'Govt must release 6,000-7,000 Maoists, including 10 on death row, from jail'

After surrendering in Feb 2026 and enrolling a law college, top CPI (Maoist) leader **Thippiri Thirupathi** *alias* **Deoji** *(61) is ready for his next innings in democratic politics. Deoji speaks to* **TOI's Bharti Jain** *on his demand to lift the ban on CPI (Maoist) and make it a lawful party. Excerpts:*

TOI INTERVIEW

What propelled you to join the armed Naxal movement?

■ I left studies and shifted to Dandkarenya forests in 1984. The socio-political scenario in those times was marked by exploitation of peasantry and women by feudalistic set-up. In 1978, there was a big uprising by farmers of Telangana. The mass movement started giving voice to farmers, women etc. I subscribed to its anti-feudal sentiment and joined the students' Radical Students Union to actively support this cause. I was arrested several times and tortured by police. Since circumstances did not allow us to openly carry out our struggle, I went underground.

What was life like in the jungles?

■ Our commitment to CPI (Maoist)'s agenda of seizing power through armed revolution had mentally prepared us to face all odds. Negotiating difficult terrain, exhaustion, poor living conditions felt normal to us.

Where did Maoists' source their weapons from?

■ Firstly, we would snatch or loot weapons (from security forces); secondly, we manufactured them ourselves. Thirdly, depending on funds available, we purchased arms and ammunition domestically from arms dealers and smugglers.

What were primary sources funding?

■ CPI (Maoist) was funded by the people. We also extorted money from outsiders who worked in our areas, like 'tendu patta' contractors and bamboo harvesters. That CPI (Maoist) had massive funds is propaganda. Our policy was to raise money to sustain us for three years. This money was spent on people's issues, armed struggle and propaganda; extravagance was avoided. The party never had funds in excess of Rs 30-40 crore at any time.

Describe the impact of decisive operations on CPI (Maoist)?

■ In Dec 2023, at a conference of DGPs chaired by home minister Amit Shah, consensus emerged in favour of waging a decisive battle to eliminate Naxalism. Operation Kagaar was launched in Jan 2024 and continued till March 2026.

In Aug 2024, our politburo/central committee members met in Dandakaranya. We assessed that the decline in Naxals' influence that began in 2018 had acquired serious proportions. We decided to disband big outfits like PLGA, operate in small teams and work among people. But the cadre was incapable of implementing these decisions. It became too risky for them to move out of Dandakaranya. They got concentrated there, exposing themselves.

In March 2025, we decided that we were open to holding peace talks with govt. Our condition was cessation of operations against us. But govt rejected talks. The anti-Naxal operations continued with severity and many of our top netas, including general secretary Nambala Keshav Rao, were killed. After comrade Sonu surrendered, we could not arrest the wave of surrenders.

IANS



"We didn't surrender to lead a comfortable personal life. We want to take up people's issues through legal means. We will engage in people's politics to achieve exploitation-free society

How did HM Shah's March 31, 2026 deadline impact CPI(Maoist)?

■ If the coordinated and fierce operations by Centre and 12 states had not been run with a definite deadline, our movement would've lasted longer.

Why did you decide to surrender?

■ Given the circumstances we concluded that the situation was no longer conducive to continuing armed struggle. So we decided to give up violence and come overground. We haven't surrendered to lead a comfortable personal life. We want to take up people's issues through legal means. We will now engage in people's politics to achieve exploitation-free society.

What are your expectations or demands from govt?

■ We have been demanding that the ban on CPI(Maoist) be lifted. This way we can take up political activity in an open and legal manner.

Amit Shah claims the country became Naxal-free in March 2026; so it is only apt to free Naxals who are still in jails. We welcome govt's decision to review cases against Naxals but a distinction must not be drawn between serious and non-serious crimes.

Govt may argue that Maoists have killed many and that law should take its course. But this was a war and resulted in losses on both sides. A blanket govt order must be issued for release of 6,000-7,000 Maoists in jails, including the 10 given death sentence in Jhiram Ghati case. We also seek protection for surrendered Naxals, against revenge attacks.

Will CPI(Maoist) political document, which talks of seizing power through armed struggle, be rewritten to reflect transition to lawful politics?

■ Politics does not exist in a rigid form. Unlike divine scriptures that cannot be rewritten, politics is dynamic. Politics must adapt to changing times. Leninism and Marxism may be our theory, but the political document must reflect changed tactics and strategy.

If the ban is lifted, will CPI (Maoist) enter electoral politics?

■ We will need to consult others in CPI(Maoist). If elections do not achieve our ends, we may stay away.

Will you consider floating a new party?

■ Since Shah had asked us to work openly and legally, our obvious choice is to do so through CPI(Maoist). We will consider alternatives if this does not work out.

What prompted you to study law post-surrender?

■ As we engage in political activity as per law, we shall need a countrywide network of legal experts to implement our political agenda.

The knowledge of law will help us defend activities that are within the legal framework. It will also help in perception management.

AAP's 2nd Punjab list out, mantri among 7 MLAs axed

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chandigarh: Aam Aadmi Party Thursday announced its second list of 31 candidates for Punjab assembly polls, dropping seven sitting MLAs, including minister Gurmeet Singh Khudian and 2022 giant-slayer Charanjit Singh, while fielding two MPs, Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer and Raj Kumar Chabbewal.

Of the 31 seats, 20 are constituencies the party lost in the 2022 polls. Five on the new list are women, including Punjabi actress Sonia Mann, who joined AAP in 2025 and was made the party's Raja Sansi constituency in-charge, which she will now contest.

"AAP has announced candidates for 71 seats so far, while other parties are still grappling with internal differences. Early announcement will give AAP candidates ample time to reach out to voters," CM Bhagwant Mann said.

"AAP has announced candidates for 71 seats so far, while other parties are still grappling with internal differences. Early announcement will give AAP candidates ample time to reach out to voters," CM Bhagwant Mann said

Asked if the party apprehends more defections after the second list (three MLAs quit after the first), Mann said AAP's political affairs committee had discussed reports of surveys conducted over the past year and public feedback before finalising the names.

While no sitting cabinet minister features in the second list, former minister Anmol Gagan Mann has also been dropped. However, the big surprises are Khudian, who had defeated former CM Parkash Singh Badal in Lambi in 2022, and Charanjit, who beat then CM Charanjit Singh Channi in Chamkaur Sahib.

Khudian has been replaced by his nephew Randhir Singh Dhira Khuddian, while Charanjit has been bypassed in favour of Jasvir Singh Garhi, ex-BSP state chief. Khudian's differences with AAP Punjab incharge Manish Sisodia came into the open during a party meeting in Ludhiana on May 19.

MPs Meet Hayer and Chabbewal have been fielded from Barnala and Phagwara. Chabbewal's son Ishank was nominated from Chabbewal in the first list. A father-son duo getting tickets is a first for AAP. The party has changed its candidates in eight seats, while only two sitting MLAs have been renominated in the second list. Three candidates who lost last time have been given another opportunity.

Death threat to Kejriwal, claims Delhi AAP MLA

Mohali: Police have registered a case under BNS and IT Act following a complaint by Delhi AAP MLA Jarnail Singh, who alleged he got a call from the Lawrence Bishnoi gang, threatening to kill former Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal and his daughter unless Kejriwal paid Rs 7 crore.

Jarnail, who represents Tilak Nagar constituency, was in Mohali when he received the call. According to the complaint, he received a call and a threat message on his personal mobile number on Nov 6 from a WhatsApp profile that carried the name 'H'. The caller allegedly claimed to represent the Lawrence gang.

While AAP condemned the death threat and said the Bhagwant Mann govt would not allow anyone disturb state's peace, BJP's former state chief Sunil Jakhar called it a part of AAP's agenda to create the sense of fear. TNN

Tie-up with SAD likely, BJP may seek larger share of pie

New Delhi: Signalling that BJP's alliance with Shiromani Akali Dal is on the cards, sources said Thursday the party will contest a substantially higher number of seats than it did under its earlier seat-sharing arrangement with the regional outfit.



BJP sources said the alliance will be announced at an opportune time, amid the party's determined efforts to expand its presence in Punjab with an aggressive campaign against drug addiction and opposition to conversion by missionaries as its key planks. It has also inducted members of other parties.

BJP used to contest 23 seats in the 117-member Punjab assembly as a SAD ally, before the Akalis broke off their ties in 2020 over their protest against farm laws, which were subsequently reversed.

"We will contest more seats," a party functionary said, without giving details of the likely share of alliance members. The party is also expected to keep a breakaway Akali faction, SAD (Punar Surjit), in the alliance.

BJP's vote share in Punjab in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections at over 18% was higher than over 13% of **Sukhbir Singh Badal**-headed SAD, once a formidable regional player whose fortunes have been on a decline as AAP surged to power in the 2022 assembly polls.

BJP is hopeful that a consolidation of votes in favour of its alliance can make it a strong contender for office in the state's fragmented political arena in which Congress is main opposition party. TNN

Yogi: Bulldozers now UP brand, make them here

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: Pitching his govt's reputation for 'bulldozer action' against criminals, Uttar Pradesh chief minister **Yogi Adityanath** on Thursday invited CNH Industrial, which is setting up a tractor manufacturing plant in Gautam Buddh Nagar, to also manufacture the heavy machinery in the state.



"Uttar Pradesh has moved from the rule of mafia to the rule of law," he said, attributing improvement in law and order to his govt's zero-tolerance policy towards crime and tough action against criminals

"You must have heard about Uttar Pradesh's bulldozer. I would like to tell CNH that since you are manufacturing tractors in the state, you can also manufacture bulldozers here. There will automatically be demand for them in the country and abroad because it has already become a brand here," the CM said.

The chief minister was virtually addressing the groundbreaking ceremony of CNH Industrial's tractor manufacturing plant in the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority area.

"Uttar Pradesh has moved from the rule of mafia to the rule of law," he said, attributing improvement in law and order to his govt's zero-tolerance policy towards crime and tough action against criminals. Yogi said a robust law and order had helped the state move towards becoming a destination for ease of doing business.

2L deletions, 4L additions in Assam rolls

Guwahati: A shade below two lakh voters' names were deleted and four lakh-odd were added during the special summary revision (SSR) of Assam's poll rolls, resulting in the draft list published Thursday reflecting a net increase of over two lakh to peg the state's electoral strength at 2.5 crore. Women voters marginally outnumber men in the updated rolls by 1,289 electors. Dalgaon has been found to have the highest number of electors (3.2 lakh) in the state. EC said the draft rolls were now officially open for claims and objections based on notified guidelines. The process will run until Dec 11, and the final rolls are scheduled to be published on Jan 4. **— Prabin Kalita**

Pitroda, Modi display rare public bonhomie

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Congress's overseas wing head, Sam Pitroda, is a vocal critic of PM Narendra Modi and the key organiser of Rahul Gandhi's overseas outreach events.



But the festive season brought out of him rare words of praise for Modi, who in turn extended his Diwali greetings to the fellow Gujarati.

Modi said, "Happy Diwali and Nutan Varsh Abhinandan to you Sam Bhai and to Anjana Ben. Praying for a joyful and healthy year ahead. Jai Jagannath!"

In remarks to a news agency, Pitroda had called Modi a "Gujarati friend" whom he respects as a person.

"My wife and I have met him. He has been very warm, kind, loving and caring at a personal level. Of course, he is a good orator and hard-working, and we get along well. We have no personal issues. I have nothing against Mr Modi as a Gujarati leader, friend or well-wisher. He has been very warm towards me, and I appreciate that. Similarly, I have been to his house in Gujarat several times," he said.

Modi's greetings took even some BJP supporters by surprise. One said on X if he could wish Pitroda, he could wish him as well. Sure enough, Modi posted his Diwali greetings to him.

EC restores Goan family of 6 on voter roll

Panaji: Forced by Bombay HC, the Election Commission Thursday restored a Goan family of six to the electoral roll of St Cruz constituency, where they now live, with their original EPIC numbers. The names of Paresh Salgaonkar and five family members were struck off during the SIR exercise. Their Form 8 for change of address could not be processed because of a glitch in the EC's software.

Instead of fixing it, EC told them to fill Form 6, meant for new, first-time voters. The family refused and moved the HC.

Last week, the HC gave the electoral registration officer 10 days to restore all six names. It refused EC's plea to stay the order for two weeks to approach SC, holding that the right to vote cannot wait for an appeal.

— Lisa Monteiro

Land Ports Authority of India, MHA

(Appointment of Member (Planning & Development) on deputation basis)

MHA had issued a vacancy circular for filling up the post of Member (Planning & Development), with the last date of submission of applications being **27.10.2026**. Now, the last date has been extended up to **30.11.2026**. For more details, please visit the website of the Ministry of Home Affairs at **http://mha.gov.in** and LPAI at **http://lpai.gov.in**.

CBC 19142/11/0021/2627

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)
"Vidyut Bhawan" Near ISBT, Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun-248002
Corporate ID U40101UR2004SGC028675, Tel. No. : 0135-2642711

E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM-4

The last date of submission of E-Tender for "Substation Augmentation of Transformers capacity at 132 kV S/s Bhowali, 66 kV S/s Thithki (Manglore) and 66 kV S/s Karanprayag and Kothiyalsain in Kumaon and Garhwal Zone under Package-6" against Tender Specification no. PTCUL/E-Tender/C&P-II/SS-10/2026-27 is hereby extended upto **26.11.2026 15:30 Hrs**. For more details please visit the e-tender website www.uktenders.gov.in (tender id no. 2026_PTCU4_100602_1) and for e-tender corrigendum notice our website www.ptcul.org. All other terms and conditions shall remain same.

For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8899890000

RO 2201/HQPU/PTCUL Dated : 12.11.2026 Superintending Engineer (C&P-II)

"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Mobile No. 96461-55525)

Open E-Tender Enq. No. 766/P-3/EMPW-13488 Dt. 13.11.2026

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. ID: 2026_POWER_179173_1 for Breakdown/Preventive Maintenance of TG Equipments and Overhauling of Associated Auxiliaries of 4x210 MW 'KWU' Design, BHEL make TG Units, at GGSSTP Rupnagar including T&P and consumables etc (through e-tendering). For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 13.11.2026/03.00 PM onwards.

Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

RTP-110/26, DPR/Pb.: 1079/12/2026-27/17068

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Mobile No. 96461-55525)

Open E-Tender Enq. No. 765/P-3/EMPW-13477 Dt. : 12.11.2026

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. ID: 2026_POWER_179029_1 for Replacement of damaged Rubber Lagging Sheet of Pulleys of Conveyor belt system of CHP, GGSSTP, Ropar (through e-tendering). For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 13.11.2026/03.00 PM onwards.

Note : Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

RTP-111/26, DPR/Pb.:1079/12/2026-27/17069

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Mobile No. 96461-55525)

E-Tender Enq. No. 7891 /P-3/EMP-13483 Dated : 11.11.2026

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2026_POWER_179029_1 for Procurement of Worm Gear and worm shaft set with key & lock nut for XRP-803 and HP-803 mills. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 13.11.2026/ 5.00 PM onwards.

Note : Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

RTP-109/26, DPR/Pb.: 1079/12/2026-27/17066

वस्त्र मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
राष्ट्रीय परीक्षा एजेंसी National Testing Agency
राष्ट्रीय फैशन प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान
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Land Ports Authority of India, MHA

(Appointment of Member (Finance) on deputation basis)

MHA had issued a vacancy circular for filling up the post of Member (Finance) with the last date of submission of applications being **27.10.2026**. Now, the last date has been extended up to **30.11.2026**. For more details, please visit the website of the Ministry of Home Affairs at **http://mha.gov.in** and LPAI at **http://lpai.gov.in**.

CBC 19142/11/0019/2627

National Homoeopathy Research Institute in Mental Health
(Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, An Autonomous Body, Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India) Sachivothamapuram P.O., Kottayam-686 532 (Kerala)
Website:www.nhrimh.ac.in, E.mail: nhrimh@gmail.com,
Phone:0481-2432238(Off), 2436322(OIC), 2430519(Hos.) Fax: 0481 -2432238

F.No. 1-1/2026-27/ NHRIMH/ktm/recruitment/2255
Advt. No. 002/2026-27 Dated: 12.11.2026

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Walk-in-interview for eligible candidates for engagement to the following positions purely on contract basis at the National Homoeopathy Research Institute in Mental Health (NHRIMH), Kottayam, Kerala, will be conducted as per the details given below:

Sl. NO	Name of post	No. of post (s)	Date & Time of Reporting	Venue of Interview
1.	Associate Professor / Reader (Practice of Medicine)	02 (UR)	03.12.2026 9.30 AM to 10.30 AM	NHRIMH, Kottayam
2.	General Physician (MBBS/MD)	01 (UR)	03.12.2026 9.30 AM to 10.30 AM	NHRIMH, Kottayam
3.	Consultant (Admn)	01	04.12.2026 9.30 AM to 10.30 AM	NHRIMH, Kottayam
4.	Consultant (Accounts)	01	04.12.2026 9.30 AM to 10.30 AM	NHRIMH, Kottayam
5.	Assistant Warden (Male & Female)	01 (Male) (UR) 01 (Female) (UR)	05.12.2026 9.30 AM to 10.30 AM	NHRIMH, Kottayam

For details regarding the posts, eligibility criteria, remuneration and other terms and conditions, please visit the official website www.ccrhindia.ayush.gov.in or www.nhrimh.ac.in.

Officer Incharge
National Homoeopathy Research Institute in Mental Health, Kottayam

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda India's International Bank

Regional Office: Jhansi Area Ground Floor, Nagar Nigam Building, Elite Square, District- Jhansi- 284001 (U.P.)

Branch: Elite Chauraha Branch, Jhansi

AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s)/mortgagor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** basis for recovery of below mentioned amount/s. The details of Borrower/s / Mortgagor/Guarantor/s / Secured Asset/s/Dues / Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:

Date of Auction: 03.12.2026 **Last Date of EMD Submission: 02.12.2026 upto 4.00 P.M.**

Sl.	Name & address of Borrower/s /Guarantor/s/ Mortgagor (s)	Detailed description of the Immovable property with known encumbrances, if any	Total Dues	1.Date of e-Auction 2.Time of E-auction (Start Time to End Time)	Reserve Price/ Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)/ Bid Increase Amt	Status of Possession (Constructive/ Physical)	Property Inspection Date & Time
1.	**Borrower & Mortgager: Mr. Sahban Ali S/o Raja Ali,** R/o 1631/9A Bahar Datiya Gate Jhansi Khas, Jhansi City, Jhansi 284002 **Guarantor: Mr. Ramjan Ali S/o Raja Ali,** R/o 1631/1A Super Colony Outside Datiya Gate Jhansi 284002	Residential House situated at Mauja Jhansi Khas Abadi Aligole Tehsil & Dist: Jhansi in aaraji No. 1932, measuring area 446.70 sq.ft in name of Shri Sahban Ali S/o Sri Raja Ali, **Bounded as under:- East:** Plot of Seller, **West:** Way 5.79 mtr, **North:** Plot of Saieed, **South**: Way 3.66 mtr	**Rs. 27,23,777.99** plus further interest thereon w.e.f. 09.11.2026 at the contractual rate with monthly rests plus costs and expenses till date of payment	**Date of e-Auction: 03.12.2026 Time of E-auction: 12:00 PM to 02:00 PM**	Reserve Price: Rs. 12,26,000.00 Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Amt: Rs. 1,22,600.00 Bid Increase Amount: Rs. 10,000.00	**Symbolic**	**01.12.2026 Start Time: 03.00 PM to End Time: 05.00 PM.**

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link **https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction and Baanknet.com.** Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised officer on Mobile **9519857733.**

Date: 12.11.2026 Place: Jhansi Sd/- Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda