

Translated from the original Nepali

Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority

Tangal, Kathmandu

Date: 25 September 2016

Press Release

Subject: Regarding irregularities including in Social Science Baha.

In the course of investigating a complaint regarding misappropriation of tens of millions of rupees received from foreign donors by Social Science Baha and its affiliate Alliance for Social Dialogue in collusion with officials of the Social Welfare Council, complete documents on the registration of the organisation called Alliance for Social Dialogue and details of the amount of funds received by it via Social Science Baha was not available when asked of the Social Welfare Council, and upon preliminary examination of the documents of the last five years, the organisation called Social Science Baha was registered as per Organisation Registration Act 1977 with the District Administration Office, Lalitpur, on 15 January 2007, and affiliated with the Social Welfare Council on 24 January 2007, and Nirmal Man Tuladhar is the chairperson in Social Science Baha, Basanta Thapa vice-chairperson, Dr Sudhindra Sharma general secretary, Mohan Mainali treasurer, Nirmal Gyawali member, and Kanak Dixit member. It is found that in the executive committee of the organisation called 'Alliance for Social Dialogue', Sushilraj Pyakurel is the chairperson and members are Amuda Shrestha, Bimala Rai Paudel, Hiralal Bishwokarma, Mukta Singh Lama, Sashi Adhikari, Surendra Labh Karna, with Hari Sharma as director and other employees in the organisation. However, it is found that the organisation called Alliance for Social Dialogue is not registered as per regulations.

It is seen from the audited reports of Social Science Baha and Alliance for Social Dialogue that since their establishment till date, they have received more than Rs 479 million from [*begin sic*] Foundation open Society Institute, Ford Foundation New York, Association for Nepal and Himalayan, Open Society Institute, USA, The World Bank, USA, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, The University of Edinburg, Overseas Development Institute, UK, Foundation to promote open society in collaboration with open society institute, The centre for inclusive growth for Nepal, Goldsmiths Yale Department of Anthropology USA, Enabling program SNV Netherland Development Foundation, open society goldsmiths university of London, International Centre for integrated mountain development Lalitpur, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine UK, Center for international forestry research Indonesia, The university of Edinburg, Scotland, Panos South Asia, Nepal, Asian Development bank, Philippines, Aakar, India, eIFL, net, Kathmandu, Future

Generations, Humanity United USA [end sic]. The preliminary investigation shows that in the last five years, Alliance for Social Dialogue and Social Science Baha spent Rs 292 million, and out of this Alliance for Social Dialogue alone has spent more than Rs 130 million.

Responsible for monitoring non-governmental organisations, the Social Welfare Council is required to carry out regular monitoring and submit reports, and it had conducted monitoring in FY 2010/11 and FY 2012/13 but since it is seen that no concrete action was taken or instructions given to control the irregularities in the organisation, it is found pertinent to investigate under which act, regulations, and constitution Social Science Baha disbursed more than Rs 130 million to an unregistered organisation in the last five years, as per Section 28(1)(b) and (c) of the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority Act 1991 it was decided to write to the Social Welfare Council to investigate any misuse of funds as per the Social Welfare Act 1992 and Social Welfare Council Regulation 1992 and existing acts and regulations, and write to the District Administration Office, Lalitpur, as per Section 28(1)(b) and (c) of the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority Act 1991 to carry out additional investigation on the above-mentioned issues in light of the provision that it is the local body in charge of monitoring non-governmental organisations and with the authority to even terminate the registration of organisations operating illegally as per Section 12(4) of the Organisation Registration Act 1977, and conveying the same to Ministry of Home Affairs of the Government of Nepal, write to all the concerned bodies that it has been decided to send all the documents related to the above organisation received through the Social Welfare Council to the District Administration Office, Lalitpur.

Details of expenses of the above organisations				
SN	Particulars	Alliance for Social Dialogue	Social Science Baha	Total expenditure
1	Hotel expenses	Rs 2,07,28,243	Rs 28,66,694	Rs 2,35,94,937
2	Domestic and foreign travel	Rs 2,57,78,537	Rs 50,76,602	Rs 3,08,55,139
3	Salaries and allowances	Rs 3,51,06,491	Rs 7,98,92,051	Rs 11,49,98,542
4	Meeting allowances	Rs 40,78,906	--	Rs 40,78,906
5	Alcohol, picnic, etc	Rs 17,96,807	Rs 22,65,373	Rs 40,62,180
6	House rent	Rs 12,25,000	Rs 55,07,064	Rs 67,32,064
7	On bank interest	--	Rs 15,54,440	Rs 15,54,440
8	Printing and stationary	Rs 19,05,113	Rs 11,90,699	Rs 30,95,812
9	Repairs and maintenance	--	Rs 35,10,340	Rs 35,10,340
10	Employee capacity development	Rs 5,15,211	Rs 7,28,706	Rs 12,43,917
11	Decoration,	Rs 37,45,809	Rs 4,06,32,306	Rs 4,43,78,115

	purchase and other expenses			
12	Electricity and communication	Rs 5,45,259	Rs 26,61,773	Rs 32,07,032
13	Subject experts, facilitators, consultation, research, and communication	Rs 2,44,63,729	Rs 51,71,510	Rs 2,96,35,239
14	Reimbursements to various organisations for programmes	Rs 21,25,530	--	Rs 21,25,530
15	Expenses without invoice	--	Rs 5,93,200	Rs 5,93,200
16	Unexplained expenses	Rs 1,28,16,532	--	Rs 1,28,16,532
17	Miscellaneous	Rs 16,88,815	Rs 38,70,923	Rs 55,59,738
	Total	Rs 13,65,19,982	Rs 15,55,21,681	Rs 29,20,41,663

(Khagendra Prasad Rijal)
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