

LETTER

**THE KILLING OF TETE**

Peoples' Union for Democratic Rights, Delhi (PUDR) unequivocally condemns the killing of Bihar policeman Lukas Tete by the Maoists. PUDR considers this act as brutal and violative of all democratic norms and harmful to the peoples and democratic movements.

PUDR once again reiterates that, if the war is imposed, then the warring parties involved should abide by the Geneva Convention and Protocol III (dealing with non-international conflicts) and other Covenants which govern the conduct of war/s. Once a person is taken into custody, by any warring side, it becomes the bounden responsibility of the captors to ensure safety of the person in their custody.

PUDR has also consistently maintained that the Indian state should seriously engage in dialogue with the Maoists. However, the Indian state and especially the Home Ministry has shown very little signs of seriously engaging any sort of dialogue with the Maoists. This is clearly revealed in the incidence related to the murder of Cherukri Rajkumar @ Azad, with whom the Home Minister and his emissary were in the process of negotiation.

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