

## Maoists behead two in Jharkhand

In a gruesome incident of instant retribution, Maoist guerrillas in Jharkhand allegedly beheaded two people after finding them guilty of extortion and rape and dumped their bodies on a highway.

According to police, Hero Singh Munda, 55 and Rajesh Singh, 35, were killed after Maoist rebels held a 'jan adalat', or people's court, at Arki, about 40 km from here, and declared them guilty of rape and of extorting money in the name of the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist).

Both had been picked up from their homes Sunday. Their throats were slit and they were decapitated after the 'jan adalat' gave them death sentence for their crimes.

The guerrillas then threw the bodies on the national highway where the police recovered them.

The Maoist kangaroo court also punished four people charged with petty crimes like theft but freed them after a thorough beating.

In another development, two Maoists described as hardcore by the police were arrested. They were described Karlos, alias Ashish, and his girlfriend, Varsha.

Police said Karlos was a CPI-Maoist commander in charge of five districts.

Maoist rebels are active in 16 of the 22 districts of the state. Nearly 830 people, including 320 security personnel, have been killed in the last six years in Maoist related violence.

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