

INSEC INFORMATION: Violation of Right to Peace Assembly

Date: April 13, 2006

Update : 9.30 am

Source: INSEC Monitoring Team

## For Urgent Action

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### **Police opens fire at rally of lawyers, two critically shot injured**

Two legal practitioners were critically shot injured when the police opened fired at the peaceful protest organized by Nepal Bar Association (NBA) at 9 am on April 13.

The shot injured are identified as Tanka Prasad Chaulagain of Ramechhap and Ramchandra Singkhada of Banasthali, Kathmandu. Santosh Sigdel , Sitaram Adhikari, Nandu Acharya and Prem Bahadur Khadka are seriously assaulted. Purna Prasad Dangal, Kamal Bahadur Khatri, Kamal Itani, Nabin Shrestha, Rajendra Neupane, Govinda Khadka and Rabindra Lal Joshi among 50 legal practitioners were injured in police assault. They have been taken to Kathmandu Model Hospital for treatment. Police had opened fired from short distance when the rally reached Babarmahal from NBA building in Singhdarbar.

Earlier, some 1,500 lawyers had gathered on the premises of NBA and general secretary Madhav Banskota had announced that the protest would a peaceful one. Six vans were placed just outside the NBA premises to foil the rally.

NBA chairperson Shambhu Thapa, vice-chairperson Sher Bahadur KC, general secretary Madhav Banskota, senior advocate Harihar Dahal and director of Kathmandu School of Law advocate Yuvraj Sangraula, along with 50 lawyers were assaulted and arrested.

Meanwhile, Human rights defenders Bimal Chandra Sharma and Bidyanath Bhurtel were also assaulted while monitoring the rally. One human right defender and advocate Rajkumar Siwakoti of FOHRID was also arrested from the site. He was accused of pelting stones at the security forces.

### **INSEC's Concern**

We strongly deplore and condemn government's barbaric attempt to suppress the peaceful protest of legal practitioners with the use of excessive force.

The government act has exposed its authoritarian face by showing total disregard for the rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal 1990 and other international human rights laws.

We strongly demand the government to refrain from such brutal acts and apologize for the repression on legal practitioners and for immediate release of all the arrested legal practitioners.

For more details visit Inseconline: [www.inseconline.org](http://www.inseconline.org)



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