

Bastar: The Naxal Story

Bastar: The Naxal Story is a 2024 Indian Hindi-language political thriller film directed by Sudipto Sen and produced by Vipul Amrutlal Shah. It stars Adah Sharma, Indira Tiwari, Vijay Krishna, Shilpa Shukla, Yashpal Sharma, Subrat Dutta and Raima Sen.

The film was announced in June 2023, along with the title of the film, it's based on the Naxalite–Maoist insurgency in the Bastar district of Chhattisgarh. Bastar was theatrically released on 15 March 2024.

Cast

- Adah Sharma as I.P.S. Neerja Madhavan
- Indira Tiwari as Ratna
- Vijay Krishna as Lanka Reddy
- Shilpa Shukla as Neelam Nagpal
- Yashpal Sharma as Utpal Trivedi
- Subrat Dutta as Millind Kashyap
- Raima Sen as Vanya Roy
- Anangsha Biswas as Lakshmi
- Kishor Kadam as Rajendra Karma
- Sanjay Borkar as Gynaecologist
- Atharva Sawant as Saryu
- Gopal K. Singh as Srivastav
- Purnendu Bhattacharya as Narayan Bagchi
- Naman Jain as Raman
- Vikas Shukla as Dr. Ajay
- Abhikalp Gagdekar as Kartam
- Anamika Tiwari as Baruna
- Gandhali Jain as Yamuna Nagar
- Sameer Trimbakkar as Male Judge
- Sukanya Dhanda as Female Judge
- Nidhi Rasane as Rama
- Priyank Raj as Alok Puneet

Production

Development

Baster : The Naxal Story



Theatrical release poster

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Directed by | Sudipto Sen |
| Written by | Amarnath Jha Sudipto Sen Vipul Amrutlal Shah |
| Story by | Sudipto Sen Amarnath Jha |
| Produced by | Vipul Amrutlal Shah |
| Starring | Adah Sharma Indira Tiwari Vijay Krishna |
| Cinematography | Ragul Dharuman |
| Edited by | Dev Rao Jadhav |
| Music by | Bishakh Jyoti |
| Production company | Sunshine Pictures |
| Release date | 15 March 2024 |
| Running time | 124 minutes ^[1] |
| Country | India |
| Language | Hindi |

The film was produced by Vipul Amrutlal Shah and directed by Sudipto Sen, who is also the story writer of the film. In June 2023, Sunshine Pictures, the production company of the movie, via social media, announced their next film titled *Bastar*, which stars Adah Sharma as I.G. Neerja Mathur in the film.^[12]

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|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Budget | ₹15 crore ^[2] |
| Box office | ₹1.79–3 crore ^{[3][4]} |

Filming

The principal photography commenced on 19 October 2023, with a muhurat puja and completed the first schedule of shooting.^{[13][14]}

Release

Bastar was theatrically released on 15 March 2024.^[15]

The film was not properly released and got only a screen or two at the theatres.^[16]

Reception

On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, 43% of 7 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 4.3/10.^[17]

Abhishek Srivastava of *The Times of India* rated 3/5 and wrote "*Bastar* is a hard-hitting crime drama, with moments that surely shake you."^[18]

Rajiv Vijayakar of *Koimoi* rated the film 3.5 out of 5 and wrote that *Bastar* is "Any other film in a not-so-long list of exposes on facts hitherto unknown to the nation and the world!"^[19]

Deepa Gahlot of *Rediff.com* gave 2/5 stars and wrote "The Naxal movement has such a complex history that several books have been written to understand it. *Bastar: The Naxal Story* seeks to reduce it to bullet points and stereotypes."^[20]

Rohit Bhatnagar of *The Free Press Journal* gave 2/5 stars and wrote "*Bastar: The Naxal Story* is a sloppy docudrama that is away from thrill, adventure and drama".^[21]

Zinia Bandyopadhyay of *India Today* gave 1/5 stars and wrote that *Bastar* is "Sensational, oversimplified film with no nuance".^[22]

Shubhra Gupta of *The Indian Express* rated 0.5/5 stars and wrote "To expect any kind of nuance from the makers of *The Kerala Story* would have been a stretch. *Bastar* is more of the same."^[23]

Samvartha Sahil of *Deccan Herald* rated 0.5/5 stars and wrote "Sudipto Sen's new feature film *Bastar: The Naxal Story* lacks not just an understanding of a complex political situation, and its larger socio-economic undercurrents, but also of constructing a compelling narrative."^[24]

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External links

- *Bastar: The Naxal Story* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt28221135/>) at IMDb
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