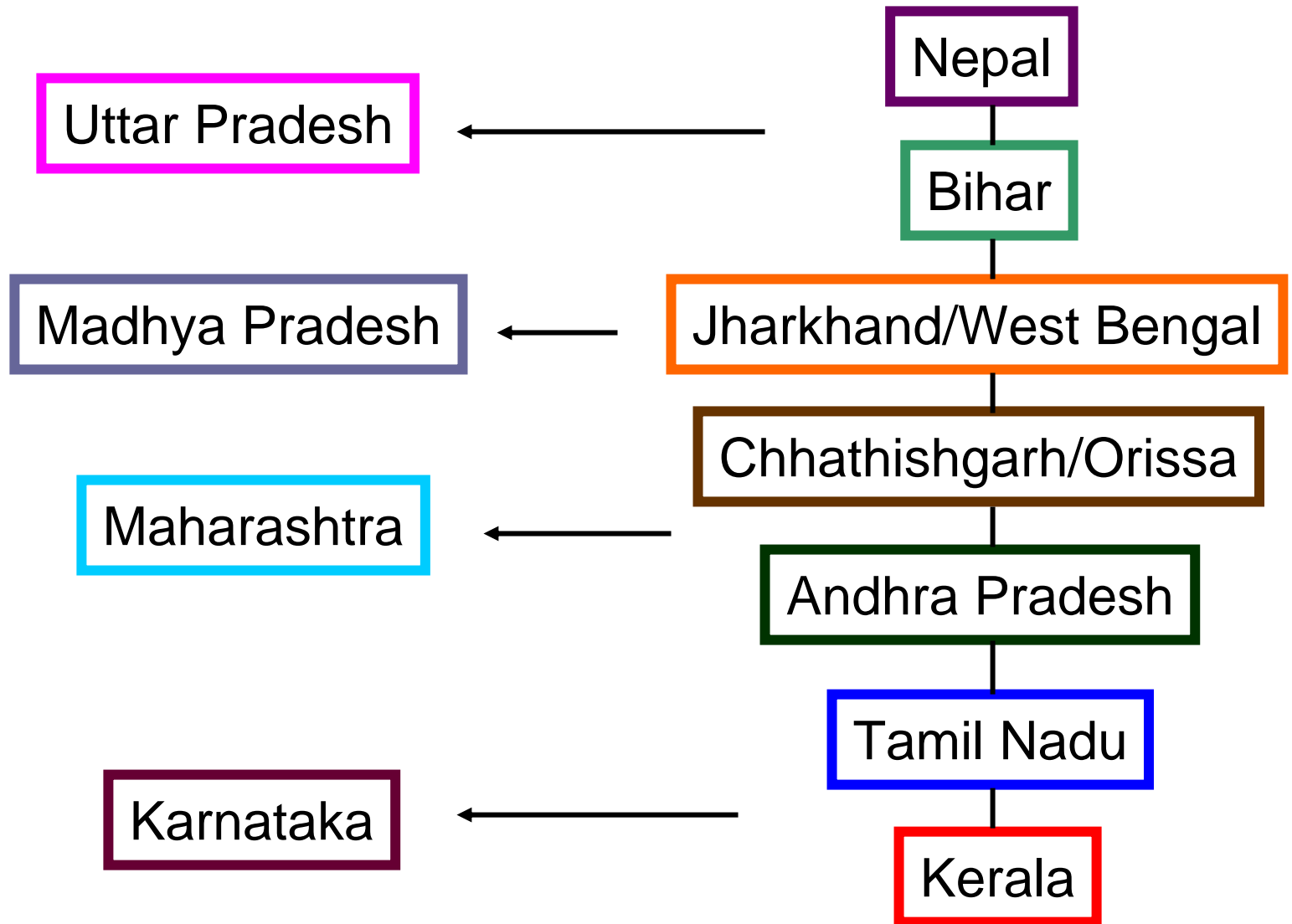

ISAS ROUNDTABLE SESSION

MAOISM, GOVERNANCE AND RED CORRIDOR

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Red Corridor



Three Important Questions

1. Is Maoism reflective of the growing disenchantment of the people in the affected areas with the state?
2. Is this a comment on 'the distorted development planning', pursued by the Indian state?
3. Is this an outcome of the processes of 'the deepening of democracy in India'?

Events

- PWG and MCC merger = CPI (Maoist) on 16 September, 2004
- 2006 Jail Break in Orissa (Gajapati)
- 2006 Jail Break in Bihar (Jehanabad)
- Organizing '*Salwa Judum*' (peoples' struggle against the excesses of Naxalism)
- Mainstreaming of Maoism in Nepal
- Formation of the anti-Naxal cell in the Ministry of Home-Affairs, Govt. of India and the Inter-Ministerial Committee

Evolution of Maoism

- Telangana Liberation Struggle (1946-51)
- Tebhaga Movement (1946-49)
- The split in the communist movement in 1969 over characterizing Soviet Russia as 'socialist'.
- **Strategies:**
 - (a) to mobilize the toiling people in villages and towns**
 - (b) to create a certain amount of 'red terror' in villages and towns to reduce the enemies' oppression on the toiling people**
 - (c) to develop urban and rural youths and also students as fighting guerrillas**
 - (d) to harass the state machinery not only in the villages but also in towns and thus to attack the 'reactionary demons' from all sides.**

Ideology

- People's democratic revolution
- India is a state of big land lords and comprador-bureaucratic capitalists
- Task of the revolution is 'land reforms' in the interests of the peasants
- Which is possible only when the feudal classes are completely decimated

Maoist Ideology

- Marxism-Leninism (theoretical lineage)
- Maoism (strategic lineage)
- New Democratic Revolution
- Protracted people's war with the armed struggle for seizure for power
- Fight against imperialism, feudalism and comprador-bureaucratic capitalism
- Fight against social oppression - untouchability, casteism and gender-discrimination

Expanding Influence

- Thirteen Indian states adversely affected
- The movement is intense in parts of Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra
- **Reasons:** unfinished agrarian reforms and lack of basic amenities of human existence
- **Specific reasons:** massive transfer of forest and agricultural land for developing industry, machine-dependent mining and infrastructural facility for agribusiness
- Nexus of the executive forces with the police and other para-military forces to silence the most legitimate voice
- For the *advasis* (tribal), *Sarkar* (government) is exploiter in the form of 'forest officials who denied their entry to the forest, the police who demanded bribes and state-sponsored contractors who paid less than the minimum wage

Quotable Quotes

- ‘When you see death taking tolls on your near and dear ones and you know their life could have been saved had they been given proper and timely medication , you are forced to believe that the existence of state has nothing to do with the life of poor and marginalized’. **Ajit Buxla, Maoist leader**
- ‘The inaccessible hilly terrain, dense forests, lack of development, grievances of the tribals and poor, and the absence of administration have been conducive to the spread of left wing extremism in Orissa’. **Bidhu Bhusan Mishra, Inspector General of Police, Government of Orissa**

Ground Reality

| District | Total Population (in lakh) | Rural Population | BPL Family | % of BPL Family | No. of Doctors per lakh | No. of Beds per lakh |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Deogarh | 2.74 | 55,298 | 43,571 | 78.8 | 12 | 43 |
| Gajapati | 5.28 | 11,20,29 | 68763 | 61.3 | 13 | 78 |
| Ganjam | 27.04 | 5, 48,3,08 | 3,01,585 | 55.0 | 17 | 49 |
| Jajpur | 16.23 | 2,80,769 | 1,69,595 | 60.4 | 07 | 14 |
| Jharsugda | 5.09 | 68164 | 33415 | 49.02 | 10 | 21 |
| Khandhamahal | 6.48 | 14335 | 113970 | 78.4 | 23 | 63 |
| Keonjhar | 15.62 | 286923 | 220820 | 76.9 | 13 | 32 |

| District | Total Population (in lakh) | Rural Population | BPL Family | % of BPL Family | No. of Doctors per lakh | No. of Beds per lakh |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Koraput | 11.78 | 2,64,707 | 2,22,846 | 83.8 | 13 | 30 |
| Malkangiri | 4.80 | 108870 | 89138 | 81.8 | 18 | 60 |
| Mayurbhanj | 22.62 | 482176 | 374867 | 77.7 | 12 | 36 |
| Nabarangapur | 10.18 | 215429 | 158684 | 73.6 | 10 | 23 |
| Rayagada | 8.23 | 188499 | 135785 | 72.0 | 13 | 27 |
| Sambalpur | 9.29 | 150799 | 90141 | 59.8 | 43 | 123 |
| Sundargarh | 18.29 | 285141 | 185969 | 65.2 | 12 | 33 |

Sources: *District Survey Reports, 2005-6*, Government of Orissa
Human Development Report, 2005, Government of Orissa

Literacy

| District | % of Total Literacy | % of Tribal Literacy |
|--------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Deogarh | 44.5 | 27.4 |
| Gajapati | 29.3 | 15.8 |
| Ganjam | 46.7 | 19.9 |
| Jajpur | 58.0 | 16.0 |
| Jharsugdha | 52.7 | 34.8 |
| Khandhamal | 37.2 | 27.4 |
| Keonjghar | 44.7 | 24.8 |
| Koraput | 24.6 | 8.3 |
| Malkangiri | 20.0 | 6.7 |
| Mayurbhanj | 37.8 | 24.1 |
| Nabarangapur | 18.6 | 9.6 |
| Rayagada | 26.0 | 18.4 |
| Sambalpur | 51.5 | 32.0 |
| Sundargarh | 52.9 | 37.3 |

Source: District Survey, 2005-6, Government of Orissa

Organizational Structure

- Two Wings: Political and Military
- Political Wing = Central Committee – Regional Bureau – Zonal/State Committee – District/Division Committee – Squad Area Committee
- Military Wing – Central Military Commission – Parallel Military Committee – Village Defence Squad – Village Governance Committee
- For encounter : Local Guerrilla Squads (LGS)

Members of Andhra-Orissa Border Special Zone Committee (AOBSZC)

| Names | Age (Years) | Place of Birth | Position in the Orgn. | Weapons |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| Bhaskar | 43 | Hyderabad | Secretary | AK-47 |
| Narasimha Chalam | 43 | Warangal | Secretariat Member | AK-47 |
| Chalpath | 43 | Chittore | Secretariat Member | AK-47 |
| Gautam | 35 | Warangal | Member | AK-47 |
| Gopi Sami | 49 | Karim Nagar | Member | SLR |
| Vinay | 38 | Warangal | Member | AK-47 |
| Kathru | 36 | Visakhapatnam | Member | AK-47 |
| Narayan Rao | 35 | Srikakulam | Member | AK-47 |
| Mahendra | 33 | Rayalaseema | Member | AK-47 |
| Sabyasachi Panda | 35 | Behrampur | Member | AK-47 |

Areas of Operation

- Maoism is most active in districts adjacent to Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand.
- Confined to “non-coastal” districts
- Importance of *Dalam* (squad): Each district has one Dalam
- Importance of *Jan Adalat* (people’s court)

Sources of Funding

- Extortion for ransom from farmers, teachers, contractors and businessmen
- Cultivating opium worth of *Rs. sixty million* (with the help of the local people) in Malkangiri district
- Charging the businessmen who pass through Koraput district while taking Tendu leaves and bamboo produce for trade
- Producing and smuggling enormous quantity of *marijuana* (which is produced in hilly terrain of Orissa-Andhra Pradesh border – Malkangiri district)

Probable Arguments

- Lack of development and displacement of tribals
- Translation of governance merely in terms of maintenance of 'law and order'.
- Maoism is politically articulated with no or minimal reference to its economic agenda
- Dissension among the Maoists (moderates and extremists) weakening the movement
- Charges of corruption against the Maoists has caused 'a dent' in its support base
- Maoism is being reduced to 'action squads'