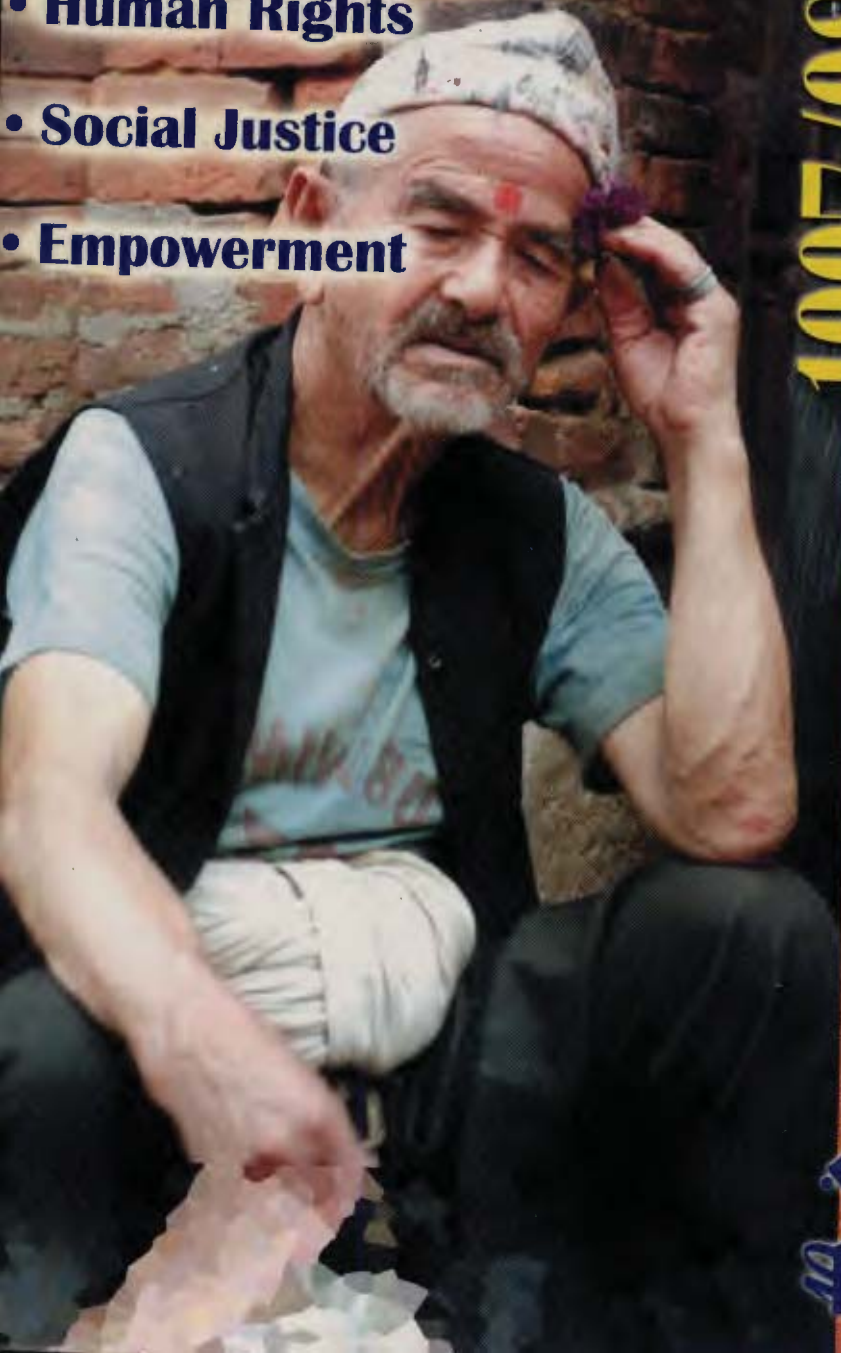


- Human Rights
- Social Justice
- Empowerment



Annual Report

1997/98

The year 1998 marks an important milestone in the history of human rights movement. Fifty years ago, a historic document—the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—was adopted "to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom." This year has been an opportunity to assess whether the human kind has lived up to this promise made half a century earlier. This also is a significant year for INSEC, which marks its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, an inspiring coincidence.

As in the earlier days, human rights education and social awareness programmes, human rights documentation and monitoring, strengthening of human rights library and documentation and bonded labour (kamaiya) emancipation programmes continued this year too. We have initiated a new programme which aims at enabling torture victims to claim torture compensation as stipulated in the Torture Compensation Act.

Our democracy is yet to be institutionalised, similar is the fate facing the civil society. We, therefore, think that our basic commitment should lie in checking the areas of vulnerabilities to the both. A few of such bitter experiences occurred when the government of Nepal proposed to introduce a fatal bill in the name of controlling terrorist activities. The reporting period also saw an increase in the events of attacks and murders as a result of the CPN (Maoist) declared "Peoples War" and the Government offensive against the Maoists in the proclaimed aim of "controlling criminal activities." We strongly reacted to this through numerous protests, rallies and other pressure programmes. 1997/98 has thus been a period of moderate achievement.

We look forward to keeping you informed of our initiatives next year. In the meantime, we would like to extend our gratefulness to all of you—individuals and institutions—who have supported to all our works. Your assistance has been invaluable recorded.

Sushil Pyakurel  
Chairman





# Organisations for Empowerment

3

INSEC has made its distinct identity in Nepalese human rights movement. The identity thrives on its vision that empowerment means organisation building. INSEC is not a single organisation, this is rather an organisation of organisations, and a synthesis of a number of grassroots initiated human rights movements.

INSEC works for human rights, social justice and empowerment through a permanent movement structure. Its affiliates, independent human rights organisations, now numbering 39, take this INSEC commitment down to grassroots people for whom the organisation has been a necessity.

The vision has already stood a test of time. It has marked a success story by giving bonded labours (known as *kamaiyas*) a powerful organisation—*Kamaiya Liberation Forum (KLF)*. It took four-year hard efforts to organise these bonded labours; to teach them the meaning of organisation, unity and convince that unity is an only power to fight vices and crimes inherited in a society. A hundred thousand bonded labours now put up their campaigns and concern for human rights-- their liberation from bondage-- through KLF. It is thanks to the hard work of our colleagues in the field, and support and encouragement from various friendly organisations abroad that the KLF has come into being.

INSEC has another story of success. It has been able to organise school children to impart the message of human rights and social justice to children and communities through school children. Child Rights Awareness Groups (CAGs) have been set up in selected 38 districts, to organise children for joint campaigns on child rights issues as highlighted in CROC. The children take part in school programmes such as a quiz, speech contest, as well as community programmes such as cleaning campaigns in societies. They also educate their peers devoid of formal schooling about the rights of the child.



## 4 During Ten Years ...

INSEC pioneered social services ten years ago, in 1989, the year which saw the turning point in Nepalese history to be marked as the final year of the Panchayat autocratic regime. After ten-years INSEC has been in national forefront as a non-government human rights institution. In the year 1998, it has marked its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary coinciding with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. During the last ten years, INSEC has initiated a number of activities.

### 1. Human Rights Education through Literacy

INSEC pioneered its activities in the informal sector with the cart-pushers in Kathmandu. The cart-pushers were given a health check-up facilities, and awareness on health education.

### 2. Voters Awareness Programmes

INSEC undertook a voters awareness programme prior to the first general elections in various 20 districts. Campaigns, rallies, election posters and pamphlets were developed to give the grassroots people a message that they take part in elections and caste their votes to a candidate who would be responsive to their needs.



### 3. Women Conferences

INSEC has so far organised four conferences on women, the first in Nepalgunj in 1993 (with socio-culturally neglected women); the second in Dhankuta in 1995 (with political victims); the third, a national conference in Kathmandu in 1996. The national conference has adopted a Pasang Lhamu Pledge, now being used as a guide of INSEC women programmes. The fourth

conference has just been concluded in Kathmandu with elected women representatives.

### 4. Human Rights Year Book

Through Human Rights Year Book INSEC has been documenting the instances of human rights abuses in the country from 1992. The book in series compiles every bit of information relating to human rights violation committed by both the state and non-state actors. So far, 6 series have been published, the 7<sup>th</sup> will come out in April 1999.

## 5. Election Observation

National Election Observation Committee (NEOC) was formed in 1991 for the effective election monitoring. INSEC, as one of the active partners of NEOC, has strived to meaningful election monitoring and factual reporting then on.



## 6. Kamaiya Liberation Programme

In 1992 INSEC launched a study to identify the crux about the Kamaiya system in Nepal. The study found the system to be one of the contemporary forms of slavery with many kamaiyas trapped into bondage. Illiteracy and ignorance were a few of the causes sustaining the system. INSEC therefore decided to launch a Kamaiya Awareness Programme.

## 7 Radio Education Programme

For the last three years, INSEC has been running a weekly radio human rights education programme through Radio Nepal. This programme aims to inform the people of human rights provisions, procedures, new developments on the subject and the way the people can realise and entertain their rights. Similar programme is also being run through the Sagarmatha FM in Kathmandu.

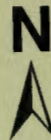
## 8. Other programmes

INSEC has developed many programmes concentrated on children. A major focus has been placed on the children of kamaiyas who are deprived of basic education. INSEC has been launching informal education programme for out of school kamaiya children with a view to providing them with basic education so that they are prepared for enrolment in government schools.

Recently Child Awareness Groups (CAGs) have been set up in many schools in the country to organise school children and launch various human rights awareness programmes focused on children through them. Women Awareness Groups have also been set up to facilitate the children organised in such groups. These women are encouraged to take care of environmental cleanliness, sanitation and so on.



NEPAL

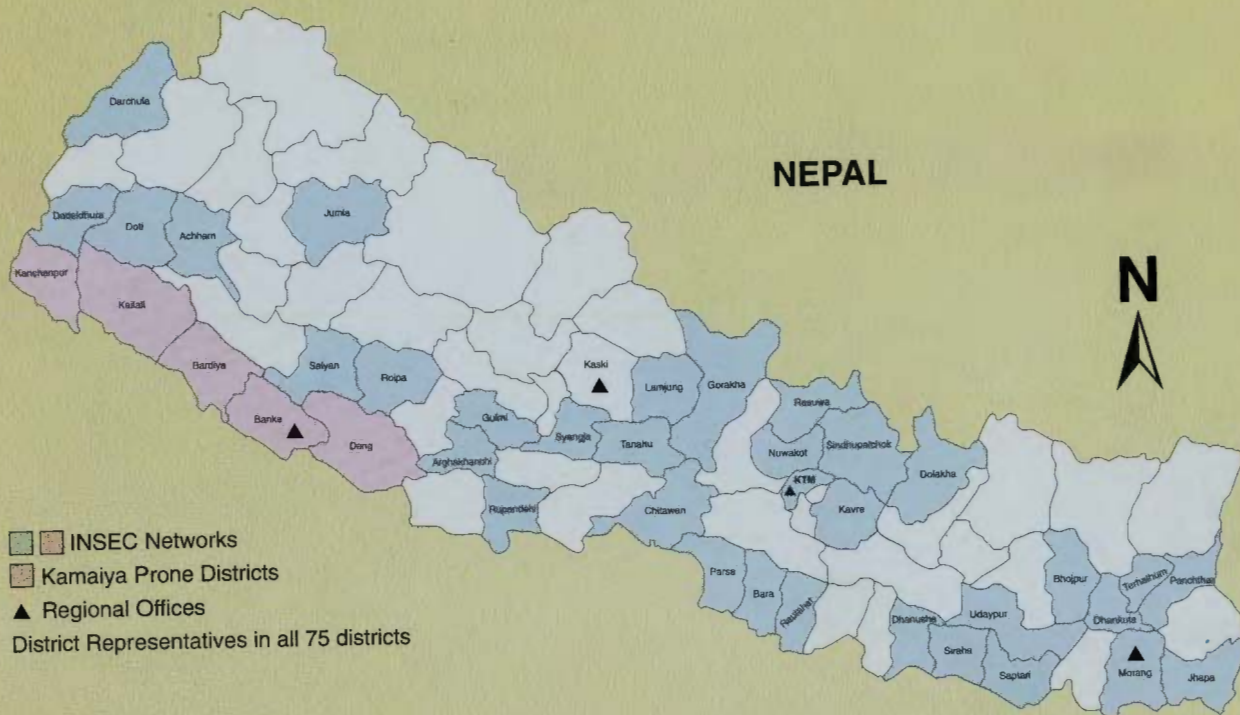


INSEC Networks

Kamaiya Prone Districts

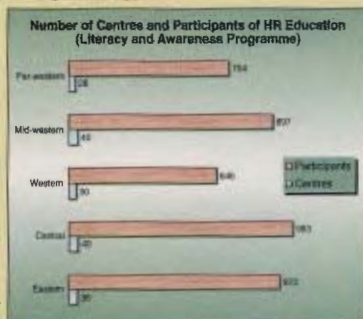
▲ Regional Offices

District Representatives in all 75 districts



## 1. Programme on Grassroots Level through INSEC & its Networks

- 1650 HR Advocacy Programmes held (training, awareness, debate, workshop, celebrations, jail visits etc) in 39 districts
- HR Year Book Evaluation Seminars in 12 districts
- HR Education through Literacy (184 classes) in 38 districts
- Legal Literacy Programme (4 classes) in Kailali
- UDHR programme (88 centres) in 9 languages in 23 districts
- Child rights education in school (190 schools) in 38 districts
- Kamaiya Child Non-Formal Education Programme (30 classes) in 5 districts
- Kamaiya Child Formal Education Programme (42 Schools) in 5 districts
- Child Formal Education Programme (9 Schools) in 3 districts



## 2. Programme on Regional Level

- 5 HR Teachers Training (5 days)
- 5 HR Teachers Refresher Training ((5 days)
- 5 Workshops on Govt. School Teachers (3 days)
- 4 Symposiums on Terrorist Act. (1 day)
- 2 Regional Women Conferences (3 days)
- 2 Regional Training on Book Keeping (3 days)
- 1 Training of KLF activist
- 2 Evaluation Symposiums on Year Book 1996 (1 day)
- 2 Gatherings of District Representatives Year Book (2 days)
- 4 District Representatives' Refresher Training
- 4 Regional Interactions with networks and protest programmes.
- 4 Regional UDHR Teachers Training
- 1 Kamaiya Children Non-formal Teachers Training
- 4 Regional District Representatives Training
- 4 Regional Planning Meetings with networks
- 1 Regional Workshop on child rights awareness
- 1 Agro-child Labour Consultation Workshop
- 1 Workshop on legal provision on torture
- 1 One-month vocational training for Kamaiya children
- 1 Six-month vocational training for Kamaiya children

## 3. Programme on National Level

- Supervision & Monitoring Training
- Elected Women Representative Training
- HR Education (Radio Programme)
- Prakash Memorial Day
- Human Rights Day
- HR Year Book 1997 Release
- Workshop on women representatives
- Prakash memorial day & Prakash HR Award
- District Representatives Interaction Programme
- Trainers Training on HR Education
- Documentation Training

- 'Democratic Warrior Honour' conferred to democratic leaders (Krishna Prasad Bhattarai and Man Mohan Adhikari)
- Regional Coordinator Meeting
- Regional Network Meeting
- Research - Sampling survey in Kamaiya area
- Conducted Re-survey in Kamaiya Sector
- Research - baseline survey for an action program to be implemented among untouchables in Saptari District

#### 4. Other Activities

- Observation and monitoring on national issues/events
  - Dang Purandhara killing / Gorkha Simlepadhera killing / Tharmare killing
  - Kilo Cera two Oppression
  - Field observation in Ramechhap, Sindhuli, Kavre

#### 5. International Participation

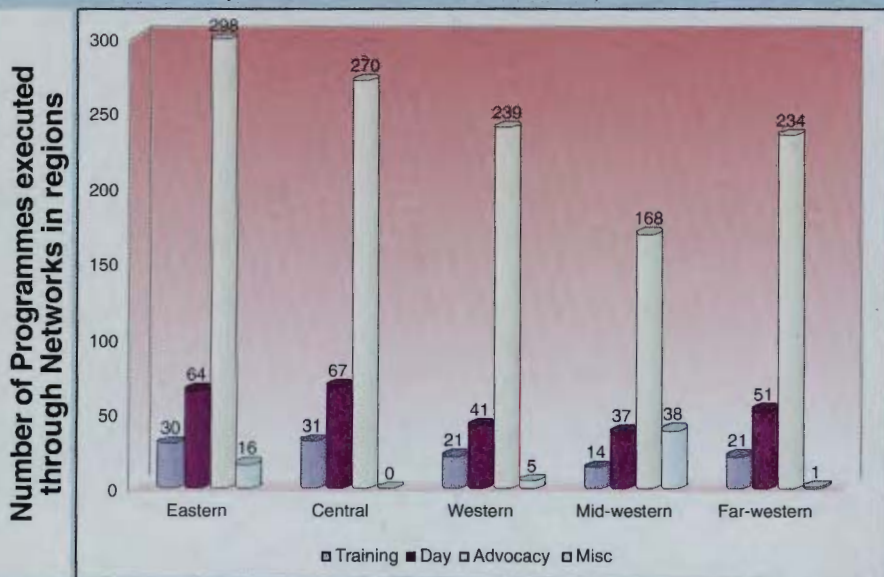
19 INSEC activists participated in various training, workshop, conference, meeting, solidarity and experience exchange programmes held in 16 countries.

#### 6. Publication

31 Special publications - [books, reports, & education materials]

Monthly & regular publication:

- Prachi 3, Informal 2, Situation report 3,
- Insec Aviyan monthly, Radio Taranga monthly & other different occasional brochure, poster, cards & stickers, INSEC Diary & Pocket Calendar





## Income

INSEC was successful to mobilise increased resources to finance its growing activities. It received Rs. 49.5 millions from donors which is a remarkable 45 percent increase from the previous year. Foreign governments, UN agencies and International Non-governmental Organisations (INGOs) have joined hands with INSEC providing funds under the terms and conditions as agreed upon. Its internally generated resources are in the tune of Rs. 2.6 millions. Though internal source made merely a 5 percent of total income, it remarked a growth by 27 percent over the last year. Internal fund comes from voluntary donation, sales of goods and services and non-refundable interest income.

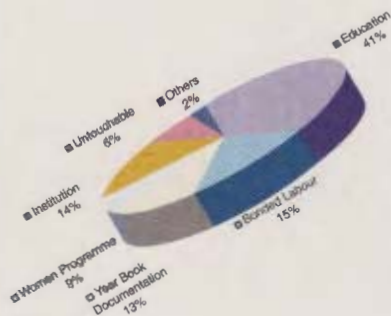
## Expenditure

INSEC spent Rs. 43.9 millions, an increase by 44 percent over the previous year, on its programmes as agreed upon. The amount was spread over a portfolio of 22 projects covering the areas of education and awareness, advocacy and monitoring of human rights. These projects focus on women, children, bonded labour, socially backward (untouchables) and other disadvantaged communities as the target. The internally generated funds have been used to maintain the physical infrastructure, build institutional sustainability and fund activities where donors are not forthcoming.

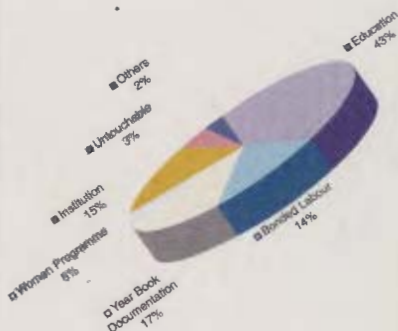
## Result:

Since the funding by donors is project based, the amount Rs. 5.6 millions, a surplus of income over expenditure, has either been refunded to the donors or carried forward as per the project agreement.

### Received Amount by Activities



### Expended Amount by Activities



### National Human Rights Conference

INSEC organized a human rights conference with the participation of the activists of its network organizations in 55 districts of the country, senior journalists senior human rights defenders, representatives from law enforcement agencies and MPs. The Conference, held in Nepal Administrative Staff College, Jawalakhel from 5- 9 April 1997, adopted a Kathmandu Declaration, and a 39-point Resolution. As the main concerns, the Declaration has spelled out discrimination, exploitation; impunity, international capital. Elimination of all forms of discriminations against women and children, abolition of kamaiya and haliya system, development of human rights culture, institutional development of democracy have been prioritised as future responsibilities.



### Interaction on TADA

INSEC and SAFHR organised an "Interaction on TADA and Proposed Anti-Terrorist Bill in Nepal" in Kathmandu on 14 September 1997. The interaction programme aimed to examine, in light with Indian experiences, the possible consequences of the proposed Terrorist and Destructive Crime Control and Punishment Act popularly known as the 'anti-terrorist' bill in Nepal.

### 50<sup>th</sup> Year of UDHR

Year 1998 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UDHR and 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of INSEC. To commemorate this, INSEC has initiated a two-year programme 'UDHR Dialogue' which aims to bring together various grassroots initiatives and international advancements. As the grassroots process, INSEC translated the UDHR into 12 local languages, distributed into the communities and launched relevant education and awareness programmes. A national process is also underway in the form of thematic discussions- through celebrating important Days, such as national Child Day, March 8, and so on. The process will converge into an International Conference in the end of 1999. The conference on Democracy and Development will deal with Transparency and Accountability of Government, and Agrarian Reform and Human Rights.



### NGOs on Street

INSEC and other prominent human rights organisations organised a month-long campaign consisting of protest-rallies, sit-ins, corner speeches, submission of memorandums beginning August 18. All these programmes aimed to draw the attention of the Nepali

Government and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) to the need for stanching the violence which is on the rise because of the Maoist sponsored "People's War". The organisations demanded a stop to the killings by both sides.

## Conference of Elected Women Representatives

A national conference of Elected Women Representatives was organised in Kathmandu on 23-25 December 1998. Over 115 elected women representatives, journalists, human rights defenders and other dignitaries participated in the conference. The basic aims of the conference were to discuss on the problems (issues) the women are facing and workout strategies to promote women leadership in political decision making. The conference adopted a "Pasang Lhamu Pledge II", as an addition to the Pledge adopted by the First National Conference on Women held in 1996. As future responsibilities, the Pledge demands the enactment of necessary laws as well as annulment of legal hindrances; provisions of trainings and other empowerment programmes; and programmes for women's development and empowerment.



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## This way you can help INSEC

### Through your publications

- regular publications, periodicals, books and reports

### Through solidarity works

- join various INSEC movements

### Through financial support



## INSEC at a glance

Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC) is an independent, non-profit making, non-governmental and non-partisan human rights organisation actively working in areas of human rights and social justice. Its central office is located in Kathmandu and covers the entire country through a network of regional offices. The Centre was founded in 1988 in order to render human rights related services to specific target groups and the general public at the grass-roots level.

## Objectives and Policy

INSEC's general objectives are to protect and promote human rights through advocacy, lobbying, training, education, information dissemination and campaigns, and by implementing projects at the national, regional and grass-roots levels.



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