



**UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEPAL**



Press Release – 2 July 2007

OHCHR concerned about killing of CPN-M cadres and other violence in the Terai.

OHCHR is deeply concerned about the spate of targeted killings of CPN-M cadres in the Terai. The killing of Ram Prabesh Sah in Rautahat on 1 July brings the total to eight since 4 June. In most cases, factions of the *Janatantrik Terai Mukti Morcha* (JTMM) have reportedly claimed responsibility. The increasing violence, including these killings, is deepening the climate of fear and intimidation in certain parts of the Terai. The killings also highlight the need to take measures to prevent acts of violence, which are having a serious impact on the security and human rights situation. In particular, State authorities have the obligation to protect the population, through means which are fully respectful of human rights.

The recent killings of the CPN-M cadres and other acts of violence - including the killings of 27 CPN-M cadres in Gaur on 21 March and the deaths which occurred in the context of the *Madheshi Andolan* in early 2007- must be fully investigated and those responsible brought to justice. The on-going violence, including killings committed with impunity, risk seriously undermining the peace and electoral process and must be halted.