



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



## **Press Release**

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### **OHCHR-Nepal begins visits to army barracks**

**17 August 2005**

Kathmandu, 17 August 2005 – Mr. Ian Martin, the Representative in Nepal of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, announced that human rights monitors had begun visits to army barracks. A team of five monitors had visited the Chhauni barracks on Monday, 15 August, where the Mahabir and Jagadal Battalions are stationed, and yesterday a team of two monitors had visited the army barracks in Maharagunj, where the Bhainat Nath and Yuddha Bhainab Battalions are stationed. In accordance with the OHCHR agreement with the Government the visits were conducted without any prior notice. The monitors interviewed nine detainees in the custody of the Jagadal Battalion, seven detainees in the custody of the Mahabir Battalion and two detainees in the custody of the Bhainab Nath Battalion. The teams had unimpeded access during the inspection and all 18 detainees present were interviewed in private.

Mr. Martin noted that visits by OHCHR monitors to police cells and prisons had begun with a visit to the Hanuman Dhoka Police Station on 4 August 2005.

His Majesty's Government's Commitment on the Implementation of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law states that any detainee shall be held in an officially recognized place of detention. OHCHR has urged that detainees be promptly transferred out of RNA custody and priority be given to the transfer of long-term detainees.

The findings of the detention visits will be presented to the authorities and reflected in the public reports of the High Commissioner.

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