



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



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**OHCHR-Nepal urges Home Minister to ensure accountability for killing of  
Ram Hari Shrestha**

OHCHR-Nepal is extremely concerned that six months after five persons were charged in relation to the disappearance and killing of Ram Hari Shrestha in Chitwan District only one individual has been arrested, the Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Richard Bennett, told Home Minister Bam Dev Gautam in a meeting Monday. Some of the others charged are believed to be inside the cantonment of the Maoist Army in Shaktikhor, Chitwan.

Two letters sent by Chitwan District Police to the Maoist Army's 3<sup>rd</sup> Division requesting an interview with 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander Kali Bahadur Kham ('Bibidh') have not been answered. Also, while the leadership of the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M) has expressed its commitment to take stern action against those responsible, it appears local leaders have yet to extend cooperation to Chitwan Police to enable them to carry out their investigation and arrest those charged.

The Representative recommended that the report of the probe commission that was submitted to the Government on 16 July be made public and available for police and prosecutors to complete their investigations.

The Representative also expressed concern about the non-implementation of recommendations made to the Government by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC); the Minister replied that he has undertaken to act on the requests of the NHRC.

"My Office notes that Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda has repeatedly expressed his Government's commitment to end impunity and respect all human rights, most recently on Human Rights Day, 10 December. Holding accountable those who tortured and killed Ram Hari Shrestha would send a welcome signal that the Government intends to deliver on that commitment," said OHCHR-Nepal Representative Richard Bennett.

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