic politics, the principle of “enlightened statecraft”. PUDR believes the Shillong Accord of 1975 and Mizoram Accord of 1986 provide a template for the government to emulate. We are aware that these were negotiated settlements between two parties; however, the humane approach which made proscribed organizations lawful, freed prisoners and ensured rehabilitation ought to be applied in Bastar. In the aftermath of the cessation of armed conflict, PUDR urges the release of all those arrested/detained under “Naxal crimes”, or proscribed under CSPA or the UAPA, withdrawal of charges against them, and that they are provided rehabilitation opportunities and economic assistance for a fresh start. The families of those killed too should be covered for financial assistance and rehabilitation, in order to ensure that they are not forgotten and left to fend for themselves. As for the surrendered, they should be allowed to choose to return to their villages without any restrictions and conditions. Accountability for violent crimes and unlawful actions during the conflict will require political and judicial will to ensure that the frameworks of law are put in place for comprehensive and independent action.

More than a one and half century long struggle of the Adivasis can be resolved by the government respecting their demand for self-governance, and not following an approach concentrated solely on the “ease of doing business”. ‘Development’ cannot mean a carte blanche for mining and other non-forest commercial activities, a persistent disregard to the right of free, prior and informed consent of Adivasis, and widespread ecological destruction. It is axiomatic, PUDR believes, that in order for any civil war to end, an armed conflict ceases, and then the root causes must be addressed so that political resolution can be achieved, without any need to plunge into politics of bloodshed.

As the war in the region ends, the intent and actions of the State are in sharp focus.

# PUDR REPORTS ON BASTAR

1. [Bastar: An investigation into an encounter](#) *(June 15, 1985)*
2. [When the State Makes War on its own People: Violation of peoples rights during the Salwa Judum](#) *(May 7, 2006)*
3. [Of Human Bondage: An Account of Hostage Taking in Bastar](#) *(March 1, 2011)*
4. [Chintalnar Massacre Report](#) *(June 30, 2011)*
5. [Anything goes...In the name of National Security: Story of Soni Sori](#) *(March 31, 2012)*
6. [Report of the Killing of Adivasis by CRPF Forces in Bijapur District, Chattisgarh](#) *(July 11, 2012)*
7. [Who is the State Hunting?](#) *(September 7, 2012)*
8. [War and the Lightness of Being Adivasi: Security Camps and Villages in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh](#) *(February 18, 2015)*
9. [State of Siege: Report on Encounters and Cases of Sexual Violence in Bijapur and Sukma Districts of Chhattisgarh](#) *(April 29, 2016)*

# ANNEXURE A: EXTRA-JUDICIAL KILLINGS

## TOTAL NUMBER OF KILLINGS

MAOISTS : 516  
STATE FORCES : 36  
CIVILIANS : 55

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
<b>2024</b>								
1.	12.01.24 Bijapur	Chhattisgarh state police	1 Maoist Toya Potam, Ganglur Area Committee Member				Weapons, explosives, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 13 January 2024
2.	15.01.2024 Bijapur	Maoist			1 person, Rishu Punem, accused of being an informer.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16 January 2024
3.	16.01.2024 Jagdapur	Dantewada Police	1 Maoist Ratan Kashyap alias Salaam, Platoon Deputy Commander, Todama Militia. Member, Aamdeyi Area Committee.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 17 January 2024
4.	20.01.24 Bijapur	DRG, CRPF, CoBRA Commando	4 Maoists including 2 women. Names provided are Soni Madkam, Nagi Punen, and Kosa Karam (President DAKMS, Nedra).	1 STF personnel named Pramod Sharma killed by an IED blast allegedly placed by Maoists.				Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21 January 2024
5.	03.02.2024 Bijapur	Security forces	2 women Maoists killed - Madvi Rajee, Section Commander and Madvi Bojja,	3 security forces personnel killed		Magisterial enquiry ordered		Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.)

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
			party member in an attack mounted by Maoists when security forces were establishing a camp.					4 February 2024
6.	04.02.2024	Joint operation of DRG, Bastar Fighters, and CRPF 219 <sup>th</sup> Battalion.	1 Maoist Madkam Bhima.				12 bore gun, three rounds, a pistol with 2 rounds, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 5 February 2024 and 6 February 2024
7.	05.02.2024	Narayanpur	2 Maoists Kahru Dhruv and PISO Kowasi, though denied by villagers, killed in a police encounter.				One 12 bore gun and Bharmar gun.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 6 February 2024
8.	06.02.2024	Maoists Bijapur			A person accused of being an informer, Michha Hadma.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 8 February 2024
9.	18.02.2024	Maoists Bijapur		Chhattisgarh Company Commander of 4 <sup>th</sup> Battalion, Tijay Ram Bhuarya.				The Economic Times 18 February 2024
10.	07.02.2024	Police Dantewada	1 Maoist by the name of Chandranna (8 lakhs), killed in a police encounter.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 9 February 2024
11.	23.02.2024	Maoists Sukma-Bijapur border village			2 persons accused of being informers killed – Sodi Unga and Madavi Nanda.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 24 February 2024
12.	24.02.2024	DRG, Bastar Fighters, CRPF Cobra commando	1 Maoist killed in an encounter					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.)

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
								25 February 2024
13.	02.03.2024  Bijapur (Bhairamgarh)	Maoists			Tirupati Katla, a local BJP leader alleged to be a Salwa Judum activist.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 3 March 2024
14.	08.03.24  Bijapur	Maoists			A person accused of being an informer, Pusu Hemla.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12 March 2024
15.	10.03.2024  Dantewada-Bijapur border	Dantewada DRG, Bastar Fighters, Sukma STF, CRPF, CoBRA	1 Maoist Bhima alias Dadia Punem, Militia Commander					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 13 March 2024
16.	19.03.2024  Bijapur	DRG, Bastar Fighters, CRPF 111, 230, 231 Battalions	2 Maoists killed – Dodi Lakhe alias Madavi Lakhe and Lachhu (1 lac), President of Gram Janatana					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21 March 2024
17.	24.03.2024  Bijapur	Maoists		DRG jawan Deepak Durgam				Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 28 March 2024
18.	27.03.2024  Bijapur	DRG – Basaguda, COBRA 210 and 205 Battalions, CRPF 168 and 229 Battalions	6 Maoists killed – Deputy Commander Punem Nagesh, his wife Vetti Soni, Kowasi Gangi, Iatu Kunem, Sukka Auyam alias Vikas, Nuppo Moka.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 28 March 2024
19.	31.03.2024  Dornapal/Sukma	DRG, COBRA, Bastar Fighters	1 Maoist killed in encounter.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 02 April 2024
20.	02.04.2024  Bijapur		13 Maoists killed including 3 women.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.)

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
			5 identified as Sukhram Hemla, Honga Parsi, Hunga Kunjam, Sittakka, Dula Sonu.					04 April 2024
21.	13.04.2024  Narayanpur	Maoists			1 person Moda Ram of Chote Bekhiya PS in Maad area of Narayanpur by Maoists claiming he was an informer.			Dainik Bhaskar (Kanker ed.) 16 April 2024
22.	16.04.2024  Narayanpur	Kanker DRG, BSF	29 Maoists killed. Those identified are Shankar Rao and Lalita (DVC members of the North Bastar division of the CPI (Maoist)), Madhavi, Jugni alias Malti, Suklal, Srikanth, Ruppi, Ramsheela, Ranjita.				AK-47, INSAS, SLR, Carbine 303 and other arms and ammunition.	The Hindu 16 April 2024  Dainik Bhaskar (Kanker ed.) 18 April 2024
23.	Night of 16.04.2024-17.04.2024  Narayanpur (Farasgaon PS)	Maoists			Deputy Sarpanch of Dandavan village killed.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 18 April 2024
24.	21.04.2024  Bijapur (Bhairamgarh)	Police from Bhairamgarh police station	1 Maoist killed					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22 April 2024
25.	29.04.2024  Sukma	Police	In an encounter in Sukma, 1 Maoist was killed.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30 April 2024
26.	01.05.2026  Narayanpur	STF and DRG	10 Maoists killed by a joint force of STF and DRG.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 2 May 2024

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27.	30.05.2024  Narayanpur	Maoists			1 worker, Munish Patel, killed in an IED/pressure bomb blast while another, Rajender Nag, was injured.  Allegedly conducted by Maoists opposing Amdeyi Mines in the area.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 1 May 2024
28.	Date not mentioned  Abujhmarh /Narayanpur	STF and DRG	10 Maoists killed including one CC member, Jaganna, carrying a reward of Rs 25 lakh; Malesh, carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; Vinay carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; Sangita Doge, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Suresh, carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; Sushmita, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh; Pandu Kawasi, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh. 2 others remain unidentified.				One AK-47, one INSAS, 2 Rifles, one 315 bore gun, 12 bore gun, 3 Bharmar guns, one BGL launcher, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 1 May 2024
29.	10.05.2024  Korba/Bijapur	Combined forces	12 Maoists killed.  Relatives who came to claim the bodies denied that they were Maoist. They were not wearing uniforms.  Names of the deceased - Budhu Oyam, member, Military Company No. 2, carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; Kallu Punem,				BGL launcher, 12 bore gun, country made rifle, "sizeable" amount of explosives, medicines, uniforms and literature	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12 May 2024  Hindustan Times 24 July 2024

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			<p>member, Military Company No. 2, carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; woman cadre Lakhe Kunjam, ACM, Gangalur Area Committee, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Sannu Nokam, Militia Platoon Commander, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh; Sukhram Ovlam, VP, Janatana Sarkar, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh; Chaitu Kujam, militia member, carrying a reward of Rs 20,000 (announced by DIG)/ Rs 10,000 (announced by SP); Sanno Avlam, member, Bhumkal Militia.</p>					
30.	24.05.2024  Dantewada-Bijapur-Narayanpur border area	Security forces	<p>After 72 hour long operation 8 Maoists killed - Vidya Gawde, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Arjun Mandavi, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Mangali Paswa alias Asmati, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Tulsi Kashyap, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Sukhdev, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh; Bugur Jurri, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh; Manglu Jurri, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh.</p>					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 27 May 2024
31.	25.05.2024  Bijapur	Forces not specified	<p>2 women Maoists killed – Vijje Tatti alias Sukki, Gangalur</p>					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.)

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			Area Committee Member, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Nila Farsa, Gangalur Area Committee Member, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh.					27 May 2024
32.	29.05.2024 Bijapur	Forces not specified	2 Maoists – Manila Punem, DVCM, carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh and Manju Kudiam were killed in an encounter with the police. Police also claimed that they have arrested 2 others, though villagers claim that altogether 7 are missing from the village (Sunita Kudiyam, Micha Veli, Malesh Asam, Micha Padga, Kuma Pandu, Micha Pandu, Micha Shankar) <i>Manila Punem's husband was also killed in an encounter at the same place in October 2023.</i>					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 1 June 2024
33.	Date not mentioned Jagdapur	Coordinated forces of Narayanpur, Dantewada, Bastar and Kondagaon.	6 Maoists killed in an encounter by the forces of 4 districts through inter-district coordination. 4 of them were carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh each – Masia alias Mesia Mandavi, PLGA Company no. 6 sniper team commander; Ramesh Korram alias Bonja, PLGA company No. 6 deputy commander; Sunny alias Sundari, South Bastar PLGA				Rifle, BGL Launcher, SLR magazine, cooker Bomb, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 9 June 2024

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			Company No. 6 (party member); Sajanti Poyam, South Bastar PLGA Company No. 6. Others include Jaylal Salam alias Saita, ACM, Baiynar Area Committee carrying reward of Rs 5 lakh and Janai alias Janni, Aderbeda RPC commander, carrying reward of Rs 1 lakh.					
34.	Date not mentioned  Abujhmarh	STF forces	8 Maoists killed carrying a total reward of Rs 48 lakh by the joint forces of 4 districts - 6 of those killed were identified as DVC Ramesh alias Sudru, Mamta, Brajesh, Samira, Kosi and Moti.	1 STF officer, Nitish Ekka, got killed.			1 INSAS Rifle, 303 Rifle, BGL Launcher etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16 and 17 June 2024
35.	02.07.2024  Abujhmarh	Joint forces of DRG, BSF, STF, ITBP.	5 Maoists belonging to PLGA force company No. 1 killed and 3 injured near Hikulnar-Ghamandi area during an encounter with a large number of alleged Maoists. Those killed were carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh each. Those killed were identified as Rakesh, Konda Togda, Edma Vadde, Kamlu Vadde, and Farsa Tumda. Injured and caught were identified as Ghamandi Gorra Vadde, Budhu Kamada, and Farsa Tumda.				1 303 rifle, 3 315 bore rifles, 2 muzzle loading rifles, BGL launcher and other weapons and explosive material.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 4 and 5 July 2024

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			Villagers have disputed the police claim of killing Maoists. They had come to Narayanpur on foot from Ghamandi village, the place of encounter, which is 80 km away, to claim bodies of their relatives. They agreed that there was an encounter between Maoists and police forces, but those killed were innocent villagers and had no relation with Maoists.					
36.	10.07.2024 Jagdalpur	Maoists			1 person, Madavi Rajarao was allegedly killed by Maoists on the order of Jan Adalat in the Kistaram areas of Jagdalpur on the charge of being a police informer. Two others were severely beaten.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12 July 2024
37.	17.07.2024 Bijapur	Maoists		2 STF personnel were killed in an IED blast when the three district forces had launched the operation to tackle Maoists in the Bijapur forest area. Maoists had apparently got prior info and laid a trap.				Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 19 July 2024

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				One of those killed was Sater Singh from Narayanpur. The names of the other deceased are not mentioned.				
38.	18.07.2024 Bijapur	Telangana Greyhounds	1 Maoist, Baman Madakam.					
39.	19.07.2024 Bijapur-Telangana border	Telangana Greyhounds	1 woman Maoist, Sukki Puem, ACM, Gangalur Area Committee, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh at Bijapur- Telangana border by Telangana Greyhound force with the help of local force.				12 bore gun, empty shells, live rounds, BGL cell, detonator, Maoist uniform, "Maoist literature" and other Maoist materials.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 20 July 2024
40.	20.07.2024 Dornapal		1 Maoist, Narsa, RPC militia commander, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh was killed in an encounter operation in Singavaram hilly and forest area of Dornapal.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21 July 2024
41.	09.08.2024	Maoists			1 person, ex-Sarpanch of Nagaram, Hemla Suklal, was allegedly killed by Maoists on the charge of being a police informer.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12 August 2024
42.	24/25/26.08.2024	Maoists			Maoists allegedly killed 3 persons on different occasions after Jan Adalat charged them			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 29 August 2024

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						of being police informers. They were Lacha Punam, Mandavi Situ and Karam Sudru.		
43.	29.08.2024  Narayanpur -Kanker border	BSF, DRG, STF	3 Maoists were killed in Kondakoti Lokavada forest under PS Sonpur, Narayanpur district in an alleged police encounter.			Setting up of magisterial inquiry on 12.12.2024 due to protests.		Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30 August 2024  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 9 January 2025
44.	03.09.2024  Dantewada-Bijapur border	DRG, Bastar Fighters and CRPF 350 battalion	9 Maoists, including 6 women, all members of battalion no. 2 were killed near the Bailadila hilly area of Dantewada.  Names of the deceased are Randhir, DKZCM, carrying a reward of 25 lakh. The alleged Maoists carrying Rs 5 lakh reward were identified as Kumari Shanti, PL member; Sushila Madakam, ACM; Gangi Muchaki, Kanker ACM; Kosa Mandvi, Malangir ACM; Lalita, DVCM security team member; and Kavita, security guard. Others carrying cash reward of Rs 2 lakh were Hidma Madkam, DVCM security team member; and				Automatic SLR, 303 and 315 rifles.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 4 September 2024  Hindustan Times 4 September 2024

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			Kamlesh, platoon member.					
45.	14.09.2024 Sukma	Police from Chintalgopha PS	1 Maoist killed during an encounter in Chintalgopha PS area of Sukma district. He is identified as Madavi Kosa of Platoon No. 4, ACM (reward of 5 lakhs).					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 15 September 2024
46.	22/23.09.2024 Narayanpur	DRG, STF, BSF	3 Maoists killed in Abujmarh area. They have been identified as Rupesh alias Kolu alias Shambha Gosai, DKSZC company no. 10, carrying a reward of Rs 25 lakh; Jagdish alias Ramesh alias Sukhlal Tekam of DVCM, carrying a reward of Rs 16 lakh; and Sarita alias Basanti, PPCM carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh.				1 piece of AK 47, one INSAS rifle, one SLR, and one 12 bore gun.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 25 September 2024  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 27 September 2024
47.	04.10.2024 Abujmarh	Joint team of security forces (composition not given)	38 Maoists of company no. 6 were killed during an encounter in the forest area of Thulthuli in Abujmarh. Those identified include alleged woman Maoist leader Niti alias Urmila (reward of Rs 25 lakh); Nandu Mandavi (reward of Rs 25 lakh); Suresh Salam alias Janku (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Arjun alias Ranjit (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Mina Netam, (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Mahesh, (reward of Rs 8		3 villagers were killed, accusing them of being police informers after kidnapping around 25 villagers in Savnar of Gangalur area, Bijapur district. Those killed were identified as Kameshwar Kursum alias Motu Kursum (25) and Arjun Punem (24) in Jan Adalat.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 5/6/8/9/10 /19 October 2024

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			lakh); Sundar alias Kamlu, (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Budhram Madakam (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Mohan Mandavi (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Basanti (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Jagani Korram (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Anil (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Dashmati Poyam (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Mase alias Shakila (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Savan alias Lokesh Payam (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Somru Mandavi (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Madakam Mandu (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Manoj alias Sampor (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Some Pati Tuge alias Man Singh (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Janila alias Budhri (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Mandei Kashyap (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Ramder (reward of Rs 5 lakh), Sukku Yadav (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Suklu alias Vijay alias Pandu Lorrarn (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Sonu Korram (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Jamli (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Sohan alias Rohan Padam (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Fulo alias Sundari (reward of Rs 2 lakh); Fulmati Padami (reward of Rs 2 lakh); Sonal alias Rohan.		Another villager, Barse Erra of Peddabodkel of Sukma district was also allegedly killed by Maoists, blaming him as a police informer.			

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			Many were injured, out of which 4 died – they were Kamlesh, Fagnu, Murli and Pramila. (reported on 14.10.2024).					
48.	08.10.2024 Bijapur	Maoists			1 villager Tati Kanhaiya of Patanjali, Bijapur was allegedly killed by Maoists accusing him of being a police informer.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 9 October 2024
49.	19.10.2024 Jagdalpur	Maoists		2 ITBP personnel killed in the IED blast in the forest area of Jagdalpur.				Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 20 October 2024
50.	24.10.2024 Sukma	Maoists		.	1 villager, Budhra, suspected to be a police informer was allegedly killed by Maoists at Gangaraj area of Mehta Panchayat in Konta PS, Sukma district.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 26 October 2024
51.	03.11.2024 Sukma	Maoists		2 police personnel, Kartam Deva and Sodi Sanna were attacked and seriously injured and their weapons, AK-47 and SLR were looted, allegedly by Maoists in Jargunda				Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 4 November 2024

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				weekly market of Sukma district.				
52.	08.11.2024 Bijapur	DRG, STF COBRA 205 & 210 Battalion, CRPF 153 Battalion	3 Maoists were killed in an encounter in the forest area of Rekhapalli-Kotampalli of Bijapur district. One was identified as PLGA Platoon No. 10 commander DVC Joga Madavi (reward of Rs 10 lakh). The other two were not identified.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10 November 2024
53.	16.11.2024 Kanker-Narayanpur border	Forces from Kanker and Narayanpur	5 Maoists, including 2 women, were killed in an encounter on the border.				Insas rifle, SLRs	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 17 November 2024
54.	21.11.2024	SOG and DVF joint forces	1 Maoist died in an encounter on the Chhattisgarh-Odisha border.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22 November 2024
55.	22.11.2024 Sukma	Police	10 Maoists killed in an encounter in Bhejji PS area.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 23 November 2024
56.	Date not mentioned Jagdalpur-Telangana border	Telangana Greyhounds	7 Maoists were gunned down in Chhattisgarh/Jagdalpur-Telangana border area by Greyhounds.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 2 December 2024
57.	06.12.2024 Bijapur	Maoists			1 woman villager, Lakshmi			

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					Padam, was allegedly killed by Maoists in Timmarpur area of Basaguda PS of Bijapur district, accusing her to be the police informer.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 8 December 2024
58.	7.12.2024 Sukma	Maoists			1 woman, Sukra Yalam, resident of Lodded of Madded PS area of Sukma district was allegedly killed by Maoists after being accused of being a police informer. She was first kidnapped along with her husband Ramaya Yalam and later she was killed and her husband was beaten with sticks. Maoists apparently left a leaflet along with her body, saying that she was killed after organising a Jan Adalat.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 9 December 2024
59.	11.12.2024 Bijapur	DRG	1 Maoist was killed in an encounter with DRG team in the forested area of Maoist affected village Munga in Bijapur district.				9 MM pistol, live IED, 6 remote switches and "Maoist literature".	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12 December 2024

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60.	11.12.2024  Bijapur	Maoists			A BJP leader Mandoram Kudiam was allegedly killed by Maoists in Bijapur district.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12 December 2024
61.	11/12.12.20 24  Abujmarh- Narayanpur	1000 joint strong forces of DRG, STF, and CRPF from three districts.	7 Maoists were killed in an encounter in the forest area of Rekawaya, Abhujmad, Dantewada.  In a press note Maoists refuted the claim of 7 Maoists killed. It said that only 2, Kartik Dada alias Dashru Dada, Odisha SCM and Ramila Madakam, Paschim Bastar Division member, were killed and the other 5 were villagers. The names of villagers were Maso Oyam, Kohlal Oyam, Gudsu Oyam, Nehru Oyam, and Ramlal Oyam.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12 December 2024
62.	13.12.2024  Bijapur	DRG, CoBRA 210, and CRPF 168 Battalion	2 Maoists killed in the forest area of Nendra-Punnur of Basaguda. They were identified as Pandu Madavi alias Somda Kamlu, Area Committee Platoon Deputy Commander; and Kawasi Hunga.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 14 December 2024
63.	13.12.2024  Sukma	Maoists			1 villager, Madakam Hadma (31) was allegedly killed by Maoists, alleging him to			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 14 December 2024

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64.	23.12.2024 Bijapur	Maoists			1 person, Mukesh Hemlu, activist of Janta Congress was allegedly killed by Maoists after kidnapping him from Reddy village weekly market in Gangalur area.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 24 December 2024

## 2025

65.	04.01.2025 Abujmarh (Ghotul PS)	State police forces from Dantewada, Narayanpur, Bijapur and Kanker with DRG, STF, ITBP	5 Maoists Dev Singh (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Dinesh (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Sumati alias Kamala alias Kavita (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Sukmati (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Mahesh alias Lacchu Pungati (reward of Rs 1 lakh) of PPCM PLGA, Platoon No.32.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 09 January 2025
66.	03-05.01.2025 Narayanpur - Dantewada	DRG (Narayanpur, Bastar, Kondagaon, Dantewada) and STF	4 Maoists, including 2 women.	Sannu Karam, head constable DRG.			Automatic weapons including one AK-47 rifle and a self-loading rifle.	Hindustan Times, 05 January 2025 Hindustan Times, 06 January 2025 Hindustan Times,

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								07 January 2025
								Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 06 January 2025
67.	06.01.2025  Bijapur (Ambeli PS)	Maoists		9 persons including 4 DRG and 4 Bastar Fighters personnel, 1 civilian driver.				Hindustan Times, 06 January 2025  Hindustan Times, 08 January 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 07 January 2025
				5 of them were 'surrendered' Maoists: Budhram Korsa, Dumma Markam, Pandaru Ram, Baman Sodhi, Somdu Vetti.				
68.	09.01.2025  Sukma-Bijapur (Gunderaj Gudem)	500 security personnel from DRG, STF, CoBRA, CRPF	3 Maoists, suspected to be members of DVC and Platoon Party.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 10 January 2025
69.	11/12.01.2025  Bijapur (Bandeppara-Koranjed forest)	DRG, STF, CoBRA	5 Maoists including 2 women.	Ramesh Madvi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Jyoti Tati, Ramvati Tati Ramesh Hemla (reward of Rs 1 lakh). 1 unidentified.		Magisterial inquiry set up		Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 13 January 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 14 January 2025

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70.	10.01.2025 Narayanpur	Maoists			1 civilian dead, 3 civilians injured in 2 separate incidents of IED			Hindustan Times, 16 January 2025
71.	16.01.2025 Bijapur- Sukma	3000+ personnel from DRG (Bijapur, Sukma, Dantewada), CoBRA, CRPF	18 Maoists including Bade Chokka Rao alias Damodar, Secretary, CPI(Maoist) Telangana.				Cache of weapons and explosives.	Hindustan Times, 16 January 2025  Hindustan Times, 17 January 2025  Hindustan Times, 19 January 2025
72.	Date not mentioned Bijapur	DRG from Sukma, Dantewada and Bijapur	4 Maoists and claimed to have killed between 10 to 12 more.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 17 January 2025
73.	26.01.2025 Bijapur	Maoists			1 civilian, Bhadru Sodhi killed.			Hindustan Times, 27 January 2025  Hindustan Times, 04 February 2025
74.	01.02.2025 Bijapur	600 personnel from DRG, STF, CRPF, CoBRA	8 Maoists were killed in limits of PS Gangalur.  Kamlesh Neelkanth (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Tati Kamlu (reward of Rs 3 lakhs), Mangal Tai, Lachhu Potam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Shankar Tati (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Raju Tati (reward of Rs 1				Automatic rifles, one INSAS rifle, two 12-bore guns, one BGS launcher, ten shells, four Muzzle loading rifles, scanner set, and a large cache of "Maoist materials"	Hindustan Times, 01 February 2025  Hindustan Times, 02 February 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 03 February 2025

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			lakh), Viju Padam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Sannu Tati (reward of Rs 1 lakh).					Hindustan Times, 09 February 2025
75.	03.02.2025 Kanker	DRG, BSF	1 Maoist Jatin Mandavi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs).				One sniper SLR rifle, three magazine pouches, seven cartridges, tiffin and explosive materials, solar panels and items of everyday use.	Hindustan Times, 03 February 2025 Dainik Bhaskar (Kanker ed.), 04 February 2025
76.	03/04.02.20 25 Bijapur, Tarrem PS	Maoists			2 civilians, Karam Raju and Madvi Munna killed.			Hindustan Times, 04 February 2025 Dainik Bhaskar (Kanker ed.), 05 February 2025
77.	09/10.02.20 25 Indravati National Park, Bijapur	600+ personnel from DRG, Bastar Fighters, STF and others	31 Maoists, Including 17 men and 14 women. Collective reward of Rs 1.10 crores. 28 identified as follows: Hunga Karma (reward of Rs 8 lakhs); Subhash Oyam (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Sannu Uika (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Maniram Kuhrami (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Amar Mandaavi (reward of Rs 5 lakhs);	DRG Head Constable Nresh Dhruv Bhatapara Balod and STF Constable Vasit Ravte Daundi Balod.			AK47, INSAS, 303 rifle, SLR	Hindustan Times, 09 February 2025 Hindustan Times, 10 February 2025 Hindustan Times, 14 February 2025 Dainik Bhaskar (Jagdalpur ed.), 10 February 2025

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			Bharat Thakur (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Saroj Avlam (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Aayate Maadvi (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Sonu Hapka (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Motu alias Keshu Potam (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Mangu Hemla (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Raju Majji (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Sanjay Kumma (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Sukhmati Poyam (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Maini Punem (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Meena Kunjam (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Maini Modiam (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Vedja Pentram (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Metta Hanmaiyya (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Sannu Majji (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Ramesh Kumar Kudiyam (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Sonu Madvi (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Shanti Podiyami (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Shashikala Kudiyam (reward of Rs 2 lakhs);					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 14 February 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 15 February 2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
			Sanjati alias Sanjani Madkam (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Malli Kadri (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Hidma Madvi (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Jyoti Hemla (reward of Rs 2 lakhs).					
78.	Date not mentioned  Dantewada	Maoists			2 persons allegedly killed by Maoists. One was identified as the Sarpanch's husband, Joga Barse. No details on the other killing.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 15 February 2025
79.	20.02.2025  Dantewada, Barsur PS area	Maoists			2 villagers, Baman Kashyap (29) and Assi Ram Poyam (38) on allegations of being police informers.			Hindustan Times, 20 February 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21 February 2025
80.	01.03.2025  Konta, Sukma	DRG, CoBRA	2 Maoists, including one man and one woman – Sodhi Linghe (reward of Rs 5 lakhs) and Podiyam Hadma (reward of Rs 5 lakhs).				One BGL Launcher, one 12 bore gun, five BGL cells, five 12 bore rifle cartridges, one wireless set, four BGL cartridges, large quantities of explosives, "Maoist literature" and daily essential commodities.	Hindustan Times, 01 March 2025  Bastar Bhaskar, 02 March 2025  Bastar Bhaskar, 03 March 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 02 March 2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
81.	20.03.2025 Bijapur	1,500 personnel from Bijapur and Sukma DRG, STF, CoBRA, CRPF.	26 (including at least 18 women) Maoists. Lokesh Sitto (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), others with reward of Rs 5 lakhs.	1 DRG personnel, Raju Auyam.			Firearms and explosives	Hindustan Times, 21 March 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21 March 2025
82.	20.03.2025 Kanker-Narayanpur	700 personnel of DRG and BSF	4 Maoists, including 1 woman and 3 men.				One automatic rifle	Hindustan Times, 21 March 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21 March 2025
83.	25.03.2025 Dantewada-Bijapur	DRG and Bastar Fighters	3 Maoists bodies recovered identified as Sudhir alias Sudhakar (reward of Rs 25 lakhs), Mannu Barsa and Pandru Atra.				One INSAS rifle, one .303 rifle, one 12-bore rifle, explosive materials, "Maoist literature" and other essential items.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 26 March 2025
84.	27/28.03.2025 Bijapur-Sukma	DRG and CRPF, including women members	17 Maoists were killed on 28.03.2025 (including 11 women). 7 identified as Jagdish aka Budhra (reward of Rs 25 lakhs); Rosham aka Bhima Pedium; Selvam Jogi; Madvi Deve; Dasari Kovasi; Hungi; Hidme.	3 DRG Sukma and 1 CRPF personnel injured.			AK 47, INSAS rifle and other arms.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30 March 2025  Hindustan Times, 29 March 2025
85.	End 03.2025 Bijapur, Basaguda PS	DRG, COBRA 210	1 Maoist				Weapons	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30 March 2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
								Hindustan Times, 29 March 2025
86.	30.03.2025 Bijapur	Maoists			1 woman, Sudhila Sodhi (40) in pressure cooker IED blast. She had gone to collect <i>mabua</i> .			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 31 March 2025  Hindustan Times, 04 April 2025
87.	31.03.2025 Dantewada/ Bijapur	Joint operations	1 Maoist woman, Renuka alias Banu alias Chethe alias Saraswati alias Damyanti (reward of Rs 45 lakhs).				1 INSAS rifle	Hindustan Times, 31 March 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 1 April 2025
88.	04.04.2025 Narayanpur	Maoists			1 killed Rajesh Usendi (25 yo) and another injured Ramlal Korram (25 yo) in IED blast.			Hindustan Times, 04 April 2025
89.	12.04.2025 Indravati Tiger Reserve, Bijapur	Joint operations	3 Maoists killed: Anil Punem (reward of 5 lakhs) is only name reported					Hindustan Times, 12 April 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 13 April 2025
90.	16.04.2025 Kondagaon- Narayanpur	DRG and Bastar Fighters	2 Maoists, Haldar (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Rame (reward of Rs 5 lakhs).				One AK 47 rifle and explosives	Hindustan Times, 16 April 2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
91.	21.04.2025 Bijapur	Police of Bedre and CAF 9 E Company And Maoists	1 Maoist killed: Vela Vacham (reward of 3 lakhs).	1 CAF personnel, Manoj Pujari (26), killed by an IED on 21.04 when the forces began operation.				Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 23 April 2025
92.	22.04.2025-11.05.2025 Sukma (Karregutta)	24000-27000* security personnel from DRG, Bastar Fighters, STF, all units of State police, CRPF, CoBRA (IGP.S. Chandrashekhar later denied involvement of Telangana Greyhounds and C-60 Force from Maharashtra)	31 Maoists (including 16 women). 28 identified. Nambala Keshav Rao alias Basavaraju (reward of Rs 1 crore), Hungi (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Sintu (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Shanti (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Manjula Karam Podia Punem (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Motu Madam (reward of Rs 8 lakh) (15-19 yo), Bhime Kunjam (reward of Rs 5 lakh) (20 yo).  Two divisional committee members; one Telangana state committee member; one member of medical team; 28 platoon and party members.  7 above 30 yo 24 below 25 yo, including 3 below 20 yo.	18 injured (disputed by state government)		Significant dissonance between statements released by Dy. CM and HM of Chhattisgarh government regarding the operations as they were ongoing, regarding the existence of operations, scale of deployment, casualties etc.		Hindustan Times, 25 April 2025 The Scroll, 29 April 2025 Hindustan Times, 29 April 2025 The LiveMint 14 May 2025 Hindustan Times, 15 May 2025 Hindustan Times, 22 May 2025 Reporters Collective, 17 July 2025
93.	05.05.2025 Sukma	Maoists			Muchaki Ram, Deputy Sarpanch of Tarla Guda in			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 7 May 2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
					Sukma District.			
94.	05.05.2025 Bijapur	DRG, STF, CRPF, CoBRA Batallion	One unidentified woman, allegedly a cadre of Maoists.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 7 May 2025
95.	13.05.2025 Bijapur (Usur PS)	Maoists			4 persons - Naga Bhandari, Congress worker; Ashok Muchaki, teacher (killing took place in Meena Gatta); Markam Hadma and Kartam Kosa, cooks (killing took place in Meena Gatta).			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12 May 2025
96.	21.05.2025, Boter village, Narayanpur /Bijapur/Da ntewada	DRG	27 Maoists – 25 identified as follows: Basavaraju alias Gagana (reward of Rs 1.4 crore); Jangu Naveen alias Madhu (reward of Rs 25 lakhs); Sangeeta (reward of Rs 10 lakh); Sachteen alias Hidme Kurtam (reward of Rs 10 lakh); Janga alias Naveen alias Guddu Madvi (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Bhumika (reward of Rs 10 lakh); Sukha alias Srikant Podiam (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Bucchi alias Basanti alias Rame Muchaki (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Hadme alias Ankita Madvi (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Vivek alias Nishant (reward of	2 DRG jawans, Ramesh Hemla, killed in an IED Blast; and Khotlu Ram, killed during fighting.				Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22 May 2025 Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 23 May 2025 Hindustan Times 22 May 2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
			Rs 8 lakh); Nandu alias Nilesh Mandavi (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Roshan alias Tipu alias Mahesh (reward of Rs 10 lakh); Kosi alias Kanti Madvi (reward of 8 lakh); Bime alias Bhime alias Mase Madvi (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Ravi Bando (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Geeta (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Juggo alias Jamuna Podiam (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Sunil (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Vijya alias Lalsu Ursa (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Reena alias Reshma Podiam (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Unga alias Sameer Oyam (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Lakshmi alias (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Hidme alias Sanki Muchaki (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Suriya alias Santu Tati; Kosa alias Nagesh Sori (reward of Rs 8 lakh).					
97.	21.05.2025 Sukma	CoBRA and DRG	One unidentified Maoist	CoBRA personnel Mehul Solanki				Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22 May 2025
98.	05.06.2025 Bijapur	DRG, STF, and CobRA 210, 202, 201, 206 battalions	Maoist Leader, Narasimha Chalam alias Gautam alias Sudhakar alias Anand alias Arvind, etc, Central Committee Member (reward of Rs 1 crore) along with 6 others were killed,					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 6 June 2025  Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.)

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			including Bhaskar Rao and a cook employed in a primary school by the name Mahesh Kudiam who apparently carried a reward of Rs 1 lakh.					23 June 2025
99.	06.06.2025 Jagdalpur-Dantewada border	Security forces	Maoist by the name of Melarapu Addelu alias Bhaskar. Carried a reward of Rs 25 lakhs. Killed in an operation carried out at Indravati Tiger National Park.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 8 June 2025
100.	07.06.2025	Security forces	2 Maoists					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 8 June 2025
101.	Date not mentioned; 4 day operation commencing on 06.06.2025	DRG Bijapur, DRG Dantewada, STF, CoBRA Battalions 210, 202, 201, 206	7 Maoists killed including Sudhakar and Bhaskar – others include Reni (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Sudhuru Punem (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Mahesh Kodiam (reward of Rs 1 lakh). One woman and one male, alleged Maoists who remain unidentified.				2 AK-47s, 1 303 Rifle, 2 BGL launchers, 1 314 Bor gun, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 9 June 2025
102.	07.06.2025	Maoists			Botke Ram allegedly killed by Maoists. No other details available.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 9 June 2025
103.	Night of 21-22.06.2025 Bijapur	Maoists			Samayya Sunam, surrendered Maoist.  Veko Deva alias Lakma allegedly killed.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 23 June 2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
104.	17.06.2025 Bijapur	Maoists			Three people allegedly killed – surrendered Maoist Dinesh Mudiam and his two relatives including a 13 year old schoolboy.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 23 June 2025
105.	26.06.2025 Narayanpur	DRG, CoBRA, CRPF, Chattisgarh Police	2 women Maoists killed in Abujmarh in Narayanpur District. Police claim that both women cadres killed were carrying reward but no further details are mentioned.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 27 June 2025
106.	04-05.07.2025 Bijapur	DRG, Bijapur and Dantewada STF, CoBRA battalions 202 2010, CRPF	In Indravati Tiger Reserve area of Bijapur, Sodi Kanna who carried a reward of Rs 8 lakhs was killed. Allegedly a sniper.				303 Rifles, one radio and literature.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 08 July 2025
107.	18.07.2025 Narayanpur	Police party	6 killed in an encounter in Abujmarh area of Narayanpur district in Paria-Kakur forest. All 6 carried a reward of Rs 8 lakhs. Names – Rahul Punem alias Lachu Punem, Pungi Tati, Manisha, Tati Meena alias Somri alias Choti, Harish alias Kosa, Kudam Bhudari.				1 AK-47, 1 SLR, 1 12 Bor Gun, 11 BGL launchers, 83 BGL shells, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 20 July 2025
108.	21.07.2025	Maoists			2 teachers (shiksha dooth) Vinod Madde and Suresh Metta.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22 July 2025
109.	07.07.2025 Bijapur	Maoists			1 villager Vijay Jebba was killed in			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22 July 2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
					Modakpal PS jurisdiction.			
110.	26.07.2025 Bijapur	DRG	4 killed. Encounter in Basaguda-Gangalur area of Bijapur of Hunga (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Lakhe (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Bhime (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Nihal alias Rahul (reward of Rs 2 lakhs).					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 28 July 2025
111.	28.07.2025 Sukma	DRG, STF, CRPF	Encounter where 1 Maoist was killed in Dornapal area of Sukma. Identified as Kotla Ganga alias Muchaki Ganga, carrying a reward of 5 lakhs.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30 July 2025
112.	06.08.2025 Bijapur	Police	1 unidentified Maoist killed in Gangalur PS area.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 07 August 2025
113.	28.08.2025 Dantewada (Jagargunda PS)	Maoists			1 civilian, Barse Mandi Marka, teacher allegedly killed by Maoist.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 29 August 2025
114.	06.09.2025 Dantewada	DRG, STF	1 Maoist woman Sodhi Vimla, PPC Commander (reward of Rs 8 lakh) killed in combined operation of DRG and STF.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 07 September 2025
115.	13.09.2025 Bijapur (Gangalur PS)	DRG	3 Maoists killed – no other details mentioned.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 14 September 2025
116.	16.09.2025 Dantewada	Maoists			1 villager, Harender,			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.)

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
	(Aranpur PS)				allegedly killed by Maoists.			18 September 2025
117.	18.09.2025 Mankeli area, Bijapur-Sukma	DRG, STF, COBRA 202, 205	3 Maoists killed in 2 separate incidents over 48 hrs.  2 Maoists, Raghu Hapka (reward of Rs 5 lakh) and Sukku Memla (reward of Rs 2 lakh) killed in Mankeli area.  The other Maoist, Buski Nuppo, was killed in Sukma carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 19 September 2025
118.	22.09.2025 Narayanpur	Security forces	2 CC members killed in the Abujhmarh area – Raju Dada alias Katta Ramchandra Reddy alias Gudsa Usendi (reward of Rs 1.5 cr) and Kosa Dada alias Kadri Satyanarayan Reddy alias Gopanna .					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 23 September 2025
119.	30.09.2025 Bijapur	Joint team of DRG and CRPF.	1 Maoist, Aaytu Podiam (reward of Rs 5 lakh) killed in Gangalur PS area.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 03.10.2025
120.	30.09.2025 Bijapur-Sukma	Maoists			Maoists allegedly killed Rabwa Sona in Kisharam PS of Sukma district. In a second incident, Madakam Bhima was killed in Usur PS in Bijapur.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 03.10.2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
121.	24.10.2025  Bijapur	Maoists			2 villagers, Ravi Kattam and Tirupat Sodhi were killed in Usur PS.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 26 October 2025
122.	11.11.2025  Bijapur	DRG, CRPF	In Bijapur's National Park Area, 6 Maoists were killed as part of operations being carried out.  Identified as – Urmila Pamel (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Buchanna (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Jagat Thamo alias Motu (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Deve (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Bhagat (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), and Mangli Oyam (reward of Rs 2 lakhs).					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12 November 2025 13 November 2025 14 November 2025
123.	16.11.2025  Sukma	DRG	3 Maoists were killed by DRG in Sukma district in the forest of Thumalpar. Names – Madvi Deva (reward of Rs 5 lakhs). Other two remain unidentified.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 17 November 2025
124.	03.12.2025  Bijapur	Joint operation of security forces including DRG	As part of anti-Maoist operation, 12 Maoists were killed in Gangalur area who remain unidentified.	3 DRG jawans				Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 04 December 2025
125.	03.12.2025  Bijapur (Nemed area of Bhairamgarh)	DRG, STF, CRPF	18 Maoists (including 12 from above) killed as part of the same anti-Naxal operation as above. 16 identified as Vellam Modiam (reward of Rs 10 lakhs), Renu Oyam, Sannu Avlam,					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 05 December 2025

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
			Nanda Miriam, Lalu alias Sitaram, Raju Punem, Kamash Kavasi, Lakshmi Tati, Bandi Madvi, Sukki Lekam, Somdi Kunjam, Chandu Kursam, Mase alias Shanti, Reena Markam, Soni Madvi, Sangeeta Padam.					
126.	18.12.2025 Sukma	Security forces	3 Maoists killed in Gondiguda forest area. Names – Madvi Joga alias Munna (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Sodi Vandri (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Nuppo (reward of Rs 2 lakhs).					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 19 December 2025
127.	19.12.2025 Bijapur	DRG	In Bhairamgarh PS area in Bijapur District, DRG killed Madvi Fagnu (reward of Rs 5 lakhs).  Maoists claim in a statement that the killing was a fake encounter. He was picked up from his house where he was visiting by DRG and then killed.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 20 December 2025 23 December 2025
<b>2026</b>								
128.	02.01.2026 Sukma	DRG	Encounter in Burkalanka forest of Sukma district, where 12 alleged Maoists were killed by DRG. Names – Podiam Joga (reward of Rs 10 lakhs), Komram Badri,					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 04 January 2026

NO	DATE AND PLACE	AGENCIES INVOLVED	CASUALTY (NON-STATE)	CASUALTY (STATE)	CASUALTY (CIVILIAN)	STATE RESPONSE AND LEGAL ACTION, IF ANY	RECOVERIES	SOURCE
			Jithru Madvi, Madvi Sukka, Muchaki Munni, Madvi Jamli, Podiam Roshni, Tamo Nanda (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Markam Rama (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Mase (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Hunga Markam alias Panchuga (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Aithi Muchaki alias Jogi (reward of Rs 5 lakhs).					
129.	03.01.2026	Maoists			Killed a contractor.			Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 04 January 2026
130.	17.01.2026	DRG, STF, CRPF Bijapur	4 Maoists killed in an encounter. One identified as Dilip Beja, others remain unidentified.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 18 January 2026
131.	28.01.2026	Security forces Bijapur	2 Maoists killed, remain unidentified.					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30 January 2026
132.	05.02.2026	DRG and CoBRA Bijapur	1 Maoist killed, Uddham Singh (reward of Rs 8 lakhs).					Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 07 February 2026
133.	26.02.2026	DRG and CoBRA Bijapur	2 Maoists in PS Jangla area of Bijapur were killed with a reward of Rs 5 lakhs each. Remain unidentified.				Weapons and explosives	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 27 February 2026  The Hindu 26 February 2026

# ANNEXURE B: ARRESTS

TOTAL ARRESTS: 487

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
1	03.01.2024 Bijapur	1 Maoist Aaytu Parsik was surrounded and caught while he was running by the joint team of DRG, Bastar Fighters CRPF 85 and Gangalur PS in Bijapur. Police recovered Electronic Detonator, Cordex wire, Gallatin Stick, Switch and “Maoist propaganda” material.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 06.01.2024
2	05.01.2024 Bijapur/Sukma	2 Maoists, Jan Militia members, apparently involved in the burning of Kushwaha Travels bus and killing of one villager were arrested by the joint team of Basaguda PS officers and CoBRA 210. One of them, Lokam Somlu was arrested near the Sarkeguda pond. He was allegedly involved in the burning of the Kushwaha Travels bus.  The second Maoist, Padam Hunga, was arrested from Silger, district Sukma. He was allegedly involved in the kidnapping and killing of one person from the village Tarrem Kursampara on 1 January 2023.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 07.01.2024
3	12.01.2024 and 13.01.2024 Bijapur	Maoists with explosives were arrested from Basaguda PS area on 12 January 2024 during the anti-Maoist operation carried by Basaguda PS and CoBRA 210 in Timarpur Nedra. They found 3 militia members, Aklam Soma, Korsu Dashru and Punem Suresh and arrested them.  Secondly, during an encounter with Maoists in Gangalur PS area, 1 alleged Maoist was killed, During the post-encounter search operation, 3 suspicious people were found running and were arrested. All 3, Manku Punem, Chhotu Punem and Aaytu Punem are residents of Pusna and are allegedly Bhumkal militia members. Recoveries of 1 tiffin bomb, 5k bomb, switch and 80 meter electricity wire.  Thirdly, on 13.01.2024, 3 militia members were arrested with anti-government pamphlets, banners etc. They were: Sukhram Punem, Suresh Punem alias Pori and Chotu Punem alias Gara Gangalur.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16.01.2024
4	25.01.2024 Bijapur	1 Maoist, Tati Masa, was arrested when he was running during the joint operation of CoBRA 210 and CRPF 168 battalion from the forest area of Sarkeguda–Kosraguda.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 26.01.2024
5	27.01.2024 Dantewada	1 person, arrested as accused of being involved in the Aranpur Maoist blast died in Police Custody. Judicial enquiry ordered.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 29 January 2024
6	03.02.2024 Bijapur	1 Maoist, Soyam Baburaa, accused of killing one villager, Ramaya Dasar on 20 September 2020, was arrested by the joint operation of CRPF Sarkeguda camp and Basaguda PS.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 05.02.2024
7	03.02.2024, 05.02.2024 Bijapur	3 Maoists were arrested in Bijapur.  Lachhu Hemlu, President RPC CNM Pusnar, accused of firing on police force on 10 August 2023 in Metapal forest, was arrested in Gangalur PS area by the joint operation of DRG and CRPF 85 <sup>th</sup> battalion.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 06.02.2024
		Two others, Chamru and Sunnu Korami alias Sannu Madvi, also accused of firing on police force on different occasions in 2019 and 2020, were arrested from Farsegarh PS area by the joint team of 13 <sup>th</sup> battalion Chhasbal and police force.	

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
		SP has declared a reward of Rs 10,000 for each of these arrests.	
8	05.02.2024 Narayanpur	3 Maoists were arrested during the post-encounter search operation by a joint team of DRG and STF in Maad area on 5 February. The arrested included Ranu Podium, Sudhram Mandavi and Vijay Podium.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 09.02.2024
9	06.02.2024 Kanker	6 Maoists were arrested by Antagad Police, Kanker, while they were on their way on their motorcycles to put up banners and posters. Police had prior information of their planned activities. Those arrested included Lakhanlal Naruti, Shailender Kupal, Sukren Dhruv, Hemraj Mandavi, Harish Kumar Baghel and Sunehar Gavde.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 08.02.2024
10	Date not mentioned Bijapur	2 Maoists were arrested by the joint team of DRG and Jangla PS force. Kamlu Sodhi was arrested when he was found suspiciously trying to hide during the search operation in the Badetungali Patenar area. Police also seized 1 tiffin bomb, cordex wire, detonator, electric wire and "Maoist leaflets". The other Maoist, Sodhi Sannu, an absconding militia member for many years, accused of being involved in many cases of murder, IED blasts, firing on police force, etc. was also arrested during the joint operation.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.02.2024
11	14.02.2024	2 Maoists, Gondapalli militia member Manglu Punem and Mangu Punem, alleged to be involved in IED explosions, were arrested by the joint team of CRPF 23 <sup>rd</sup> battalion and Dantewada district police.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16.02.2024
12	Date not mentioned Bijapur	2 Maoists, RPC members Kaka Lallya (alleged to be involved in IED explosions) and Kaka Rama (alleged to be involved in the looting of tractor, cement and rods and kidnappings) were arrested by the joint team of DRG and Usur PS force on the Dantewada-Bijapur border.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22.02.2024
13	22.02.2024	1 Maoist, Bhimsen Madavi, alleged to be involved in the burning of road construction vehicles, was arrested during the joint search operation carried out by DRG, Bastar Fighters and Bhansi police in Masapura-Pujaripura forest area.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 24.02.2024
14	23.02.2024 Dantewada	2 Maoists, Madavi Joga, Vedma Panchayat Militia member and Madavi Hidma, Durma Sangham member were arrested by the police at the Medpal Chowk, Aranpur PS area. The police had specific information and both were caught while fleeing after seeing the police force.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 24.02.2024
15	24.02.2024	3 Maoists involved in the murder of Chhasbal Camp Company Commander were arrested by a joint team of Jangla PS personnel, Kutru DRG, Chhattisgarh Armed Force 4E Camp and CRPF. Arrestees included Becharam Janatana Sarkar President Aaytu Kalmu; Pindumalam Janatana Sarkar President and Vice President Ramlu Michcha; and Sukku Kudiam.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 26.02.2024
16	26.08.2024 Bijapur	4 Maoists, militia members, Sudru Madvi, Ramu Bedja, Budhram Tanti and Sukhram Kalmu were arrested while in a suspicious condition by the DRG team on the way to Kutur Chicken Market, Bijapur.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 28.02.2024
17	Date not mentioned Bijapur	3 Maoists, DAKMS Vice President Sadru Kursam, Militia Commander Vanam Poyam, and Militia member Rakesh Mudma, each having a reward of Rs 10,000 were arrested from Chintanpalli, Farsegarh PS area of of Bhairamgarh block by the joint team of police and 13 <sup>th</sup> battalion of Farsegarh.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 13.03.2024
18	Date not mentioned Dornapal	1 Maoist, a Jonagunda militia member Sodhi Dinesh, arrested from Binjepaali area of Dornapal by the joint force of district police and DRG.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16.03.2024
19	Date not mentioned	2 Maoists, Munna Tati and Enku Tati, members of militia, were arrested by the anti-Maoist joint forces.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.)

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
	Bijapur		17.03.2024
20	19.03.2024	1 Maoist, Karam Bhima, RPC militia member, arrested by Jagargunda TI and CRPF 23 battalion. He was found to be suspicious and started running after seeing the police force.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 20.03.2024
21	19.03.2024	1 Maoist sahayak/assistant was arrested during the area domination operation jointly carried out by CoBRA 208 battalion and district force in and around Pamlur area of Dornapal. Police force also seized 40 non-electric detonators, 1 arrow bomb, 200 gm explosives, 1 battery, cordex wire and "Maoist literature".	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22.03.2024
22	22.03.2024	2 Maoists were arrested during a joint search operation conducted by DRG, Bastar Fighters, Dantewada Kirandul PS personnel, CRPF 231 battalion G, F and Young Platoon Kumarguda, in and around forest and hill areas of Paragatta, Bainpalli and Baingpal villages. Those arrested included Podia alias Ajay Punem, Militia member Punsar Gorgepada and Sona Lokam, Pidia Bhumkal Militia Deputy Commander.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 23.03.2024
23	27.03.2024	1 Maoist, Hadma Kawasi alias Suika was arrested during a search operation based on information by Kattekayan PS and CAF Camp in Tumkapal in Kattekalyan PS area.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 28.03.2024
24	Date not mentioned	1 Maoist, Sontosh Potam, part of Maoist Small Action Team, involved in firing and attack on a DRG official was arrested in Bijapur.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 28.03.2024
25	Date not mentioned	3 Maoists, Suresh Kaka, Nagesh Kattam and Dula Kaka were arrested with explosives during the area domination exercise by the joint team of Usur PS and CRPF from Permapalli of Bijapur district. Police also seized explosive substances such as detonators, gelatine sticks and some banned "Maoist literature".	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.04.2024
26	09.04.2024	1 Maoist, Adiram Gali, militia member, carrying a reward of Rs 10,000, involved in the murder of one Assistant Constable Sanjay Bedja was arrested by the joint team of DRG and Kutru PS from the forest area of Kutru PS in Bijapur district.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 11.04.2024
27	16.04.2024	1 Maoist, Nuppo Pojja, involved in various Maoist activities was arrested by the joint team of CRPF 228 battalion and Hamrah PS force during the inspection of a polling station in Gaganpalli area of Erabor PS.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 19.04.2024
28	Date not mentioned	7 Maoists, including 2 women, were arrested along with explosives and other materials during the search operation carried out by the joint team of Gangalur PS personnel, DRG, CoBRA and CRPF from the forested area of Chaukhanpal of Bijapur district. Those arrested included Payaku Pulsum, Dinu Pulsum, Ramesh Pulsum, Sombaru Pulsum, Sukku Pulsum, Sukku Madavi alias Jedde and Jogi Pulsum. Police also claimed to have seized IED, battery, cordex wire, gelatine sticks, electric wire and "Maoist literature".	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 27.04.2024
29	Date not mentioned	7 Maoists, including 2 carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh each were arrested after laying a siege at Chinnabodkel hilly and forested areas of Dornapal. Those arrested with a reward of 1 lakh each included RPC DAKMS President Hemla Bhima and Madavi Bojji. Others included Kuhram Bojja, Madavi Sukka, Lokam Rama, Madavi Narsa and Kuhram Dhurva. Police also claimed to have seized 1 pipe bomb, cordex wire, 5 BGL shell, 5 detonators, 1 camera flash, 100 gm explosives, 1 bundle electric wire and 7 electric switches.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 09.05.2024
30	10.05.2024	14 Maoists with a total reward of Rs 41 lakh were arrested by DRG and Gangalur police force from Pidia and Mutvendi forest area. These included – Renu Kowasi (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Mangli Avlam (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Bichchen Uika (reward of Rs 5 lakh), Sharmila Kursam (reward of Rs 5 lakh), Lakshmi Tatti (reward of Rs 5 lakh), Babita Hemlam (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Savitri Punem (reward of Rs 2 lakh),	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 14.05.2024

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
		<p>Mainu Oyam alias Lachhu (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Payaki Madavi (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Toklu Madavi (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Sannu Lokam (reward of Rs 1 Lakh), Bichen Kunjam (RPC Korchali), Lakhu Punem (GRD Commander Itawar), and Pandu Michaki (Bhumkal Militia Deputy Commander). Police also claimed to have seized 4 tiffin bombs, 2 cooker bombs, detonator, cordex wire, gelatine sticks and propaganda material.</p> <p>The villagers of Pidia villages have alleged that after an encounter on 10 May 2024, in which 12 Maoists were killed, police have detained and taken away more than 50 people. In order to secure their release, villagers have camped in Bijapur. They claim that first innocents were killed and then villagers were arrested instead of the Maoists. Tribal leader Soni Sori has raised the question that if so many people with rewards were in the villages, then police should disclose when these rewards were announced. Villagers are preparing for the legal fight.</p>	
31	14.05.2024 Dantewada	<p>5 Maoists, including 1 woman were arrested from the Aranpur area of Dantewada by the joint forces of DRG Dantewada, Aranpur PS, and CRPF 11th battalion Young Platoon. Those arrested include Mangali Marakam Burgum, Ayata Markam, Vijja Bhimapara, Joga Tati and Devaram Nuppo.</p> <p>(Devram Nuppo was later reported to have escaped from the hospital where he was taken for treatment after he had complained of some illness. He went to the toilet and apparently broke open the window to escape. Reported in Dainik Bhaskar on 20.5.2024.)</p>	<p>Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 15.05.2024</p>
32	Date not mentioned Bijapur	<p>4 Maoists were arrested from Toynar and Kutru area of Bijapur district during a search operation by the police. Three of them – militia commander Munna Mudma, Bhumkal DAKMS member Raju Mudma; and militia member Lakhu Mudma – alleged to be involved in the murder of the Toynar and Mormed Sarpanches, were arrested by the joint team of DRG and police force, while militia member Sukhram Kawasi was arrested with explosive materials from the Kutru area by the police and CAF joint team.</p>	<p>Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 17.05.2024</p>
33	19.05.2024 Dornapal	<p>10 Maoists (including one Ernapalli RPC militia commander with a reward of Rs 1 lakh) were arrested from forest areas of Duller in Dornapal by the joint forces of district police, DRG and CoBRA. Those arrested include Madvi Buska, Madvi Joga, Padam Joga, Sodi Muda, Madakam Hinga, Sodi Ganga, Madvi Hunga, Vetti Hunga, Madakam Nanda and Madakam Deva.</p>	<p>Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21.05.2024</p>
34	20.05.2024 Dantewada	<p>2 Maoists, Hunga alias Gattam Sodi and Joga Kudami were arrested from Aranpur PS area during the search operation carried out by the joint team of DRG, CRPF 11 battalion and CAF 15 battalion. Police also seized one 3 kg tiffin bomb, 2 detonators, 15-meter electric wire, 1 cell, 5 crackers and “Maoist leaflets”. They were sent to judicial custody.</p>	<p>Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22.05.2024</p>
35	Date not mentioned Bijapur	<p>3 Maoists were arrested in 2 separate incidents. DAKMS President Iria Kadati alias Bandu and CNM President Lakshman Fulsum alias Lakhma, both carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh each, were arrested in the area of Peddagalur, Chinagalur and Gundum of Bijapur district during the search operation by the joint team of Tarrem PS personnel and DRG. Another Maoist, Ashok Korsa, carrying a reward of Rs 10,000 and alleged to be involved in an attack on Farsegarh police TI vehicle with IED, was arrested when he was allegedly caught doing <i>reiki</i> of Korsa police team.</p>	<p>Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 28.05.2024</p>
36	26.05.2024 Dantewada	<p>15 Maoists were arrested in the nearby forested areas of village Gumalnar and Sirsapada of Dantewada during the search operation carried by the joint team of DRG and Bastar Fighters when Maoists allegedly blasted the IED after seeing the forces. Maoists were surrounded by the force and arrested, including 7 women and 8 men. Those arrested included Jamli Madvi, Galle Madkam Gott, Mude Benjam</p>	<p>Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 29.05.2024</p>

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
		Rekhavaya, Parkopada, Jabbo Kalmu, Mango Pediam, Sono, Sanno Dhurva Madakam, Butlu alias Khuta, Somdu alias Durra, Hidmo alias Kesha Pariyam, Deva Madakam, Maniram Madakam, and Galle Pediam.	
37	Dates not mentioned  Dornapal	3 Maoists were arrested on the way from Jabeli to Rastong of Dornapal by the joint forces of district police and DRG. Those arrested included Kwasi Pojja, Singaram RPC CNM member carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh and Tati alias Madakam Pojja, Singaram RPC militia platoon commander. Another alleged Maoist, RPC militia member Tursa Enka, was arrested near the area of Pujaripara by the District police and DRG during an area domination operation.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 29.05.2024
38	27.05.2025	1 woman Maoist, Barse Muye, Darvha Division Medical Team Head and Malger Area Committee Member, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh, was arrested from the forested area of Simel during the search operation carried out by the joint team of DRG, district force, CRPF 206, CoBRA battalion under the leadership of SDOP Parmeshwar Tilakwar, Inspector Govind Yadav and other officials.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30.05.2024
39	Date not mentioned	16 Maoists were arrested from different areas during a counter operation of the strike call given by the Maoists. 11 were arrested from Godna-Pariarpara area, when they were putting up posters. 5 others were arrested from the forested area of Bhusapur. Those arrested included DAKMS member Lakhu Kursam alias Sukku alias Enka Lakhu; Mulvasi Bachao Manch member Shankar Kursam alias Budhu Kursam; Mankesi RPC militia platoon members Mannu Kursam, Chaitu Kursam, Soma Kursam; Mankeli RPC Bhunkal Militia members Kamlesh Kursam, Mahesh Sodhi, Sannu Kursam, Aaytu Kursam, Mangal alias Pandu Madkam, Ramesh Kursam alias Guddu; and militia members Madakam Aayta, Madkam Mangdu, Pedia Punem, Madkam Lakhma and Pediam Mudda.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 31.05.2024
40	Date not mentioned  Bijapur	9 Maoists were arrested from Farsegarh and Madder PS area of Bijapur district. 4 were arrested from Somanpalli-Bandepara Road and 5 were those who were involved in an IED blast on a TI vehicle. Those arrested include Mudder Area Committee ACM Lachhu Punem (carrying a reward of Rs 5 Lakh) and those with rewards of Rs 10,000 each included Guddu Kumma, Bughu Kumma, Sures Oyam, Vinod Korsa and Munna Kumma. Apart from these, militia member Ramesh Kudiam and Kachlaram RPC CNM member Ramesh Kumma Kumma Penta were also arrested.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 06.06.2024
41	Date not mentioned	1 Maoist and member of Potali Dhruvapara Militia, Somaram alias Kalu, allegedly involved in the murder of ex-Janpad Member of Potali village on 26 <sup>th</sup> April, was arrested by the Dantewada police.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 14.06.2024
42	14.06.2024  Sukma	3 Maoists were arrested along with explosive materials from the forest areas of Poro Kondasawali of Sukma district by the joint team of DRG and district force. Those arrested were identified as RPC militia member Madavi Podia, Kunjam Hurra, and Gampur RPC militia member Padam Aayatu. While searching their bags police found 14 meter cordex wire, 9 pieces of non-electric detonators, 8 pieces of gelatine stick, 30 meter wire, 10 pieces of pencil cell, 3 match boxes, 1 piece of iron, 1 piece of tiffin, iron nails, and crackers.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16.06.2024
43	25.06.2024  Sukma-Bijapur border	6 Maoists, allegedly involved in Tekalgudem explosion of a CRPF truck carrying rations in which two CoBRA battalion members were killed, were arrested along with explosives, after information of their presence in the forest area of Timmapuram and Tekalgudem was received by the joint team of district police and CoBRA force. Those arrested were identified as Tamu Bhima, Korsa Deepak, Bhune Kunjam, Korsa Aayatu, Vetti Pandu and Korsa Raju. While searching their bags police recovered electric wire, gelatine sticks, detonators, pencil cells and "Maoist literature".	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 27.06.2024
44	04.07.2024	7 Maoists, along with explosives were arrested from the Chintalnara area of Sukma district during the search operation jointly conducted by DRG, Bastar fighters and	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.)

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
	Sukma	district police. Those arrested were identified as Kuhram Bhima, Hemla Guddi, Midiam Ganga, Sundam Bhima, Madavi Joga, Nuppo Manga and Hemla Nanda. They all were militia members.	06.07.2024
45	Date not mentioned Sukma	5 Maoists, along with explosive materials, were arrested from the way between Jagargunda and Singhavaram of Sukma district by the joint team of district force, DRG and Bastar Fighters. Those arrested were identified as Hemla Pla, Hemla Hunga, Sodi Deva, Nuppo and Kunjam Masa. They were working as Sapanguda RPC Militia members. Police also seized 2 pieces BGL, 4 pieces of detonators, 7 pieces of gelatine sticks, 1 piece of tiffin bomb, 3 pieces of pencil cells and wire, 200 gm explosives, 10 meter cordex wire, 4 pieces of Top Tiger crackers and "Maoist literature".	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 07.07.2024
46	14.07.2024	7 Maoists, alleged to be involved in the attack on the Chhutwai camp were arrested by the joint team of Tarrem PS personnel and CRPF 153 battalion. Those arrested were identified as Tamo Bhima, member of Platoon no. 9, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh; Jyoti alias Uika Mangari, RPC Kondapally KAMS President, with a reward of Rs 1 Lakh; Mudma Hurra alias Sunil; Punem Hadma, RPC Kondapalli DAKMS member; Sodi Bhima; Vetti Bhima; and Sodi Jogga, Bhumkal Militia member.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 15.07.2024
47	12.07.2024 Sukma	4 Maoists were arrested from Jagargunda area by the joint team of district force, DRG and Bastar Fighters. Those arrested were identified as Uika Lakhma, Militia Commander with a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Madkam Nanda, Militia Deputy Commander; Uika Kosa, militia member; and Uika Hidma, ex-LOS member.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 15.07.2024
48	Date not mentioned Bijapur	2 Maoists, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh each, identified as Gadamali RPC Janatana Sarkar President Mangu Kudiam, and Biribhumi Daler RPC Janatana Sarkar President Ramsav Madavi were arrested by the joint operation of Bhairamgarh police and DRG from Bijapur district. Both were allegedly involved in the firing and IED explosive attack on 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 in Keshkutul.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16.07.2024
49	25.07.2025 Dantewada	3 Maoists including 1 minor were arrested. Out of these 3, one identified as Madkam Bandi, was arrested in the forest areas near village Mukram of Dornapal area by the joint team of Chintalnar PS and CRPF 223 battalion. Militia deputy commander Madkam Hidma and one minor were arrested by the joint team of CRPF 223 battalion of Fulanpad camp and 206 CoBRA battalion from the forest and hilly area of Fulanpad.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 28.07.2024
50	06.08.2024 Dantewada/Sukma	5 Maoists, 4 in Kerlapal and 1 in Jagargunda, were arrested along with their explosives. Madakam Motu was arrested from Jagargunda when a joint team of district police, DRG and CRPF under the leadership of SDPO Tomesh Verma were conducting a search operation on 6 <sup>th</sup> August. 15-20 others managed to escape. On the following day, DRG and CRPF 6 <sup>th</sup> battalion under the leadership of Kerlapal IPS inspector were conducting searches and found some suspicious individuals in forest areas near Ramsetti and Peria villages of Kerlapal. Those arrested included DAKMS President Pediaam Mukka, Padam Mudda, Madavi Lakshman and militia member Padam Deva. Police also claimed to have seized 22 meter electric wire, 7 A size batteries, 8 detonators, 2 tiffin bombs, 2 gelatine rods and 2 meter cordex wire from those arrested.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.08.2024
51	Date not mentioned Bijapur	4 Maoists were arrested from Mallepalli-Bandaguda areas of Basaguda PS by the joint force of district police and DRG. Those arrested were identified as Midiam Lachhu, DAKMS President carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh, Militia member Uika Lakku, Satish Midiam alias Mahesh, alias Prashant alias Soma and Midiam Kamla Sharmila alias Some Uike. All were sent to judicial custody.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.08.2024

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
52	15.08.2024 Dornapal	1 Maoist, Kawasi Hidma, accused of murder of an electrician Podiam Joga, was arrested from Bhandapadar area of Dornapal by the joint team of police and CRPF 219 battalion.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 17.08.2024
53	17.08.2024 Bijapur	1 Maoist and militia member, Baldev Kohrami, accused of being part of the IED explosion of a police vehicle was arrested in Bajarpara in Farsegarh PS area.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 18.08.2024
54	Date not mentioned	13 Maoists arrested from two different places of Bijapur district. In Gangalur, militia member Sukku Padam alias Gorra, Lachhu Madavi alias Pedda, Raghu Kursam, Payku Korsa, Guddu Punem, Narayan Kursam alias Narrya alias Modi, and Mangu Punem were arrested from Potampara forest area by district force and CoBRA. Police claimed to have seized propaganda materials. In Tarrem area, CNM members Midgam Sona, Udam Chhotu, Dodo Arjun, Dodo Joga, Oyam Hadma and Aaytu Oyam alias Badde were arrested by district force and STF. Police claimed to have seized explosive materials from them.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 04.09.2024
55	Date not mentioned Bijapur	3 Maoists were arrested along with explosives from the forested area of Sarkeguda-Pegdapalli of Basaguda PS in Bijapur district by the joint team of DRG, district force, CoBRA 210 battalion and CRPF 168 battalion. Those arrested were identified as militia member Kodami Somlu, militia section commander Lingu Somela alias Linga and RPC President Somlu Kadi. Police also seized gelatine rods, gun powder, detonators, and daily essential goods.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 08.09.2024
56	12.09.2024 Sukma	8 Maoists were arrested from the forested areas of Bainpalli in Jagargunda area of Sukma district by the joint team of district force, Bastar Fighters and CRPF 231 battalion during their search operation. Those arrested were identified as militia commander Muchaki Palla with a reward of Rs 1 lakh, militia deputy commander Madakam Sannu and militia members Muchaki Sanna, Kunjam Deva, Uika Hurra, Kalmu VJija, Muchaki Sudru, and Kalmu Chetu.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 15.09.2024
57	Date not mentioned Sukma	2 “urban Maoists”, Chintalnar resident Mantosh Mandal and Rajmahndri resident S. Nagarjun, both alleged to be suppliers of explosives and other material to the PLGA battalion, were arrested by Sukma District Police. Both were sent to judicial custody.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 27.09.2024
58	Date not mentioned Bijapur	Joint team led by DRG in Gangalur PS area during patrol and search exercises arrested 3 suspicious people. Their names are Budhram Korsa, Chotu Lekham and Lakhani Kunjam. Reportedly recovered explosives, tiffin bombs, cordex wire, safety fuse, and “Naxalite pamphlets and posters”.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30.09.2024
59	Date not mentioned Bijapur	7 Maoists were arrested by the district forces during the area domination exercise by Nelnar PS in Bijapur district. Those arrested were identified as DAKMS member Sannu Ursa (38), CNM member Munna Ursa (38), supply team and medic team member Somlu Ursa (33), militia member Kamlu Madakam (28) and Vijay Kunjam (19). Police also seized “Maoist literature”, wire, pencil cell, and medicines.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 03.10.2024
60	Date not mentioned Bijapur	2 Maoists, Shakar Karam (26) and Padey Karam (26) were arrested from Chirtur cave forest of Mirtur PS area.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 03.10.2024
61	Date not mentioned Bijapur	1 Maoist, Shankar, member of PLGA platoon no. 9, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh was arrested from the forest of Pusabaka and Gaganpalli of Bijapur by the police forces.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.10.2024
62	13.10.2024	2 people, Sudhir Tripathy and Suraj Nishad were arrested for supplying pistols to Maoist Hunga Madkami by the local police and NIA.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 14.10.2024

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
63	27.10.2024 Sukma	19 Maoists were arrested by Sukma Police and CRPF. 5 were caught in from the forest area of Bhandarpaddar. They were identified as Vanjan Aayata, Podiam Kosa, Sodi Aayata and Podiam Pojja. In Jagargunda PS area, a joint team of DRG, CoBRA 201 and CRPF 150 battalion arrested 14 Maoists from the forest area of Tumalpad. Those arrested were identified as militia commander Varse Hima (reward of Rs 1 lakh), CNM commander Hemla Jitu (reward of Rs 1 lakh), CNM commander Barse Nagesh (reward of Rs 1 lakh), militia member Barse Hinga, Hemla Mangdu, Barse Joga, Madakam Rakesh, Barse Mangdu, Barse Hinga, Madavi Hadma, Madakam Aayatu, Madkam Hinga, Madavi Nanda and Barse Deva. Police seized 300 gms of explosives, 3 pieces of tiger bomb, 2 packets of match boxes, 3 gelatine rods, 2.50 meter cordex wire, 6 pencil cells, 1 meter white and blue wire, 4 meter electric wire and 3 detonators from those arrested.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 29.10.2024
64	27.11.2024 Bijapur	4 Maoists were arrested from the Podum area of Bijapur by police. Those arrested were identified as RPC Fuladi Janatana Sarkar President Sukku Hapka alias Pulal alias Patel (40), militia deputy commander Mannu Hapka (23), RPC Fuladi militia member Lachhu Madavi (25) and RPC Fuladi Janatana Sarkar member Kosal Madavi alias Gulab (20).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 28.11.2024
65	Date not mentioned Bijapur	13 Maoists were arrested from Tarrem, Jangla and Avapalli. Those arrested were identified as Kosa Punem alias Hadma (reward of Rs 2 lakh), militia member Madkam Hunga, Lakshman Telam, Modiam Joga, Madakam Jogi, Nanda Mandavi, Modami Hadma, Chapa Krishnarao, Cheturam Veko, Sukhram Poyam, Sukhram Benjami, Sukhram Kavasi, and Lakshman Benjami. Police also seized a 5 kg tiffin bomb's fuse and other explosives.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30.11.2024
66	Date not mentioned Bijapur	6 Maoists were arrested from Nadpalli-Futapalli forest area of Usur PS, Bijapur by district force, CoBRA 205 and CRPF 196 battalion. Those arrested were identified as Lakshman Dudhi (21), Deva Sodhi (21), Narsimma Shankar (42), Mohan Rao Aayul (29), Nagraj Shukar (25), and Gopal Sunkar (28).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 01.12.2024
67	09.12.2024 Bijapur	2 Maoists were arrested from Mosla-Durdha area of Bijapur by DRG and Nemed police during the area domination operation. They were identified as Mosla Janatana Sarkar President, Sannu Korsa (reward of Rs 1 lakh) and Jan Militia Platoon Deputy Commander Pandru Ursa.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.12.2024
68	09.12.2024 Sukma	2 Maoists, members of militia, were arrested from Fulbagadi PS area during the search operation by DRG and police. They were identified as Madvi Manga and Madavi Bhjimaram. Police also seized a 5 kg tiffin bomb, electric detonator, and gelatine rods from them.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.12.2024
69	Date not mentioned Bijapur	4 Maoists, alleged to be involved in killing of ex-Sarpanch, Sukul Farsa of Chihka village in Bijapur district, were arrested by the joint forces of DRG and Bijapur police force in Biriyaabumi area. They were identified as Jan militia member Mandavi alias Dala (20), Bodi Muchaki alias Buddhe alias Borngmonda (25), Rajuram Podia alias Joltu (27), and Rajaram Podium (42).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16.12.2024
70	21.12.2024 Sukma	5 Maoists were arrested from Chintagufa PS of Sukma by the joint force of DRG, police force and CoBRA 2 <sup>nd</sup> battalion. They were identified as Konta ACM and Pidmel RPC Janatana Sarkar school teacher Muchaki Hunga (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Konta ACM Pidmel RPC KAMS President Kawasi Gangi (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Metaguda RPC DAKMS President Madavi Hinga (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Podiam Deva and Maoist supplier Mukesh Podiam.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22.12.2024
71	20.12.2024 Dantewada	3 Maoists were arrested from Aranpur PS area by the joint team of DRG, Bastar Fighters, CAF and police force during an area domination operation. They were identified as Kankadi Panchayat CNM member Pandu Muchaki, Uppampalli	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 22.12.2024

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
		Panchayat DAKMS President Kowasi Deva (reward of Rs 1 lakh), and Kerapalli Upampalli Panchayat DAKMS Deputy President Joga Kawasi.	
72	23.12.2024 Sukma	An alleged supplier of printer and paper to Maoists, Hidma Konta, was arrested from Dornapal/Sukma.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 24.12.2024
73	30.12.2024 Sukma	2 Maoists were arrested from Kundel forest area of Jagargunda PS by the district force and CRPF 165 battalion. They were identified as Jonagunda RPC President Sodi Sukka alias Nandu and Jonagunda RPC commander-in-chief Sodi Bhima (reward of Rs 1 lakh).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 31.12.2024
74	Date not mentioned Sukma	1 Maoist Nilesh Avalam arrested by Sukma Police, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakhs. On intelligence input, he was arrested and reportedly at his identification, recoveries were made of 6 gelatine rods, cordex wires, and 3 detonators. Sent to judicial custody.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 06.01.2025
75	Date not mentioned Sukma	1 Maoist Oyam Kosa arrested by district and CRPF 105 Bn reportedly with codex wire, gelatin rod, detonator and explosives recoveries. He was sent to judicial custody on 10.01.2025.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 11.01.2025
76	Date not mentioned Sukma	4 Maoists arrested by district force and DRG. They are accused of being involved in killing of two villagers in Tadmetla (Kavasi Sukka and Madvi Ganga for being informers) in 2023	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 11.01.2025
77	13.01.2025 Bijapur	3 Maoists, Rahu Punem, Madvi Bhima and Uika Shambu were arrested in the forest near Budgi Cheru by a joint force of DRG, CoBRA 210, and CRPF 153 battalion during patrol in Tarim area of Bijapur. Recoveries included a 5 kilo tiffin bomb, cordex wire, electricity wire, "Maoist literature", battery.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 14.01.2025
78	Date not mentioned Sukma	7 suspects – Sodi Hidma, Madvi Chandu, Markam Bhima, Sodi Soura, Sodi Budhram, Sodi Kosa, Markam Hidma – were arrested by district force and CoBRA 203 from PS Chintalgopha area of Sukma district on the basis of information given by an 'informer'.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16.01.2025
79	Date not mentioned Bijapur	In Kamkanaar, Gangalur PS area, 1 Maoist Mangal Uika was arrested by DRG and district force. He was reported to be responsible for the killing of a villager on 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2024.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16.01.2025
80	Date not mentioned Bijapur	3 suspects were arrested from Nainpal forest in Gangalur PS area in Bijapur – Sanu Potem, Raju Potem, Sukram Uike alias Hema alias Ramesh. Arrest by District Force and DRG on the basis of information of presence of Maoists.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 23.01.2025
81	Date not mentioned Bijapur	14 Maoists in Usur PS area by Usur Police, DRG, CoBRA 205, and CRPF's 196 and 229 battalions. Names – Kamli Kodem (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Chaita Sodi alias Reelo (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Jogi Sodi alias Tokku, Rajesh Sodi alias Boddho (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Deva Markam alias Boti (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Kosa Madvi (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Linga Kohrami alias Galle Linga (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Hunga Kunjam alias Somra Markam alias Raju (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Joga Markam, Hurra Markam, Somra Markam alias Raju, Rama Madvi, Hunga Madvi, Sukka Madvi. Recovered a spike and digging equipment. 8 have been identified in the photograph provided.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 25.01.2025
82	Date not mentioned Sukma	6 Maoists were arrested in Jagargunda PS Area by district police and CRPF 165 battalion. Names – Sarita alias Uika Paike (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Bindu alias Kunjam Pojje (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Madvi Bhima, Kawasi Masa, Kartam Hunga, and Muchaki Mukka. Arrest was reportedly from a forest near Kunder. Identified as suspects by the joint force and arrested.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 26.01.2025
83	Date not mentioned Dantewada	On the basis of information from informers, police from Barsur PS, Dantewada arrested 4 alleged gun suppliers to Maoists. Names – Madan Mandvi, Arjun Singh, Vinod Oyami alias Vinod Kashyap and Gopal Kashyap. Allegedly recovered 30	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 03.02.2025

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
		magazines of 315 Bore rounds, 20 magazines of 12 bore rounds, 30 magazines of detonators. Arrested under Ss. 10, 13(1), 13(2), 16, 18, 23, 38(1), 40 of UAPA; S. 25 of the Arms Act; and Ss. 4 and 5 of the Explosive Substance Act.	
84	03.02.2025 Sukma	On the basis of information provided, 2 suspects were arrested by police from Kerlapal PS in Sukma district by CAF from Paria and District Force Sukma during an area domination operation. Names – Muchaki Deva (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Muchaki Joga.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 05.02.2025
85	Date not mentioned Sukma	Sukma district police along with CRPF and DRG arrested 2 Maoists from Tad Metla forest in Chintalgha PS. Names – Sodi Dula and Madvi Budhra. Photo of arrested provided in report.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 06.02.2025
86	Date not mentioned Sukma	Alleged explosives supplier to Maoists, Budhra Kohram, arrested by police from Maraiguda PS near Telangana border while entering Sukma district. Search of his bag recovered reportedly one bundle of cordex wire, 12 detonators, 8 gelatine rods, one bundle of electricity wire, and 15 pieces of pencil battery along with 3 items of “Maoist literature”.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 14.02.2025
87	13.02.2025 Dantewada	9 Maoists arrested from Aranpur PS area in Dantewada. Names – Nanda Sodi, Joga Markam, Sula Hemla, Nanda Markam, Joga Markam, Hamla Markam. 6 names provided although 9 are claimed to be arrested, and only 8 are shown in the photo accompanying the report.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 15.02.2025
88	17.02.2025 Sukma	From Belpoccha area of Konta PS in Sukma district, police and CRPF arrested 1 Maoist Muchaki Deva. Arrested by district police and CRPF 228 battalion. Reported recoveries show 4 pieces of gelatine rod, 4 pieces of electronic detonators, 1.5 metre of cordex wire, and “Naxalite pamphlets”. Produced before the magistrate and remained in judicial custody.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 20.02.2025
89	28.02.2025	18 Maoists arrested from different areas in joint forces operation. 10 were arrested in PS Usur, 7 from PS Basaguda area and 1 from Bhairamgarh PS area. Names are: Meso Kunjam, Deva Muchaki, Tirupati Tati, Soni Muchaki, Mura Madwi, Shankar Sori, Satyam Tati, Mangu Madvi, Arjun Tati, Kawasi Hidma from Usur PS and Suka Oyam, Deva Kawasi, Jogesh Madvi, Hunga Nuppo, Budhrah Punem, Sanna Pudam, Vijay Micha alias Prabhakar from PS Basaguda and finally Madvi Sanni from Bhairamgarh PS. Tiffin bomb and other unspecified explosives recovered, and literature of proscribed organization	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 01.03.2025
90	09.03.2025 Sukma	From Konta PS area of Sukma district, police and CRPF arrested 1 Maoist Markam Rama (reward of Rs 2 lakhs). Arrested by district police and CRPF 228 battalion. From his possession, they found banners, pamphlets, and bow and arrows.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 11.03.2025
91	Date not mentioned Bijapur	In forest area of Marur-Baka in Usur PS area in Bijapur, district police, Cobra 201, 205, and 206 and CRPF 229 battalion arrested 5 Maoists Narayan Bhandari (carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh), Dharma Kaka, Needa Kaka, Kista Durwa, and Rambabu Punem. Recoveries include pamphlets and a battery.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 13.03.2025
92	17.03.2025 Sukma (Jagargunda)	1 alleged supplier to Maoists, Muchaki Suresh, and 1 Maoist, Punem Hidma, arrested by CRPF 165th Battalion and the police. They were involved in carrying out reconnaissance on movement of security forces, planting improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and iron spikes on routes used by troopers and digging roads.	Press Trust of India 15.03.2025
93	23.03.2025 Sukma	In Sukma, PS Konta, 6 Maoists were arrested by SDPO Konta. 5 names mentioned - Tati Lakma, Kalmu Pandu, Vanjam Manga, Vetti Hadma, and Kumari Tati. Arrested for alleged involvement in the killing of a villager Tati Budhra in October 2024.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 24.03.2025

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
94	Date not mentioned Dantewada	From Nelgonda forest in Dantewada, police arrest 5 Maoists during patrol. Names – Ramseela Oyam, Kollo Oyami, Lakmu alias Monda Oyam, Budhroo Oyam, Ramu Oyam. Reportedly found a battery, 5 kg pressure cooker, IEDs, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 29.03.2025
95	29.03.2025 Sukma	From Jagargunda PS in Sukma, district force and CRPF 165 battalion arrested 2 Maoists – Podiam Lakma and Telam Hida. Reportedly recovered 3 pieces of BGL shell and 1 scythe.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 01.04.2025
96	Date not mentioned Bijapur	In Chilkapally forest area in Basaguda PS of Bijapur, District Police and CoBRA arrested 1 Maoist Barse Joga carrying reward of 5 lakhs during a patrol.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 08.04.2025
97	Date not mentioned Bijapur	Arrest of 4 Maoists in Kopanjhari forest in Farsegarh PS area of Bijapur, carrying reward of Rs 10,000 each. Names – Mando Kursum, Kailash Kursum, Pandu Kursum, Chhotu Kursum alias Budhram. Mando Kursum was allegedly involved in the IED blast of SHO, Farsegarh on 15 May 2024 and another foiled IED blast on 12 April 2025. Others are also said to be involved in the two incidents.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 26.06.2025
98	30.06.2025 Sukma	3 Maoists arrested in Sukma district – Dodi Podia alias Prakash (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Dodi Pandu (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Dodi Nandu (reward of Rs 5 lakhs). Arrested by 165 battalion of CRPF from Gondpalli area in Sukma under Jagargunda PS area.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 01.07.2025
99	Date not mentioned Narayanpur	Police claim to have arrested 1 Rajman Poyam from Rohtar forest area of Narayanpur by a joint force of police and ITBP. Accused alleged to have killed one Santu Poyam and a secretary of the Panchayat, Haraklal Choudary.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 08.07.2025
100	Date not mentioned Bijapur	In Bijapur, 6 Maoists, all women, were arrested by Bijapur DRG and CoBRA 210 battalion. Names – Uika Sayatu (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Uika Paiki (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Kunjam Sonlu (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Padam Sannu, Uika Nagesh, Uika. They were detained on suspicion and then arrested. Reportedly seized from their possessions tiffin bombs, detonators, cordex wire, safety fuse wire, electric wire, digging equipment, and “Naxalite pamphlets”.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 31.07.2025
101	Date not mentioned Sukma	In Kerlupal area of Sukma District, 3 Maoists were arrested – Podia Nanda (40) carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh, Hemla Joga (28) and Hemla Ganga (45). Arrested by a joint force, the three were “suspicious looking persons” picked up by the police during a search. Recoveries reportedly show 2 tiffin bombs weighing 3 kgs each and 3 pieces of detonators, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 03.08.2025
102	20.08.2025 Bijapur	In Bhairamgarh PS, a combined team of DRG and Bijapur police arrested 5 Maoists – Mahru Yadav alias Sabnu (reward of Rs 3 lakh), Lakhu Farsa, Budhram Kowasi (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Sukhram Hemla alias Jairam (reward of Rs 1 lakh) and Sitaram Dodi.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21.08.2025
103	Date not mentioned Sukma	4 Maoists were arrested – Muchaki Deva (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Muchaki Guddi, Sori Hidma, and Sori Deva. Recoveries reportedly include 1 tiffin bomb and unspecified explosives.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 31.08.2025
104	Date not mentioned Sukma	3 Maoists were arrested by a combined team of district police and CRPF in Chintalgopha PS of Sukma district – the names are Podiam Joga, Madvi Masa and Pojja Madvi. Arrested on the basis of informant information. Seizure of 1 tiffin bomb weighing 3 kgs, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 02.09.2025
105	02.09.2025 Bijapur	16 Maoists arrested in three separate places of Bijapur – 2 in Basguda, 6 in Gangalur and 8 in Jangla PS. The names are Nargu Veko, Boda Veka, Munna Veko, Budhru and Badru Barsa, Bhima Varse, Madvi Pala, Joga Madvi, Kalmu Manki, Budhri Varse, Kalmu Phulo, Boti Madvi, Paklu Farsa, Munna Kohrami, Baman Kawasi, Nanda Kunjam and Bhima Madakam. Arrest by combined team of DRG, police from 3	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 03.09.2025

NO	DATE/PLACE	ARREST	SOURCE
		districts, CoBRA 210, 202, and CRPF 229 battalion. Recoveries of cookers, tiffin IEDs, cordex wire, safety fuse, multi-metre electricity wire, and earth digging equipment, and “Naxalite banners, posters, and pamphlets”.	
106	Date not mentioned Bijapur	26 Maoists arrested in separate incidents – 3 from Gangalur PS; 3 from Bhairam PS; 8 from Abapalli PS; 8 from Usur PS; and 4 from Tarrem. The name includes Munna Pottam (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Arjun Attami alias Guddi (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Paiko Madvi alias Soni alias Tokri (reward of Rs 1 lakh) Krina Podiam (reward of Rs 1 lakh) Ram Kaka (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Manin Madakam alias Gola Mandi (reward of Rs 1 lakh). Other names not mentioned.  Combined forces of DRG, district force, CoBRA 205, CRPF battalions 196 and 62. Seizures reportedly included IED, cooker bombs, tiffin bombs, detonators, safety fuse, cordex wire, multi-metre, batteries, electric wires, earth digging equipment, and “Naxalite banners, posters, and pamphlets”.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12.09.2025
107	Date not mentioned Bijapur	2 Maoists arrested. First arrest took place of Malesh Kunjam (reward of Rs 8 lakh) in Basaguda PS area by combined forces of DRG and CoBRA 210. Kunjam was implicated in an IED blast on 7 June 2017 in the forest area of Gaganpally to Murkhipar, where 5 warrants were issued against him in Basaguda PS and 1 warrant in Modakpal PS area. Second arrest took place by a combined team of Jangla and Bhairamgarh PS personnel of Anil Vekko (reward of 1 lakh), who was implicated in an IED blast on 21 May 2025 between Badepally and Chottepally.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 27.09.2025
108	02.10.2025 Kanker	Arrest of 1 Maoist called Reshma alias Pande Hichhami, injured in an encounter in Kanker district. After her treatment, she was formally arrested on 2 October 2025. Taken into custody after an encounter on 22 September and admitted to hospital for treatment. Carried a reward of Rs 1 lakh.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 03.10.2025
109	11.11.2025 Bijapur	1 Maoist was injured and arrested.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 13.11.2025
110	15.11.2025 Sukma	Arrest in Jagargunda PS area of Sukma district of 1 Maoist, Kunjam Deva.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 16.11.2025
111	Date not mentioned Bijapur	7 Maoists arrested in Bijapur district. Five in Nemed PS area and two in Bhopalpattanam PS area. Names – Kamlu Oyam, Lakshman Ursa, Lekam Aitu, Lachu Oyam, Pandru Ursa. Those arrested in Bhopalpattanam remain unidentified. Reportedly recovered explosives.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 24.11.2025

# ANNEXURE C: SURRENDERS

TOTAL PERSONS SURRENDERED: 1496

NO.	DATE/PLACE	SURRENDER	SOURCE
1.	03.01.2024 Dantewada	1 person, Nilesh Vanjam, surrendered to DRG office Dantewada on 3 January 2024. Carried a reward of Rs 10,000.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 04.01.2024
2.	09.01.2024 Dornapal	1 person, Nagul Nagesh, surrendered before DSP operations, Dornapal, carrying a reward of Rs 1,00,000.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 10.01.2024
3.	10.01.2024 Bijapur	1 person Shamil Telum alias Mithun alias Denga surrendered before Bijapur SP.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 11.01.2024
4.	09.01.2024 Dantewada	1 person Lakhma Vanjam surrendered before Dantewada Range DIG Kamlochan Kashyap.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 12.01.2024
5.	13.01.2024 Dantewada	3 persons surrendered before DIG Kamal Lochan Kashyap. They were Commander Ganga alias Barum alias Lokesh Mochaki (carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh) along with DAKMS member Mochaki Moda and CNM member Layta Kohdam.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 14.01.2024
6.	17.01.2024 Dantewada	3 persons surrendered before DIG Dantewada Range Kamal Lochan Kashyap. They were Mahadev Madvi and Deva Mochaki (carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh each) and Ishwar alias Denga Oyami.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 19.01.2024
7.	21.01.2024 Sukma	1 person Vetti Roshni surrendered before the office of Naxal operations Sukma.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 22.01.2024
8.	23.01.2024 Kondagaon	2 persons surrendered before SP Kondagaon – Sonu alia Ghasiya Kashyap, member of East Bedma Janatana Sarkar, resident of Handapal; and Ghina, ex-member of Jan militia.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 24.01.2024
9.	30.1.2024 Narayanpur	1 person, Ghasu Korram alias Ajit Korram (carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh) surrendered before SP Naraynpur, Pushkar Sharma	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 01.02.2024
10.	Date not mentioned Dantewada	1 person Deva Kawasi, member of Gram Raksha Dal and Malangir Area Committee, surrendered before DIG Dantewada	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 01.02.2024
11.	06.02.2024 Dantewada	1 woman Maoist, Bame Markam, Mahanadi Area Committee Party member, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh, surrendered before DIG Dantewada, Kamlochan Kashyap, SP Gaurav Rai and ACP Rajkumar Burman.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 01.02.2024
12.	09.02.2024 Bijapur	3 persons surrendered before SP Bijapur – Somaru Karati alias Sinu, Madder Area Committee Member carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; RPC CNM member of Jagarunda Area Committee Sukka Oyam alias Kartik; and Sarita Oyam resident of Durdambha Patelpara in Jagarunda PS area.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 10.02.2024

13.	Date not mentioned Dornapal	1 person Kawasi Handa, member of RPC Bedma, surrendered before DSP Bastar Fighters, Dornapal.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 21.02.2024
14.	26.02.2024 Dornapal	1 person Nagesh Pedkam Erra carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh, commander of Company No. 2 Battalion, actively involved in 2010 Tadmedla attack on CRPF, surrendered before SP Sukma.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 27.02.2024
15.	28.02.2024 Dantewada/Sukma	2 surrenders – in Dantewada, Gangi Muchaki, President KAMS Pasgunna Panchayat, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh surrendered before DIG Dantewada, Kamlochan Kashyap. Mochaki Pojja surrendered in Sukma before Bastar Fighters DSP Uttam Pratap Singh and Asst. Commandant Hemant Plas.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 29.02.2024
16.	Date not mentioned Bijapur	1 person Rama Oyam, DAKAMS member of Phulgatta Panchayat, resident of Peddapal Gayattapara in Mirtur PS area of Bijapur surrendered before DIG Kamlochan Kashyap, DIG CRPF Vikas Katheria, SP Gaurav Rai, SP S Rajnala and other officers,	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 14.03.2024
17.	17.03.2024 Dantewada	2 persons surrendered before DIG Kamalochan Kashyap, Addl. SP S Rajnala, and Addl. SP Rajkumar Burman. Those surrendering were Deva Mandavi, member of Sangham, Kattakalyan Area Committee and Hidma Mandavi, resident of Telam School Para, Kattakalyan PS area.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 18.03.2024
18.	18.03.2024 Sukma	2 persons, husband and wife – Sodi Kukka carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakhs and Sodi Kukki carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakhs surrendered before Sukma SP Kiran Chavhan and DSP Bastar Fighters Uttam Pratap Singh.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 19.03.2024
19.	20.03.2024 Dornapal/Sukma	1 person Rosham alias Somayya Sodi of CRC Company No. 2, carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakhs surrendered before Dornapal SP Kiran Chavhan, Satish Kumar Dubey of CRPF Battalion 217 and other officials.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 21.03.2024
20.	22.03.2024 Dornapal/Sukma	5 persons surrendered – Podiam Masa, member of RPC Militia Burkalanka; Madkam Hunga, Arampally militia member; Kartam Manga; Madmi Hima; and Vanjam Handu.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 23.03.2024
21.	20.03.2024 Dantewada	1 person, Chulla alias Sule Mandavi, surrendered before DIG Dantewada Kamlochan Kashyap, DIG CRPF Dantewada Range Vikas Katheria, and other officials.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 28.03.2024
22.	Date not mentioned Dornapal/Sukma	1 person Naresh alias Madakam Nanga, president of the Economic Branch of Maoists surrendered before DSP Bastar Fighters Uttam Pratap Singh, Dornapal Maoist Operations Office and Suresh Singh Payal, CRPF.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 29.03.2024
23.	29.03.2024 Dantewada	3 persons surrendered before DIG Kamlochan Kashyap and DIG CRPF Vikas Katheria at DRG office Dantewada – Munna Bhogam alias Bunjav, President DAKMS, Pittepal Panchayat, Bhiramgarh Area Committee; Ramesh Bhogam, CNM member, Phulgatta Panchayat, PS Mirtur, Bijapur, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Bhima Kudham alias Avinash Korram, resident of Rewali Patelpara, PS Aranpur, Bijapur.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 30.03.2024
24.	01.04.2024 Bijapur	1 person Raju Madavi, Platoon B Section Commander, Hurrepal Panchayat Militia, resident of Hurrepal School Para, surrendered before DIG Bijapur Kamlochan Kashyap, DIG CRPF Vikas Katheria, Anil Kumar Jha, Second Officer CRPF and other officials.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 02.04.2024

25.	02.04.2024 Dantewada	2 persons surrendered before DIG Bijapur Kamlochan Kashyap and SP Dantewada Gaurav Rai – Ganga Madakam, Malangir Area Committee member and Aayatu Madakam, CNM member.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 03.04.2024
26.	Date not mentioned Dornapal	2 persons surrendered before SP Kiran Chavhan, Dornapal. Kalmu Prakash alias Sannu, DVCM, working with South Bastar division public front/ student organisation; and Pedakam Rita, Deputy commander PLGA Battalion no. 1, company no. 2, both carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh each.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 06.04.2024
27.	15.04.2024 Dantewada	26 persons surrendered including 6 women cadres Joga Muchaki, President Koral Panchayat Janatana Sarkar, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Veku Hunga, Kistaram Area Committee CNM Member; Muya Kowasi, Jaggu Pittepal, Kumari Bimla, Suresh, and other Maoists of the area.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 16.04.2024
28.	29.04.2024 Dantewada	23 persons surrendered before senior police and security officials.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 30.04.2024
29.	05.05.2024 Dantewada	35 Maoists including 5 women surrendered. They all surrendered before SP Dantewada.  Three were carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh each – Baman Kartam, Jiyakodta Panchayat Militia Commander; Hurrepal Panchayat KAMS' woman president Kumme; and Aranpur Panchayat CNM President Bhima Kunjam.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 06.05.2024
30.	Date not mentioned Dornapal/Sukma	1 Maoist, Muchaki Joga, Maad Division Platoon no. 1, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh, before SDPO Parmeshwar Tilakwar, Maoist Operation office, Dornapal, Sukma.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 07.05.2024
31.	09.05.2024 Sukma	6 Maoists with a total reward of Rs 36 lakhs surrendered before SP Kiran Chavhan, Sukma.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 10.05.2024
32.	13.05.2024 Dantewada	2 Maoists, Bechupal Panchayat DAKMS member Motiram and Bechupal Panchayat CNM member Rajesh Oyam surrendered.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 14.05.2024
33.	Date not mentioned Bijapur	30 Maoists, including 9 having a total reward of Rs 9 lakhs, surrendered before Bijapur SP and other officers.  Mitki Kekam, Military Company No. 2 PPCM carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; Muri Muhanda of Platoon No. 32 PPCM carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; Aayta Sodhi, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Aaytu Karam, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh, Munna Hemlu alias Chandu alias Chandru, carrying a reward of Rs 1 Lakh; Aaytu Midium alias Vargesh, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Militia Platoon Commander Satr Karam alias Dora; Dumripalnar RPC Militia Platoon Member Baman Karam; Janatana Sarkar members Sukhram Karam, Manku Tati, Munna Potam, Santu Hemla alias Chhotu, Sukhram alias Suresh Karam, Motu Hemla, Motu Kawasi, Ramesh Hemla, Lakhu Korsa, Nandu Kursam, Somal Kadi alias Diwakar, Somal Tati, Santosh Padam, Guddi Hapaka, Jyoti Lokam, Sonu Kudiam alias Gutta, Rajesh Korsa alias Baman, and Lakmu Pallo alias Lakhu.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 15.05.2024

34.	Date not mentioned Dornapal	3 Maoists including 1 woman surrendered before CRPF Second Battalion Anami Sharan and SDPO Parmeshwar Tilakwar, Maoist Operations Office, Sukma police.  Sodi Sukki, Arlampalli Panchayat KAMS President, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Burkalanka RPC Janatana Sarkar President Lakmu alias Deva; and woman Maoist Singhanmadgu RPC Deputy Commander Kawasi Mangi.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 15.05.2024
35.	Date not mentioned Bijapur	33 Maoists (including 3 carrying rewards) surrendered before CRPF DIG S.K. Mishra, SP Dr Jitender Kumar Yadav, and other officials. These included PLGA Battalion No. 1 member Raju Hemla alias Thakur, carrying reward of Rs 5 lakh; Company No. 5 Platoon No.1 member Samo Karma alias Ranita, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; and Pusnar RPC Jantana Sarkar President Sudru Punem alias Hiroli Sudru, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh. Others included Sukram Madvi, Suresh Kunjam, Aayatu Punem alias Dogum, Ramesh Punem alias Poja, Mandal Punem alias Karka, Masa Sodhi, Renu Punem, Raju Tamo alias Pandu, Arjun Karma alias Pidided, Hurra Karma alias Boti, Sukram Karma alias Masa, Sanja Tamo alias Khuta, Chhotu Puem alias Badaga, Podia Punem alias Kukal, Mangdu Madakam alias Mongdu, Jatia Madakam, Budhram Tati, Masa Madakam, Raju Madakam, Bhima Madakam, Deva Bamadi alias Bomada, Kumar Sodhi, Joda Madakam, Hidma Madakam, Sona Madakam, Shankar Madakam and Budhri Karam alias Baiyame.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 26.05.2024
36.	Date not mentioned Dornapal/Sukma	5 Maoists surrendered carrying a total reward of Rs 17 lakh. These included some members of PLGA Battalion No. 1. One carried a reward of Rs 8 lakh, one carried a reward of Rs 5 lakh, one carried a reward of Rs 2 lakh, and the other 2 carried a reward of Rs 1 lakh each. Names not given.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 04.06.2024
37.	Date not mentioned Bijapur	2 Maoists, Burji RCP DAKMS Vice President Bichchem Farsi alias Bijju and Gorna-Mankei Militia member and Vice President of Mulvasi Bachao Manch Sandeep Modiam surrendered before police in Bijapur.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 13.06.2024
38.	15.06.2024 Dantewada	2 Maoists, Kakadi Panchay DAKMS President Umesh alias Bhima Hemla carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh and Gonderas Panchayat Militia Platoon member Joga Muchaki surrendered before DIG Kamlochan Kashyap, DIG CRPF Vikas Katheria, SP Gaurav Rai and other officials.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 16.06.2024
39.	18.06.2024 Dantwada	2 Maoists surrendered. Jiyakodta Panchayat DAKMS member Joga Kartam and Bechpal Panchayat CNM member Munni alias Dengi.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 19.06.2024
40.	26.06.2024 Dantewada	17 Maoists including 5 with rewards surrendered before DIG Dantwada Kamlochan Kashyap, DIC CRPF Vikas Katheria, SP Gaurav Rai and other officials. These included Amdeyo Valley LGS member Sunita; Palnar LOS member Pankaj Markam carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Bechpal RPC Jantana Sarkar Chetna Natya Manch President Dashru alias Roda Madakam, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Todma RPC Jantana Sarkar Krantikari Adivasi Mahila Sangathan President Botti, carrying a reward Rs 1 lakh; and Fulgatta RPC Jantana Sarkar DAKMS President Bhima Bhogami.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 27.06.2024
41.	Date not mentioned Bijapur	12 Maoists surrendered including a few carrying a reward of Rs 6 lakh before DIG Davender Singh Negi and SP Dr Jitender Kumar Yadav and other police officers .	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 01.07.2024
42.	Date not mentioned	2 Maoists, including one woman, surrendered. Sodi Manjula alias Madakam Manjula and Gajendra, both carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh each	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 03.07.2024

	Dornapal	surrendered before CRPF DIG Surajpal Verma and SP Operations Nikhil Rakhecha.	
43.	Date not mentioned Dantewada	3 Maoists surrendered before DIG, Kamalochan Kashyap, DIG CRPF Vikas Katheria, SP Gaurav Rai and other police officials in Dantewada. Those surrendered were identified as Kormagondi Janatana Sarkar Committee member Hidma Sodi, Hurrepal RPC Chetna Naatya Manch member Kosa Veko, and Bechupal RPC Janatana Sarkar Militia Member Bhime alias Babita Oyam.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 06.07.2024
44.	10.07.2024 Dornapal	5 Maoists surrendered before 2 <sup>nd</sup> command office 217 battalion CRPF Arvind P Anand, 2 <sup>nd</sup> command office 212 battalion CRPF Gajender Bahadur Singh, and other officials in Dornapal. Those surrendered were identified as Golikonda Odisha Area Committee Commander SCM, Sagar alias Dudhi, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Surpanguda RPC village Puranpad GRD militia deputy commander Muchaki Kosa; Silger RPC CNM member Kosa Hungi; Kistaram Area Committee team member Madakam Lakhe; and Gompada PC Janatana Sarkar President Huma Deva.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 11.07.2024
45.	11.07.2024 Dornapal	4 Maoists, including one woman, surrendered in the office of SP Dornapal before CRPF Assistant Commandant S.K. Dinesh, Inspector Roshan Singh Rajput and other officials. Those surrendered were identified as Dirdo Hidma, Tetmadgu RPC CNM president, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Sodi Somey, Arralampalli panchayat KMS member; and Podium Hunga RPC militia member. Fourth name not mentioned.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 12.07.2024
46.	Date not mentioned Dornapal	4 Maoists including 2 women surrendered before SP Kiran Chavhan, CRPF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion Commandant Ravikant Behra, and ASP Operations Nikhil Rakhecha in Dornapal. Those surrendered included Kailash alias Kawasi Deva, Deputy Commander Platoon A, carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; Vanjam Hudma alias Sunil, PPCM, Platoon 30, with a reward of Rs 5 lakhs; Sukki Madakam, TTM, Bastar Division, with a reward of Rs 5 lakhs; and Ravva Deve, ACM, Bhamragadh, Gadhchiroli, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakhs.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 17.07.2024
47.	Date not mentioned Dornapal	5 Maoists – Madavi Hunga, Madakam Muya, Madakam Bhima, and Sodhi Deva – surrendered before police and CRPF in Dornapal.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 21.07.2024
48.	23.07.2024 Sukma	2 Maoists, Korjaguda RPC DAKMS Vice President Madavi Joga and Palaguda DAKMS member Savlam Pulla surrendered before Manish Ratre and DRG incharge Abhilash Tandon.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 24.07.2024
49.	Date not mentioned Dornapal	5 Maoists surrendered before the police. Those surrendered were identified as Platoon No. 30 Deputy Commander Kavasi Dulla, with a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Section and medical team commander Sodhi Budhra, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Section A commander Madakam Gangi, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh; Party Member Sodiam Podi, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh; Kistaram ACM and ex-DVCM Madavi Savitri, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh; and security guard Madiam Aayate.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 26.07.2024
50.	02.08.2024 Dornapal	5 Maoists including 3 women surrendered in the Maoist Operation Office before DCP Operations Sapan Chaudhary and CRPF Inspector Sujit Kumar. Those surrendered were identified as Surpanguda RPC CNM member Malle alias Sodi Manisha; Supanguda RPC KMS member Madavi Kosi; Madakam Deve; Surpanguda RPC militia member Sodi Kosa; and Surpanguda RPC CNM member Vetti Kanna.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 03.08.2024
51.	07.08.2024 Konta	1 Maoist, RPC DAKMS Deputy President Madavi Hidma, under the Rehabilitation policy, Niyad Nellar, in the office of SP.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 08.08.2024

52.	09.08.2024 Dornapal	11 Maoists, including 5 women, surrendered under the 'Niyad Nellanar' rehabilitation policy in the SP office. Those surrendered included Madakami Budhu alias Budhu Yadav, Madakam Devearlampalli, Madavi Sanna, Vetti Bhima, Vekko Aayta, Sodi Bhime, Podiam Hunga, Madakam Sukki, Oyam Jogi, Dudhi Handa and Padam Kosi.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 10.08.2024
53.	12.08.2024 Dantewada	2 Maoists, a couple, surrendered under the Lone Varratu Scheme before the DIG Kamalochan Kashyap, DIG CRPF Vikas Katheria and other officials. They were identified as Bhima, Malanger ACM, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh and Vimla Madakam, Platoon No. 21 member, carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 14.08.2024
54.	22.08.2024 Dantewada	3 Maoists surrendered, under the Lone Varratu Scheme, before the DIG, Kamalochan Kashyap, DIG CRPF Rakesh Kumar, SP Gaurav Rai and other officials.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 23.08.2024
55.	26.08.2024 Bijapur	25 Maoists (including 7 having a total reward of Rs 28.2 lakh) belonging to Bhairamgarh and Gangalur Area Committee, surrendered before CRPF DIG Devender Singh Negi, Police Inspector Dr. Jitender Kumar Yadav and other police officers. Those surrendered included Shambati Madakam, Company No. 2 member with a reward of Rs 8 lakh; Jyoti Punem, carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; PLGA member Mahesh Telam carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh; Vishnu Kartam alias Minu, carrying a reward of Rs 3 lakh; Jaydev Podiam, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Guddu Kekam, carrying a reward of Rs 10,000; Sudur Punem, carrying a reward of Rs 10,000; Sannu Podiam; Basu Podiam; Moturam Telam; Somaru Telam; Somlu Pot; Raju Vanjam; Sukhram Telam; Aayatu Telam; Santosh Telam; Bijju Telam; Rakesh Farsik; Budru Punem; Koya Punem alias Sukhram; Santo Punem alias Rishu; Chhotu Potam alias Jomma; Sukku Kudiam; Paklu Punem and Ramesh Avlam.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 27.08.2024
56.	Date not mentioned Sukma	5 Maoists, including 1 woman, surrendered in the SP's office in which DRG and Maoist cell and CRPF played the main role. Those surrendered included Singaram RPC DAKMS President Kadtam Hadma, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Golapali LOS member Mallam Deva, carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh; Mehta RPC KAMS member Podiam Budhri; Singaram RPC militia member Madavi Jogga; and Arampalli Panchayat CNM Deputy President Dudhi Joga.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 04.09.2024
57.	Sukma	2 Maoists, a couple, each having a reward of Rs 1 lakh, active in Kalahandi area of Odisha, surrendered before the police in Sukma district. They were identified as Kalahandi LOS member Devendro alias Aaytu Kunjam and his wife Kalahandi LOS member Madakam Hidme.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 13.09.2024
58.	12.09.2024 Kanker	4 Maoists including one woman commander surrendered before the police in Kanker. They included LOS commander Surjanna alias Sitaya Korram, Area Committee Member Naresh alias Lakku Punem, LOS member Sagar alias Ganga Virido, and Anju alias Saria Sodi.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 13.09.2024
59.	Date not mentioned Bijapur	8 Maoists, including 3 having a total reward of Rs 11 lakh, surrendered before CRPF DIG Devender Singh Negi, SP Bijapur Jitender Kumar Yadav, and other officials. Those surrendered included Chandar Kursum with a reward of Rs 8 lakh, Mangali Potam alias Kranti with a reward of Rs 2 lakh, Aaytu Kos with a reward of Rs 1 lakh, Ramu Lokam, Mahesh Yadav alias Aapu, Sudru Hemla alias Potti, Hunga Dodi and Surit Yadav alias Suresh.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 23.09.2024
60.	Date not mentioned Sukma	3 Maoists, Kanhaiguda RPC DAKMS member Muchaki Santosh, Surpanguda RPC DAKMS member Rava Nanda, and Pallachalma RPC militia member Dirdo Bhima alias Mahesh surrendered in the SP office.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 27.09.2024
61.	Date not mentioned	1 Maoist, Platoon No. 24 and Malanger Area Committee member Kurami Kosa, with a reward of Rs 2 lakh, surrendered before the police.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 29.09.2024

	Dantewada		
62.	Date not mentioned Sukma	5 Maoists surrendered before CRPF 212 battalion 2nd-in-command Dinesh Kumar, 27 Battalion 2nd-in-command Nir Singh, DRG in-charge Avinash Tandon and other officials in Sukma district. Those surrendered include RPC militia commander Madavi Dudva carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh, RPC KMS member Kartam Mase, Verum Militia member Madkam Joga (35), Mehta RPC Militia member Madavi Lachhu (33), and Madavi Lachhu (45).	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 01.10.2024
63.	08.10.2024 Dantewada	4 Maoists surrendered before CRPF in Dantewada, carrying a total reward of Rs 6 lakh. They were identified as Darbha Divn; Action Team member Kosa Madavi; Kerlupal ACM Platoon No. 31 member Janwari; Gudse RPC DAKMS President Handa alias Jondi Gudse; Mangre ACM Rewali; and Pardem RPC KAMS President Pojje Nuppo.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 09.10.2024
64.	08.10.2024 Jagdalpur	4 Maoists, members of the Kanger Area Committee, surrendered before the police and CRPF. They were identified as Pandu alias Chhota Pandu (carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh), Mankuram Kashyap, Fulmati alias Girja and Karia Poyam.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 09.10.2024
65.	22.10.2024 Sukma	4 Maoists surrendered before Sukma Police. They were identified as Mehta RPC Militia member Kunjam Hidma, Podiam Gurva, Uika Ganga and Gompada RPC militia member Kunjam Ganga.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 23.10.2024
66.	25.10.2024 Sukma	6 Maoists surrendered (with a total reward of Rs 24 lakhs) before the Sukma SP Kiran Chavhan and CRPF DIG Anand Singh. Those surrendered included a Maoist couple of Silger LOS commander Kamla alias Bandi Dudhi and her husband Dakshin Sub-Zonal Bureau Press Team laptop operator Pawan alias Kamlu Hemla. Others included Bandu alias Bandi Sodi, member of Dakshin Sub-Zonal Coordination force (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Madi Sushila, Kistaram LOS Deputy commander (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Kunjam Rosham (reward of Rs 2 lakh); and Kotesch Sodi (reward of Rs 2 lakh).	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 26.10.2024
67.	Date not mentioned Sukma	1 woman Maoist, Sighammadgu RPC President, Padam Some, (reward 1 lakh), surrendered before the Sukma Police	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 07.11.2024
68.	21.11.2024	1 Maoist, Mehta RPC militia member, Madakam Sukka, surrendered before Sukma Police, CRPF 217 Battalion 2 IC officer Virender Kumar and Maoist Cell Incharge Roshan Singh Rajput.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 22.11.2024
69.	29.11.2024 Sukma	3 Maoists surrendered in Sukma district. These included Konta area KAMS Deputy President Sodi Mukke alias Anita (reward 2 lakh), Arampalli Panchayat DAKMS member Madavi Kosa, and RPC militia member Madakam Deva before Incharge Maoist operation Roshan Singh Rajput.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 30.11.2024
70.	29.11.2024 Dantewada	1 Maoist, Jan militia commander, Dhanru alias Tunge Mandavi (24), with a reward of Rs 1 lakh, surrendered before DIG Kamlochan Kashyap DIG CRPF Rakesh Kumar SP Guara Rai and other officials in Dantewada.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 30.11.2024
71.	06.12.2024	5 Maoists surrender before CRPF DIG Rakesh Kumar Negi, SP Dr. Jitender Kumar Yadav and other officials . Those surrendered were identified as PLG company no.2 member Santu Kodme (reward Rs 8 lakh), Gangalur ACM Pakku Punem (2 lakh), Janatana Sarkar President Guddu Hapka (1 lakh), PLGA member Somaru Madavi and Kutul RPC militia member Bhima Kashyap.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 07.12.2024
72.	12.12.2024	11 Maoists surrendered before the police force – 131 Battalion 2IC, Amit Prakash, 74 <sup>th</sup> Battalion deputy commander ravi Ganvir and other officials in Sukma. Those who surrendered included Peddabodkel RPC Agriculture committee president Jogender Yadav, Hemla Deva, Madavi Ganga,	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 13.12.2024

Madakam Nanga, Madakam Mukesh, Barse Lakhma, Sodi Mukka, Madakam Hunga, and Hemla Sukka and other three.

73.	15.12.2024 Sukma	5 Maoists surrendered before SP Kiran Chavhan, in Sukma. They were identified as Dhanni alias Kalmi Jofi carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh, Sonu alias Abhay (Rs 8 lakh), Mausam Mahesh (Rs 5 lakh), Hemla Munni (Rs 2 lakh) and Madavi Pojje (Rs 2 lakh)	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 16.12.2024
74.	15.12.2024 Dantewada	1 Maoist, Hadme Madvi, Keralapal ACM, LOS Commander, carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh, surrendered before DIG Kamlochan Kashyap, SP Gaurav Rai and other police officials in Dantewada	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 16.12.2024
75.	25.12.2024 Dantewada	1 Maoist, company no.2 member, Sudhru Kashyap, with a reward of Rs 8 lakh, surrendered before DIC Kamalochan Kashyap, SP Gaurav Rai and other police officials.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 26.12.2024
76.	09.01.2025 Bijapur	Surrender by 13 Maoists – 13 persons with total reward of Rs. 13 lakhs, including those like ACM-AOB Kataam area committee member Munna Kakem (25) carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakhs. Names - Munna Kakem (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Sukram Hemla (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Inami Deve Markam alias Chandni (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Nandu Aklam alias Durgesh alias Kotesh (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Bhima Veko (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Bichyen Murma, Lahu Madvi alias Gota, Deve Markam alias Janki, Samaiya Sunnam, Bhima Nuppo, Kosa Markam, Budhoo Markam, Pojjo Nupo.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 10.01.2025
77.	10.01.2025 Kondagaon	1 Maoist Devas alias Ganpat Mandavi surrendered before the SP of Kondagaon	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 11.01.2025
78.	17.01.2025 Narayanpur	4 Maoists, each carrying reward of 8 lakhs surrendered: Arab alias Kamlesh, Hemlal, Ranjit and Kajal	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 17.01.2025
79.	17.01.2025 Kandagaon	Maoist Ginjaru Ram Usendi alias Kamaldas Usendi carrying a reward of 5 lakhs surrendered in Kandagaon before the police	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 17.01.2025
80.	24.01.2025 Narayanpur	9 persons surrendered - Santu Varda, Masa Varda, Punao Ram Varda, Ramesh Varda, Ajay Dhruv, Sudhil Kumeti, Anil Varda, Karve Varda, Ayutu Usendi.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 25.01.2025
81.	28.01.2025 Dantewada	3 surrendered - Mase Madavi (reward of Rs 3 lakhs), Ramvati alias Sandhya (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Naresh Mandavi (reward of Rs 1 lakh).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 29.01.2025
82.	30.01.2025 Narayanpur	29 persons, including 7 women. Claimed to have been “active members of the Janatana Sarkar militia, Chetna Natya Mandli and lower ranks of the organisation” from the Kutul area.	Hindustan Times 30.01.2025
83.	30.01.2025 Sukma	9 surrendered in Sukma before Sukma police and CRPF - Kalmu (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Madhvi Budhri (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Samir alias Midiam Sukka (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Rajni alias Raje alias Bide Madvi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Shanti Kawasi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Markam Somdi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Nuppo Narsi (reward of Rs 2 lakhs).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 31.01.2025
84.	16.02.2025 Dantewada	3 surrendered – Raju Padaam (Paalnar LOC member SJDC Chaitu Dada’s guard), Hurre Kawaasi (Paalnar LOC member), and Sukhmati (Sonberha LOC member). All three carried a reward of Rs 1 lakh.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 18.02.2025
85.	25.02.2025 Bijapur	9 Maoists from PLGA 1st Battalion surrendered, of which 4 carried a reward of Rs 23 lakh. Identified as Lakshmi Mandvi alias Khuto (reward of Rs 8 lakh); Pulli Irpa alias Tara (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Bheme Mandkam (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Ramesh Karam (reward of Rs 5 lakh); Singh Mandvi;	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 26.02.2025

Ramlu Bhandari alias Ramu; Deva Mandkam alias Madhu; Rama Punem alias Takka; Hunga Mandvi alias Karti.

86.	28.02.2025	7 alleged Maoists surrendered and were given Rs 25,000 each and clothes. They had provided information on other alleged Maoists to the CRPF and police. Identified as Hemla Hidma (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Ravva Muke (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Barse Sona (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Uika Lalu (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Mandavi (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Madkam Hunga (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Muchaki Budhra (reward of Rs 2 lakh).	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 01.03.2025
	Sukma		
87.	01.03.2025	3 Maoists surrendered – Lakhu Koram alias Gunda (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Sukhran Avlam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), and Narsu Bod alias Neti.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 02.03.2025
	Bijapur		
88.	03.03.2025	Gangalur area committee DVCM, Dinesh Modiam, surrendered with his wife and child. Carried a reward of Rs 8 lakh.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 04.03.2025
	Bijapur		
89.	04.03.2025	14 Maoists surrendered before SP of Bhadradi Kothagudem, B Rohit Raju and CRPF officials. Included Madivi Bheema, 37, Errapalli RPC; Sodi Unga, 35, RPC and CNM President; and other RPC militia and CNM members.	The Hindu 04.03.2025
	Bijapur (Dandakaranya area)		
90.	06.03.2025	2 Maoists surrender – Bhime Vetti of Platoon No. 24 (reward of Rs 2 lakh) and Jogi Kunjam Malenger of Planaar LOS (reward of Rs 1 lakh).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 07.03.2025
	Dantewada		
91.	07.03.2025	5 Maoists including 1 woman surrendered at the Sukma district police headquarters – Madvi Nanda (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Markam Mada (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Kawasi Pale; Madkam Dashru; Madkam Nanda.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 08.03.2025
	Sukma		
92.	07.03.2025	11 Maoists surrender – Sannu alias Mangesh Upendi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs); Santu alias Badru (reward of Rs 8 lakhs); Janeela alias Jalco (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Sukki Mandavi (reward of Rs 3 lakhs); Shanti Kowachi (reward of Rs 3 lakhs); Mase alias Kranti Vaddha (reward of Rs 3 lakhs), Sarita Usendi (reward of Rs 3 lakhs); Mangti (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Devaram alias Karu Varda (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Ratan alias Mukesh Punem (reward of Rs 2 lakhs) Sukmati (reward of Rs 1 lakhs).	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 08.03.2025
	Narayanpur		
93.	16.03.2025	Surrender of 17 Maoists - Dinesh Modiam alias Badru Modiam (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Jyoti Tati alias Kala Modiam (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Dula Karam (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Bhima Karam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Shankar Lekam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Soma Karam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Mangu Karti (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Moti Karam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Arvind Hemla alias Autu Hemla (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Autu Karam alias Takid, Sukku Punem, Hidma Sodi alias Deva, Soma Karam alias Linga, Arjun Markam, Somaru Tati, Hunga Karam alias Lacchu Karam, Sannu Karam alias Kanki Karam.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 17.03.2025
	Bijapur		
94.	17.03.2025	1 Maoist, Rajman Hodi, surrendered with a reward of Rs 1 lakh. Received Rs 25,000 and other benefits.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 18.03.2025
	Kondagaon		
95.	17.03.2025	19 Maoists surrendered of which 10 carried a total reward of Rs 29 lakh. Deva Padam (8L); Dule Kalmu (8L); Suresh Kattam (5L); Soni Punem (2L); Narayan Kattam (1L); Andha Madvi (1L); Bami Kohrami (1L); Naga Kattam (1L); Shankar Karti (1L); Munna Podiam (1L); Sehla Vam; Narsing Ram Podiam; Shankar Madvi; Lakma Tati; Pandu Madvi; Joga Sodi; Pidga Kattam; Erra Sodi; Chinabi Kaka.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.), 18.03.2025
	Bijapur		

96.	18.03.2025	Surrender of Madkam Erra Babu, RPC and CNM (reward of Rs 2 lakh); Madkam Hadma (reward of Rs 2 lakh), RPC and DKMS; and Sodi Deva.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 19.03.2025
97.	22.03.2025	22 Surrendered before police.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 24.03.2025
	Bijapur	Aytu Punem alias Gatta (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Pandu Kunjam (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Kosi Tamo (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Sona Kunjam (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Linges Padam alias Mesu Padam (reward of Rs 2 lakhs); Tibru Ram Madvi alias Badde (reward of Rs 1 lakh); Lakma Karti; Aayta Panda; Mangu Hemla; Bhima Potam; Raju Vekko; Budhri Markam; Hidma Mandavi; Joga Madvi; Pooja Tamo; Hunga Muchaki; Mahesh Asam; Chetu Modiyam; Ram Babu Welkam; Aaytu Tamo; Lacchu Markam; Venkat Swami Punem.	
98.	30.03.2025	50 surrendered, with a cumulative bounty of Rs 68 lakhs. Among those who surrendered, 6 had a bounty of Rs 8 lakh each, three carried Rs 5 lakh rewards, and five had bounties of Rs 1 lakh. The surrender was facilitated by DRG, Bastar Fighters, STF, CRPF, and CoBRA. Surrendered were to be rehabilitated as per the officials statement.	Dainik Bhaskar, (Bastar ed.) 31.03.2025
	Bijapur	Names - Ravindra Karam (reward of Rs 8 lakhs); Roni Parsik (reward of Rs 8 lakhs); Rakesh Karti alias Raju Kope Lekam; Shanti Tati alias Kalpana; Sonu Hemla; Bhima Oyam alias Jeevan (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Paiki Hafka alias Sukayi (reward of Rs 5 lakhs); Sonu Tati; Pojja Tati alias Diwakar; Nani Madvi Budhram Padam alias Dhora (reward of Rs 1 lakh); Payki Potam (reward of Rs 1 lakh); Aaytu Potam; Aaytu Kursam alias Ista; Lacchu Kursam alias Takka; Lakshman Padam alias Gopi; Lacchu Hemla alias Ravi; Lacchu Hemla alias Barre; Sudhru Kursam; Sannu Tati alias Kolla; Renu Pottam alias Dumma; Sukhram Potam alias Balaiyya; Sannu Padam alias Shyam; Lakshman Punem alias Odes; Aaytu Potam alias Kayda; Lakshman Potam alias Mura; Paatu Potam alias Dommi; Sanu Kaaram alias Denga; Sukhram Potam alias Pitur; Badhru Punem alias Chotu; Mangu Punem; Choti Potam; Mangi Tati; Somu Potam; Lakhi Potam; Sukhi Potam; Mangu Potam; Lakshman Oyam alias Manjhi; Narayan Gatpalli; Pankaj Madkam; Hunga Tati; Budhram Madkam; Deva Madvi alias Atul; Lakshmaiya Podiam; Lakshman Parsik; Budhoo Hemla; Sudhru Patam; Budhram Kadia.	
		The mass surrender comes just hours before PM Modi's scheduled visit to Chhattisgarh, where he would lay the foundation stone and inaugurate development projects worth over ₹33,700 crore.	
99.	04.04.2025	4 alleged Maoist surrendered including: Barse Sana (reward of 8 lakhs), Arun alias Madvi Hurra (reward of 8 lakhs), Sori Mukka (reward of 2 lakhs) and Amdvi Roshan (reward of 2 lakhs)	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 05 April 2025
100.	07.04.2025	26 surrendered including Rajesh Kashyap (reward of Rs 3 lakhs), Kosa Madvi (reward of Rs 1 lakh), and Chotu Kunjam (reward of Rs 50,000). Surrenders include 21 CNM and DKMS members, 3 Kesh Kutul militia members.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 08.04.2025
	Dantewada		
101.	09.04.2025	22 surrendered. Names - Kamli Hemla alias Some (reward of Rs 8 lakhs and member of PLGA Battalion No. 1), Muya Madvi alias Rajesh (reward of Rs 8 lakhs and Maoist company under the Telangana State Committee), Sonu Tati (reward of Rs 5 lakhs and press team commander in the West Bastar Division), Mahesh Punem (reward of Rs 5 lakhs and a PLGA member from the Bhairamgarh area committee), Budhram Tati alias Suddu alias Gatta, Sannu Hemla, Somlu Markam alias Patel, Hunga Koram alias Vadde alias Oyam, Deva Madvi alias Budta, Hunga Kattam alias Baidhi, Pojja Barse alias Joga, Nanda Markam, Hungi Kunjam, Hadma Podiam alias Surpa, Vijo	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.04.2025
	Bijapur		

Kunjam, Narsi Kattam, Moti Sori, Vija Uika, Kosa Podiam alias Lamdi Kosa, Vijay Markam alias Vijja, Bodhi Karam alias Karve, Kosa Markam.

The surrendered individuals were apparently given Rs 50,000 as immediate assistance and will be rehabilitated under the government's surrender and rehabilitation policy as per officials.

102.	18.04.2025	22 surrendered in Sukma, out of which 9 were women. Names – Muchaki Joga (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Muchaki Jogi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Kikid Deve (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Manoj alias Dudhi Budhra (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Madvi Bhima (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Madvi Somdi (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Sangeeta alias Hadme Madvi (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Madvi Kosi (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Vanjam Sanni (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Madvi Mangli (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Tati Bandi (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Punem Joga (reward of Rs 50k), Punem Narsing Rao, Sodi Hunga, Vanjam Rama, Hemla Nande, Hemla Moke, Markam Hunga, Markam Ganga, Madvi Sona, Madvi Hidma, and Punem Kanaiyya.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 19.04.2025
	Sukma		
103.	09.05.2025	2 Maoists surrendered - Rasing Kumeti alias Ratan Singh Kumeti and Punai Achla alias Hiranda. Both carried a reward of Rs 8 lakhs each. Surrendered at Kondagaon district before the SP.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.05.2025
	Kondagaon		
104.	12.05.2025	6 people surrendered before the DRG Office. Identified as Motai Padam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Urmila Karti, Mohan alias Podia, Sukhram Karti, Devaram Kudami, Manaram alias Phupe Markam.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 13.05.2025
	Dantewada		
105.	14.05.2025	14 surrendered in Sukma district before DIG, Kiran Jawan.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 14.05.2025
	Sukma	8 Maoists carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh were identified as Kuharam Bhima, Telam Hidma, Madvi Pojje, Podiam Aithe, Pedda Borkel, Madvi Mangdi, Sodi Sona, Markam Hungi.	
		The other 6 were Rava Lakhe, Sori Kesa, Gunjam Ganga, Madvi Mukka, Madvi Deva, Telam Pojja.	
106.	23.05.2025	24 surrendered before DIG CRPF, SP Bijapur, and CoBRA.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 24.05.2025
		PLGA Deputy Commander Hanumanth Rao Anganpalli alias Pandu alias Rakesh (reward of Rs 10 lakhs), Mangli Korsa alias Jaini (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Sampat Punem alias Sukalu (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Raju Farsa alias Vikram (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Dashru Kunjam alias Mohan (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Mukka Madvi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Arjun Madvi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), ACM Tulsi Korsa (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Payapu Korsa (reward of Rs 5 lakhs) alias Baldev alias Vikas, Kumi Kotam alias Mangli (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Sudduru Modiam alias Gamri (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Suneela Oyam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Chotu Kunjam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Budhi Hemla (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Reena Korsa (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Munna Uika (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Jeetu Punem (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Bothi Punem alias Ankita (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Ganga Kunjam (reward of Rs 50,000), Ganga Madvi (reward of Rs 50,000), etc.	
107.	02.06.2025	9 Maoists surrendered before Sukma police. No other details on identity have been mentioned.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 03.06.2025
	Sukma		
108.	06.06.2025	7 Maoists surrendered in Dantewada before DIG of Chattisgarh police, SP of CRPF, and Commander of 230 Battalion, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 07.06.2025
	Dantewada		

		Names – Juglu alias Sundum (reward of Rs 50,000), Dasha alias Burku Pandiam (reward of Rs 50,000), Lakma alias Soothi alias Lakan Markam, Uthla, Rathoo alias Ote Kowasi (member of Moolvasi Bachao Manch), Sukram Podiam, Pandaroo Dunga.	
109.	29.06.2025 Bijapur	13 Maoists surrendered including 8 women – Deve Muchaki (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Kosa Oyam (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Kosi Podiam (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Sami Semla (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Choru Parsikh (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Moti Tati (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Sunita Hemla (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Manjula (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Saibo Podiam, Hungli Undam alias Radha, Manga Markam, Budhram Kodme alias Raju, Jambli Kodme alias Hidme. Surrendered in Bijapur before DIG CRPF and SP Bijapur.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 30.06.2025
110.	24.07.2025 Bijapur/Sukma	23 Maoists surrendered before Bijapur police and 15 surrendered in Sukma.  Some names from Bijapur – Ramanna Erpa alias Jagdish alias Vikesh (reward of Rs 25 lakhs); Sukku Kalmu alias Vinod Karma (reward of Rs 8 lakhs).  15 Maoists also surrendered in Dantewada. Some of those identified are Budhram alias Lulu Kurram (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Kamli alias Moti Potavi (reward of Rs 5 lakhs), Pojja Markam alias Podia (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Aithe alias Sangeeta Sori (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Pande Madvi.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 25.07.2025
111.	06.08.2025 Bijapur	9 Maoists surrendered before DIG Chhattisgarh in Bijapur police headquarters– Baksu Oyam (reward of Rs 8 Lakh), Budhram Pottam (reward of Rs 5 lakh), Hidma alias Heria (reward of Rs 5 lakh), Mangu Oyaka alias Toggy (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Roshan Karam alias Sonu alias Ajit (reward of Rs 2 lakh) Manglo Podiam (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Kamlu Hema alias Kuma (reward of Rs 50,000), Budhram Hemla (reward of Rs 50,000), Pandru Punem alias Tadkhutta (reward of Rs 50,000).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 07.08.2025
112.	20.08.2025	21 Maoists surrendered before DIG police, DIG CRPF, and SP.  Names – Kese alias Kesha Lekam (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Kumari Mangli (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Budhram (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Sanju Kunjam (reward of Rs 2 Lakh), Deve Madkam (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Chhtu alias Budhram Berta (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Bhimsam Hemla (reward of Rs 2 lakh), Some alias Jamgli Kohdam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Laxman alias Raju Karma (reward of Rs 1 Lakh), Kumari Kamli Mediam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Kumari Hidme alias Vijo Ouam (reward of Rs 1 Lakh), Mandu alias Vinod Lekam (reward of Rs 1 Lakh), and Kumari Pojje (reward of Rs 50,000). Other names not mentioned.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21.08.2025
113.	20.08.2025 Kondagaon	4 Maoists surrendered in Konda Gaon, before the SP. Identified as Laxma Korram alias Junnu (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Maddo alias Jarina (reward of Rs 5 Lakh), Pandu Ram (reward of Rs 1 Lakh) and Sakhram (reward of Rs 8 lakh).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 21.08.2025
114.	11.09.2025 Narayanpur	17 Maoists surrendered before SP, Narayanpur.  The names of 6 carrying a reward of Rs 2 lakh each are Lachhu Podium alias Manu, Vanja Mohanda, Juru Pallo, Masu Mohanda, Kesa and Chinna Manji. The names of other arrested are not mentioned.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 12.09.2025
115.	24.09.2025 Dantewada	71 surrendered in Dantewada including 21 women, some of whom were carrying babies, of which the following 30 carried rewards – Baman Madka	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 25.09.2025

(8 lakh), Samila Mandavi (8 lakh), Shamila alias Songli Kawasi (5 lakh), Gangi alias Soni Barse (5 lakh) Santosh Mandavi (5 lakh), Deve alias Kavita Mandi (5 lakh), Ranu alias gadru Veko (3 lakh) , Hidme Karam (2 lakh), Vishnu alias Guddi Oyam (2 lakh) Joga Madkam (2 lakh) , Hathiram alias Rajesh Veko (2 lakh), Suko Bai Arttam (2 lakh), Gharsni Kashya (2 Lakh) Parmesh Korsa (1 lakh), Vella Sodhi (1 lakh), Kumari Paro alias Kamla Oyam (1 lakh), Ramsu alias Maniram lekkam (1 lakh), Somdi alias Manish Veko (1 lakh), Sanni Madvi (1 lakh), Moti Ram Tanno (1 lakh), Ajay Alami (1 lakh), Sannu Oyam (1 lakh), Munna Ram Veko (50,000), Urmila Tamo (50,000), Sunita Mandavi (50,000), Santosh Oyam (50,000), Chetram Oyam (50,000), Chetram Attami (50,000), Kumaru Veko (50,000) and Bhimsen Tamo (50,000).

116.	08.10.2025	16 Maoists surrendered before the SP, Narayanpur.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 09.10.2025
	Narayanpur	These include Podia Maskam, Manoj Dugga alias Sanker, Sumitra alias Sanni Kursam, Vanila Farsa Gavde alias Diwakar (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Buddu alias Kamlesh Usendi (reward of Rs 5 lakh), Madda Kunjam (reward of Rs 8 lakh), Ravi alias Gopal Vadde (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Kare Korram (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Somlo Kashya alias Manisha, Narsu Vadde, Sonu Jatti, Irgu Vadde, Budhni Gota alias Reshma, Raje Gota alias Vanita, and Mase alias Lalita.	
117.	17.10.2025	210 Maoist surrendered for the first time before “leaders” of Adivasi society.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 18.10.2025
	Jagdulpur	These included Rupesh alias Satis , a CC member, along with Bhaskar alias Rajman Mandvi, Ranita, Raju Salam, Dhannu Vetti alias Santu, Ratan Elam and others.	
118.	27.11.2025	10 Maoists surrendered in Jagdulpur. Identified as Chetu, Saroj alias Malku Sodi, Bhupesh, Prakash, Kamlesh, Janni, Santosh, Naveen, Ramshila, Jayati.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 29.11.2025
	Jagdulpur		
119.	30.11.2025	37 Maoists surrendered in Dantewada district. Identified as Ranjan alias Soma Mandavi, Bhima alias Jahaj Kalmu, Kranti alias Podie Gabde (reward of Rs 6 lakhs), Kumari Munnii Karma (reward of Rs 2 lakhs), Lakshmi Atami, Krishna Padami, Mangdi alias Mangli Hemla, Dashru Dodi, Nandu Mandavi, Hidme Kudam (reward of Rs 1 lakh), Roshni alias Hungi Sodi, Raju alias Gandhi Lokam, Janku Veko, Budhram Madvi, Sukmati alias Sukki Tati, Suklu Kadiam, Taklu alias Ajay Kashyam, Baman Mandavi, Arjun Kunjam, Somari Parsa, Bijay Oyam, Phoolmati alias Shanti Keko, Anita Mandavi (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Gita alias Lakmi Markam, etc.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 01.12.2025
	Dantewada		
120.	12.12.2025	10 Maoists surrendered. No other details available.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 13.12.2025
	Sukma		
121.	16.12.2025	34 Maoists surrendered before Bijapur SP. Identified as Pandru Punem alias Sanju, Rukni Hemla, Deva Uika, Ramlal Poyam alias Ramlu, Motu Punem alias Ravi, Mina Madvi alias Jamli, Sudhru Punem, Linge Kunjam alias Sumitra, Paale Uika, Sukram Ursa alias Ganga, Dinesh Karkam alias Bamla, Shankar Podiam, Sukram Podiam, Munna Poyam, Sukmatu Boddu, Lakshman Gondhe alias Denga, Lakshman Hemla, Arjun Voddu, Pandru Markam alias Saleem, Raju Kursam alias Durrum, Moti Ursa, Somaru Markam, Santo Podiam alias Santoshi alias Shanti, Hidma Madvi alias Guddi, Sukmati Ursa, Chamru Oyam, Pandaru Baddhi, Paiku Oyam, Sukram Telam, Jaggu Podiam, Sannu Kursam, Raju Hemla, Fagnu Markam alias Mallesh, and Suresh Kursam.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 17.12.2025
	Bijapur		

122.	09.01.2026  Dantewada	63 Maoists surrendered before SP. Some of those identified were Patlu alias Renu alias Pradeep Oyam (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Mohan alias Sanjay alias Azad Karti (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Dropti Chapa (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Hungi alias Ankita alias Radhika Lekam (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Sukram Tati (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Pandu Markam (reward of Rs 8 lakhs), Somru Karti alias Rinku alias Parmesh Karti (reward of Rs 8 lakhs).	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 10.01.2026
123.	11.03.2026  Jagdalpur	In Jagdalpur, one Ramdar Kashyap alias Biru (reward of Rs 8 lakhs) and 108 other Maoists active in Kondagaon surrendered.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 13.03.2026
124.	24.03.2026  Jagdalpur	Papa Rao alias Ashok alias Sunnam Chandrayya alias Mangu (carrying reward of Rs 25 lakhs) and 17 others surrendered before IGP Bastar Range at Jagdalpur. Surrender happened with weapons including 6 AK-47s.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 25.03.2026  The Hindu, 26.03.2026  The Indian Express, 26.03.2026
125.	31.03.2026	In Bijapur, 25 Maoists surrendered. They had Rs. 2.9 crore of cash and 7.2 kgs of gold. Also surrendered 1 AK-47, LMG, and other weapons.  In Dantewada, 5 Maoists including 4 women surrendered. They had with them 40 weapons which includes SLR, INSAS, and carbines.  In Narayanpur, 1 Bijlu Mandavi surrendered who carried a reward of 1 lakh.  In Sukma, 2 women cadres carrying a reward of 8 lakh each surrendered. Details not available.  Although the headline mentions 35 arrests, the details provided show only 33.	Dainik Bhaskar (Bastar ed.) 01.04.2026