

Press Release

27 August 2011

We, the signatories below, are gravely concerned over the conditions in recent proposal and plan of peace and constitution making process as forwarded by UCPN (Maoists).

The proposal of UCPN (Maoists) to withdraw all criminal cases relating to the conflict, canceling court decisions and granting general amnesty to all the convicted is utterly condemnable. This proposal goes contrary to peace agreement, interim constitution and Nepal's obligation under international law.

One of the activities in current peace process is to end impunity by carrying out impartial investigation into and bringing perpetrators of serious human rights violations to justice. But the very opposite is in practice and impunity is being institutionalized. The latest proposal by Maoists will terminate the objectives of all transitional justice mechanisms like Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Disappearance Commission.

A party committed to bring peace process to its logical conclusion by leading the government should take responsibility to investigate into all human rights violations and serious crimes and bring perpetrators to justice. Rather than fulfilling this commitment, it is trying to institutionalize impunity by granting amnesty to the convicted.

It is mandatory to address human rights violations and serious crimes committed in the past to make the current peace process successful. Peace process would be stunted, victims would be deprived of justice, and impunity would be entrenched if it is not addressed. Therefore, we demand that UCPN (Maoists) withdraw the proposal at once and we also call on political parties, civil society and stakeholders to raise objections to the proposal.

Signatories:

1. Kapil Shrestha
2. Sushil Pyakurel
3. Kanakmani Dixit
4. Subodh Pyakurel
5. Baburam Giri
6. Govinda Sharma Bandi
7. Hari Fuyal
8. Tikaram Bhattarai
9. Birendra Thapaliya
10. Mandira Sharma
11. Dr. Kedar Narsingh KC
12. Charan Prasain
13. Amuda Shrestha