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report 2001

We are in the final phase of the planned programmes 1998-2001. Many of the important achievements during these three years have come into effect as a result of the INSEC led movement. The Human Rights Commission has been formed. Minimum wage for the agricultural labourers has been fixed by the government. The Kamaiyas have been made free. Our role to pressurise the government for implementation of these decisions is the next challenge for us. The Kamaiyas have freed legally, but they are still compelled to be in bondage for livelihood. Many of the agricultural labourers do not know that the fixation of minimum wage is for their sake.

The peace dialogue with the Maoists by the government was another important step during the year 2001. This step, however, could not reach to its objective, which is very unfortunate for Nepal and the Nepalese. Dialogue is inevitable, although it may take time to convince both the government and the rebellions themselves. Our role to pressurise both on this feat will continue in the days to come.

We are in difficult situation at present. The government is unable to comply with its obligations towards its citizens, to the international human rights issues as well as the humanitarian laws. Civil society organisations, human rights community and National Human Rights Commission have reiterated their request for the establishment of peace to the government and to the Maoists also.

We appeal the international communities to support our endeavours so that the Maoists and the government both would come to the peace process, once again.

This is not only the issue of agreement; rather we need to exert our effort on saving our beautiful country and her innocent peace loving people.

INSEC, founded in 1988 as an independent, non-profit and non-partisan human rights organisation aims to cater human rights education and awareness to the grassroots people. Its central office is located in Capital City, 'Kathmandu' having 5 regional offices and 50 local affiliated networks in various districts.

INSEC conducts different activities for protection and promotion of human rights through advocacy, lobby, training, campaigns and projects at national, regional and grassroots level.

Methodologies of INSEC activities are based on RAO (Research-Action-Organisation) model. First it conducts research to find out the need of activities and then according to need basis it operates its actions through organisational back up.

INSEC draws its framework of reference primarily from:

- the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948
- the Kathmandu Declaration, 1997 (adopted by the First National Human Rights Conference organised by INSEC), and



- the pasang Lhamu Pledge, 1996 (adopted by INSEC-held First National Women's Conference).

INSEC has working relations with various types of organisations. Jails, local administration, police, courts and parliament are the examples of such government organisations. Danida, Norad are foreign government organisations, ILO, UNICEF, Committee on the Arbitrary Detention, Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights etc are UN agencies. Peasants' organisations, trade unions, journalists' federation, women's organisation etc are mass-based public organisations. INSEC has also working relation with numerous non-government organisations, for example, Amensty



Guests of Prakash Memorial Day 2001

A talk programme on *Ways to Solution of the Maoists Problem and Responsibility of the Political Parties* was also organised on the occasion.

International, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-Asia), IMADR, ASI, SAFHR, SAACS, ASPBAE and so on.

INSEC is transparent for execution of its activities and dealings. It is accountable to the people, its network organisations and funding partners.

After the declaration of the state of emergency on 26 November 2001 and promulgation of the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Control and Punishment Ordinance (TADO), 2001, the fundamental rights provisioned in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, 1990 have been suspended. In this present crisis, INSEC is facing difficulty in continuing its activities and duties on protecting and promoting human rights through advocacy, lobby, training, education, information campaigns and monitoring the situation of human rights in Nepal.

Due to the suspension of the fundamental rights some of the INSEC's regular programmes were postponed and stopped for some time. However, INSEC dares continuing and resuming activities relating to protection and promotion the human rights of the Nepalese people. On 26 December 2001, it organised a symposium on 'Civil Rights during State of Emergency.' Scholars from various sectors had attended the symposium. Similarly INSEC published a briefing, 'One Month of Emergency' that contained incidents of grave human rights violation by both government and Maoist side. This document had also highlighted the incidents caused by both the state and non-state parties violating international humanitarian laws and the Constitution.

PROGRAMME IN NATIONAL LEVEL

INSEC continued implementing its programmes planned for 1998-2001. During the reporting period, INSEC participated in protest programmes in Kamaiya region as well as in Kathmandu and other regions to create pressure on the government to provide adequate land and housing facilities for the freed Kamaiyas. INSEC co-ordinated various protest programmes jointly organised by various human rights organisations in Kathmandu to create pressure for free and compulsory primary education on the occasion of national education day and to create pressure for the right to information on 13th June.

INSEC participated in protest programmes in Saptari organised against the social boycott of the 'untouchables' by the so-called high caste people. *Dalit* and human right organisations, including INSEC, handed over a memorandum to the Prime Minister against the *dalit* boycott in Siraha. They also held a sit-in in Bhadrakali, Kathmandu and demanded action against the perpetrator.



A workshop on 'Present Situation of Caste Discrimination : Prospect of Liberation and Challenges'

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Participation of the women in group discussion

The Alliance Nepal (INSEC is a member) took part on fact finding mission of the Chitawan firing incident. Likewise, INSEC regional office took part in a fact-finding mission of the firing incident in Nepalgunj jail. It publicised its reports through a press conference. INSEC participated in various programmes organised for the protection and promotion of human rights and issued various press statements from time to time.

INSEC reporters providing information from grassroots level has been a reliable source of information. Various news media including the government agencies have cited the news sent by INSEC reporters on various occasions. During this reporting period, a police inspector in Dolakha District and a local leader in Jumla District both abducted by Maoists were handed over in presence of INSEC representatives. This process is continuing in other places also.

INSEC has organised a national conference of elected women in Kathmandu on 28-29 March. The conference adopted various strategies to increase women's participation in politics. It focused

on the areas of families and communities, capacity building of elected women, education to local body and families on constitutional rights. It also focused on the need of 30 percent women candidacy provision and women's involvement in policy making level, elimination of cross-border criminal activities in the period of election and so on.

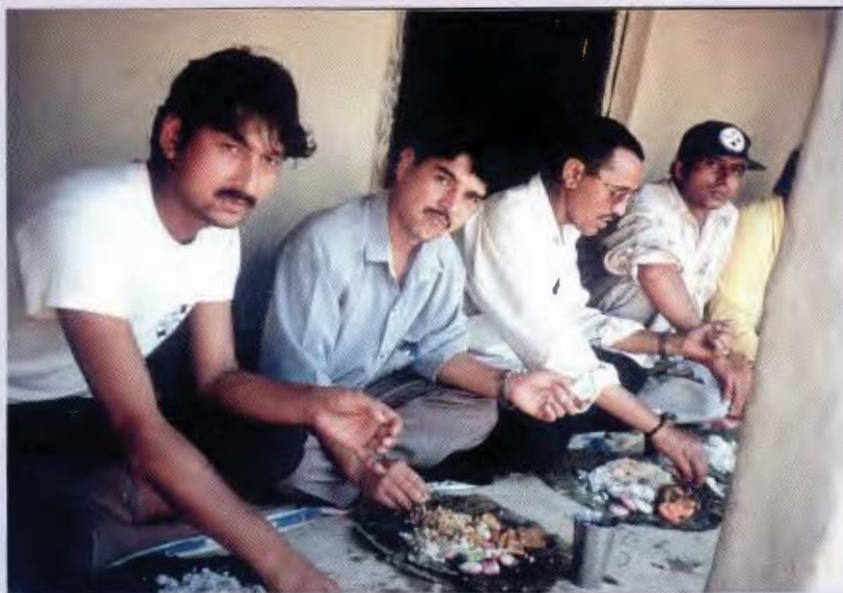
The Alliance Nepal organised an interaction programme to discuss on the report of *Narayanhi Massacre* as well as the Security Regulations brought forward by the government on 24th June.

A Workshop on Conflict Resolution and Peace Building was organised on 25-29 June with participation of political representatives, human rights activists, journalists and representatives of *dalit* organisations. This programme was jointly organised by INSEC, Centre for Economic and Social Development (CESOD) and National Peace Campaign (NPC).

The Asia-Pacific NGO Networking Meeting was held in Kathmandu on 27-29 April 2001 in preparation for the World Conference against Racism (WCAR). Over 300 representatives participated to discuss on issues concerning racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance thereby to prepare an NGO agenda and positions for the World Conference Against Racism to be held in Durban, South Africa from August 31-September 8, 2001. INSEC, South Asian Forum for Human Rights (SAFHR) and International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR) co-hosted the meeting, which adopted with some additions and amendments the declaration adopted by a similar meeting held in Tehran, Iran, during 18-19 February 2001. The meeting adopted 'WCAR Asia Pacific NGO Declaration', a 171-point document.

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION (HRE) PROGRAMMES

Forty-eight Local Networks affiliated to INSEC continued human rights education and literacy classes along with other HRE activities. Other two networks have launched human rights awareness programmes. Twenty-two networks, including 6 in freed Kamaiya areas, and 7 in the oppressed communities in Terai and far-western region, have launched a year-long regular class on HRE and literacy programmes in 67 centres where 1966 persons including 1519 women participated. Other 26 networks launched 6-months regular classes on HRE and awareness programmes in 52 centres



A common feast (Sahabhaj) organised by HR activists to oppose the protest on Chamar caste people who were outcast as being the low caste, Lahan, Siraha District

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where 1584 persons including 1201 women participated. INSEC conducted two training programmes for facilitators of human rights literacy programmes and network members in July 2000 where 75 persons, including 33 women, participated. Similarly, two refresher training were organised in January 2001 for them. INSEC conducted four regional interaction programmes on Human Rights Education National Plan of Action in September where 178 persons including 33 women participated. INSEC conducted two training programmes for 69 facilitators of human rights education and awareness classes in November which included 31 women. Networks held a total of 378 activities on human rights awareness; 15942 persons including 6685 females participated in them. These human rights awareness activities helped to raise the level of awareness on human rights of general people. During this reporting period, 47 symposiums on human rights education on the professional groups, 78 campaigns on human rights issues, 36 activities of human rights defence were held. Likewise, district networks organised 46 Prakash memorial days, 47 Human Rights days, 49 women days, 36 people's movement days, 4-democracy days, 4-martyr's days, 5-constitution days and 26 other awareness activities.

INSEC Staff
Convincing
people to
sign on a
commitment
for Free and
Compulsory
Education
Programme



RADIO PROGRAMME ON HUMAN RIGHTS

INSEC aired 52 Radio Programmes on Human Rights Education from Radio Nepal. A total of 396 listeners clubs, including 54 in jails, have been actively participating in the programmes. The clubs have organised various competitions and talk programmes to raise awareness on human rights among the general people. The Second National Conference of Human Rights Education Radio Listners' Clubs was organised in Pokhara on September 6-7 with participation of 288 listners' club members including 68 women. The conference elected an 11 member central committee. It also adopted a Pokhara Declaration. A 5-day 'Training of Trainers' (TOT) on human rights was organised for the central committee members of the listeners' clubs in Kathmandu.



Second National Convention of the National Radio Listeners Club