

PUBLIC

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"Disappearance"

2 July 1998

**NEPAL** Mohan Prasad Oli, aged 31, school teacher

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There is grave concern for the safety of Mohan Prasad Oli, from Dhakeri, Mahatepuri village in Banke District, after he was abducted by police from his home at around 11:45 pm on 12 June 1998.

According to his wife, seven or eight armed police officers in uniform woke them up and took Mohan Prasad Oli away in a white van. Neighbours alleged that the van was travelling with its headlights switched off and did not have number plates, although the latter could not be confirmed.

When enquiries were made the following day by the Chairman of the village development committee (VDC) and several neighbours to Kuhlarpur, Banke Aghaiya and Dhakeri police stations concerning Mohan Oli, police denied any knowledge of him. The Chief District Officer of Banke district, Nepalgunj, has also denied knowledge of his arrest to the Chairman of the VDC.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Mohan Oli's "disappearance" occurs in the context of ongoing police operations in the Mid-Western region of Nepal, apparently aimed at "flushing out of the jungle hide-outs" armed members of the Communist Party of Nepal (CPN) (Maoist).

Following the declaration of a "people's war" by the CPN (Maoist) in February 1996, there have been widespread reports of human rights violations, including extrajudicial executions, "disappearances", torture and widespread arbitrary arrests and detentions, mainly in the Mid-Western region.

A recent upsurge of these violations follows the start of a large-scale police operation reportedly initiated on 26 May which has resulted in an alarming deterioration in the country's human rights situation.

Initial reports indicate that many civilians have been among those reported killed and that police appear to have resorted to deliberate killings as an alternative to arresting armed members of the CPN (Maoist). Members of the CPN have also been responsible for deliberate killings and other grave human rights abuses.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or your own language:**

- expressing serious concern at the "disappearance" of Mohan Prasad Oli after he was arrested by police on 12 June 1998;
- urging that the government swiftly investigate his fate or whereabouts;
- urging that, if there are no recognisable criminal charges against him, he be immediately and unconditionally released;
- expressing grave concern at the deteriorating human rights situation in Nepal which includes an upsurge in extrajudicial executions, "disappearances", torture, arbitrary arrests and detentions in the context of ongoing police operations against armed members of the CPN (Maoist);
- appealing for an immediate halt to human rights violations.

#### **APPEALS TO:**

Rt. Hon Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala

Prime Minister  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Singha Durbar  
Kathmandu  
Nepal

**Telegrams: Prime Minister, Kathmandu, Nepal**  
**Faxes: + 977 1 22 77 65**  
**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

Hon. Govinda Raj Joshi  
Minister of Home Affairs  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
Singha Durbar  
Kathmandu  
Nepal

**Telegrams: Minister Home Affairs, Kathmandu, Nepal**  
**Faxes: + 977 1 22 51 56**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

Hon. Achyut Krishna Kharel  
Inspector General of Police  
Police Headquarters  
GPO Box 407  
Naxal  
Kathmandu  
Nepal

**Telegrams: Inspector Police Headquarters, Kathmandu, Nepal**  
**Faxes: + 977 1 41 55 93**  
**Salutation: Dear Inspector General**

**COPIES TO:** to diplomatic representatives of Nepal accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 13 August 1998.