**South Asia Terrorism Portal: Maoist Violence Incidence Dataset**

Coding Instructions, Oct 2015

Variable List

* Coder Name
* Incident Number
* State
* District
* Year
* Date
* Type of Perpetrator
* Primary Action Type
* Secondary Action Type
* Successful Action?
* Number of Perpetrators
* Primary Target type
* Secondary Target type
* Total Fatalities
  + Civilian Fatalities
  + Security Fatalities
  + Maoist Fatalities
* Total Injuries
  + Civilian Injuries
  + Security Injuries
  + Maoist Injuries
* Property Damage
* Value of Property Damage
* Total number of hostage or kidnap victims
* Number of Arrested
  + Commander
  + Cadre
  + Sympathizer
  + Unknown
* Number of Surrendered
  + Commander
  + Cadre
  + Sympathizer
  + Unknown
* Incident Summary

Notes

News Reports with Multiple Events

While some news reports will only provide information on a single event, many news reports will share news of multiple incidents. Sometimes, these will need to be coded as separate events, and sometimes they will need to be coded within the same event. Consider the following examples:

* A news report details an attack by Maoists in 2 different districts on the same day. In this case, the attacks should be coded as independent events.
* A news report details an attack by Maoists, and a separate security operation that led to arrests, on the same day and in the same district. In this case, both attacks should be coded as independent events.
* A news report outlines an attack by Maoists that included an assault on a police station and burning police vehicles. These events should be coded as two types of targets (see below), but they should be part of the same event because they were actions that were carried out during the same attack.

Think carefully about whether or not the report suggests that there are two separate events, or multiple actions as part of the same event.

News Reports with Non-Events

Some news reports will provide information related to Maoist activity that does not translate into an actual violence incident. For example, the news may report that the Chief Minister of a state announces a new surrender initiative, or increased police funding. Alternatively, the news may report that the Maoists are calling for an All-India strike to protest a particular state policy. While these may be interesting, they are not violent events and thus should not be coded. Instead, keep track of these non-incidents in a separate file – to be checked out by the group or Prof. Teitelbaum later. Changes in policy, announcements by Maoists or Security forces, news reports of major police operations, protests etc. are examples of pertinent non-events.

How to Assign Incident Number

Each incident should be assigned a 10 digit incident number. To assign an incident number, use the following format: State number+mmddyy+ 2 digit event number.

Use the following numbers for state numbers:

01 Andhra Pradesh

02 Bihar

03 Chhattisgarh

04 Goa

05 Gujarat

06 Haryana

07 Himachal Pradesh

08 Jharkhand

09 Karnataka

10 Kerala

11 Madhya Pradesh

12 Maharashtra

13 Delhi

14 Odisha

15 Punjab

16 Rajasthan

17 Tamil Nadu

18 Telangana

19 Uttar Pradesh

20 Uttarakhand

21 West Bengal

The first 2 digits of any incident number must be based on the state where the incident occurred. The next 6 digits should be the date the incident occurred, in the mmddyy format. The final 2 digit event number should be coded based on the number of events that occurred on that date in that state. *So for example, if 2 incidents occurred in Bihar on Jan 8th, 2015, the first incident number would be 0201081501, and the second incident number would be 0201081502*. It is likely that most dates would only have one event occur. In all these cases, the incidence number should end in 01.

Variable Descriptions

(1) Type of Perpetrator

* Security
* Maoist
* Unknown
* Non-Maoist Armed Group

The type of perpetrator should be clearly identified in the news report. If the report is not clear, then the type of perpetrator should be marked unknown. Once the type is marked unknown, then the target type should also be marked unknown. For example: consider a news report claiming that the “maoists and security forces exchanged fire today in Dantewada district.” In this example, it is not clear who initiated the violence. So in this case, both the perpetrator and the target should be marked unknown.

Bottom of Form

(2) First Action Type

* Armed Assault – broad category for an attack
* Hijacking/Kidnapping
* Bombing
* Facility/Infrastructure Attack – A action that led to attack on property or infrastructure
* Surrender – A Maoist action that led to surrender(s) to security forces
* Arrest – A security operation that led to arrest(s)
* Seizure – A security operation that led to seizure of weapons, cash or other strategic goods
* Unknown
* None

As the note on multiple events on Page 2 suggests, many news reports will suggest events in which multiple activities happened. In case an event included multiple actions, please identify both actions. Please code the events in the order in which they are reported on in the news report. For example, if the report says that the police made an arrest and also seized Maoist weapons (conduct a search and seizure) in the same operation. In this case you would code the arrest as the first action type and seizure as the second action type. Or a group of Maoist insurgents might fire upon a police station and also destroy local polling booths during the course of an attack on a village. In this case armed assault would be the first action type and facility attack would be the second action type.

If a report mentions more than two action types, please flag this event for further discussion and review.

(3) Second Action Type

* Armed Assault – broad category for an attack
* Hijacking/Kidnapping
* Bombing
* Facility/Infrastructure Attack – A action that led to attack on property or infrastructure
* Surrender – A Maoist action that led to surrender(s) to security forces
* Arrest – A security operation that led to arrest(s)
* Seizure – A security operation that led to seizure of weapons, cash or other strategic goods
* Unknown
* None

Please follow the rules about multiple actions outlined above.

(3) Third Action Type

(4) Was the Action Successful? Or was it foiled/aborted, etc?

* Yes
* No
* Unknown?

In most news reports, the action will be successful. Only failed or aborted attempts should be coded as not successful. Typically these will be failed bombing attempts, e.g. the bomb was planted but did not go off.

(5) Total Number of Perpetrators:

* Unknown
* If known, number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In most cases, news reports do not report the number of perpetrators, in which case this item will be coded as ‘unknown.’ Sometimes the reports will give approximate figures (a ‘dozen’ or ‘dozens’ for example). In such cases be as specific as the reports allow you to be.

(6) First Target Type

* No Target (When surrender)
* Government Infrastructure (e.g. government building, courts, roads, bridges, government owned companies)
* Government Officials (politicians or government bureaucrats, judges, pradhans, Sarpanches, MLAs)
* Security – Police, military
* Civilians (Police informers)
* Private Property
* NGO
* Maoists
* Mining Company
* Unknown

Many news reports will also cover incidents in which there were multiple types of targets. In these cases, please identify both types of targets in the order in which they were reported. For instance, if Maoists attack a group of police officers, and also destroy polling booths, the first target should be coded as ‘security’ and the second target ‘government infrastructure.’ If the perpetrator type was unknown, then first target type should also be unknown. Mining companies have been highlighted as a separate category because they are especially important targets for the insurgents. In the case that the perpetrators are security personnel, then the target can be assumed to be the Maoists.

If a report mentions more than two target types, please flag this event for further discussion and review.

(7) Second Target Type

* No Target
* Government Infrastructure (Govt building, courts, , roads, bridges, government owned companies)
* Government Officials (politicians or government bureaucrats, judges, pradhans, Sarpanches, MLAs)
* Security – Police, military
* Civilians
* Private Property
* NGO
* Maoists
* Mining Company
* Unknown

Please look at the guidelines for the previous question.

First Civilian Type

Second Civilian Type

(8) Fatality Information:

Total Number of Fatalities: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Government official: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Civilian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Security: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Maoist: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This should only be filled out when there have been reported fatalities. Take care when coding the identity of the casualties. For example, if the report uses a Hindi title to identify the dead or injured, e.g. ‘sarpanch’ (village council head) or ‘jawan’ (infantrymen or constable) and you are not familiar with that term, then look it up before coding.

(9) Injuries Information:

Total Number of Injuries: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Government official: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Civilian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Security: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Maoist: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This should only be filled out when there have been reported injuries. As with the identity of the fatalities, be sure to take care when coding the identity of the injured.

(10) Was there any reported property damage?

* Yes
* No
* Unknown?

Total Value of Property Damage: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This should only be filled out when there has been reported property damage. Be as specific as possible.

(11) Number of Hostages or Kidnap Victims: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This should only be filled out when there have been reported hostages. Be as specific as possible.

(12) Number of Arrests: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This should only be filled out when there have been reported arrests.

Type of Arrested Insurgent:

* Commander: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Cadre: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Sympathizer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Unknown: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The language on arrests and surrenders in news reports can be vague, particularly on the identity on type of Maoist surrender or arrest. Here are examples of how some of them can be written in news reports, and how they should be coded:

* 3 "maoists surrendered" - classified as **cadre**
* 1 "divisional committee member surrendered" or “member of area committee arrested” - classified as **commander**
* 1 "arms supplier arrested" - classified as **sympathizer**
* 5 "persons arrested in connection with maoist attack" - classified as **unknown**
* "police busted a maoist camp." no mention of arrests, or seizures, injuries – enter ‘0’

(13) Number of Surrenders: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This should only be filled out when there have been reported surrenders.

Type of Surrendered Insurgent:

* Commander: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Cadre: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Sympathizer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Unknown: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The previous note from arrests applies here as well.

(14) Incident Summary:

Please fill out a full 1-2 sentence description of the incident summary. Mostly, this can be cut and pasted verbatim from the SATP website.