

*नेपालको लागि अन्तर-रास्ट्रीय ऐक्यबद्धता*

INSON

## INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY FOR NEPAL

*for human rights and peace in Nepal*

International Solidarity for Nepal (INSON), UK Committee, a diaspora organisation working for human rights and social justice, is deeply concerned about the manner in which a senior Nepali journalist and a pro-democracy activist Kanak Mani Dixit was arrested on 22 April 2016 on alleged corruption charges related to his position as the Chairman of Sajha Yatayat, a state run transportation company.

INSON recognises that the independent work of the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA) to investigate the corruption against anybody holding public offices is lawful, and nobody is above the law. But the manner in which he was arrested is not acceptable. Mr Dixit had furnished the details of his property and had cooperated with the graft body but he was arrested before he was charged. Secondly, CIAA did not follow the Supreme Court order to it to follow the established legal protocols.

We also note that Nepali media quoted Mr Dixit and members of civil society, including the Asian human rights groups, that his arrest is part of vendetta against him for criticising and campaigning against the appointment of Mr Lokman Singh Karki as the head of the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA). A group of senior members of civil society campaigned against the appointment of Mr Karki, who was accused by the Raymajhi Commission formed after the pro-democracy movement of 2006, that he was involved as Chief Secretary of the then Royal government to crackdown of the pro-democracy movement of 2006, popularly known in Nepal as “Jana Andolan II”. INSON demands for transparent, impartial, and independent investigation and also following appropriate legal procedures as directed to CIAA by Supreme Court and prove its action as politically unmotivated and unbiased.

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