

**PUBLIC**

**AI Index: ASA 31/175/2004**

**14 October 2004**

**Further Information on UA 287/04 (ASA 31/172/2004, 12 October 2004) Possible "disappearance"/fear for safety**

**NEPAL**

**Ram Bahadur Parajuli (m), aged 50, street vendor  
Govinda Raj Rai (m), aged 37, managing director of a magazine**

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Govinda Raj Rai was released on 12 October. He had not been ill-treated in custody.

There is no further information about Ram Bahadur Parajuli, who was arrested by security forces personnel in plain clothes on 1 October, as he sold cigarettes on the street in Ason Tole, Kathmandu.

Govinda Raj Rai, who is the managing director of the monthly magazine *Asian Star*, was arrested at his home on 7 October. The men who took him away said they needed him for questioning, and would bring him back in a few hours.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:**

- welcoming the release of Govinda Raj Rai;
- expressing concern for the safety of Ram Bahadur Parajuli, arrested on 1 October;
- asking the authorities to reveal where he is held, and give him immediate access to his family, a lawyer of his own choosing, and any medical attention he may need;
- urging them to ensure that he is treated humanely while he remains in custody;
- calling for him to be released immediately and unconditionally unless he is to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence.

**APPEALS TO: (faxes may be switched off outside office hours, GMT+5½)**

Lieutenant Colonel Raju Nepali  
Head Royal Nepal Army Human Rights Cell  
Royal Nepalese Army Headquarters  
Singha Durbar  
Kathmandu, Nepal

**Fax: + 977 1 4 226 292 / 245 020 (If someone answers the telephone please ask them in English to switch on the fax machine, and resend the fax).**

**Salutation: Dear Lieutenant Colonel**

Appeals on behalf of Ram Bahadur Parajuli:  
Chief District Officer, Kathmandu district  
Baman Prasad Neupane  
Office of the Chief District Officer,  
Kathmandu District, Nepal

**Fax: +977 1 4 267 691**

**Salutation: Dear Chief District Officer**

**COPIES 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 5 November 2004.