



Citizens' Campaign for Right to Information (CCRI)

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CCRI marked 3 years of Right to Information Act in Nepal

Press Release

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Citizens' Campaign for Right to Information (CCRI) organized a programme "*3 Years of Right to Information Act*" on August 19, 2010 at SAP Falcha, Kathmandu. The program was chaired by Mr. Taranath Dahal, Chair Person of CCRI and former president of Federation of Nepalese Journalist. Chief Information Commissioner of National Information Commission, Vinaya Kasajoo was the chief guest of the program.

Commissioners and secretary of NIC, representative from various ministries, government agencies, national and international organizations, journalist and students had participated in the program. All together 55 participants attended the program.

The program was organized with the objective to mark 3 years enforcement of Right to Information Act, 2007. CCRI released a RTI song and launched its study reports on the present status of RTI in Nepal. Reports highlighted legal lacunas, challenges, inadequate role from government and civil society organization as reason for weak implementation of this Act. Further, reports made recommendations for its effective implementation.

The program was followed by a discussion session where, various stakeholders and representatives from various agencies made remarks on the reports and stressed dissatisfaction upon the implementation status of the RTI Act. Stakeholders and participants of the program made recommendations on three issues for the effective implementation of the RTI Act.

Establishment of the national agency by the government to take a lead role in order to monitor and support for the implementation of RTI Act was among the key recommendations made. They also recommended for the massive awareness programs and initiatives from the civil society to raise awareness level among the public. They believed that aware public will pressurize concerned agencies to implement RTI Act by exercising this right.

Realizing the inadequate role of National Information Commission, they recommended for the effective and proactive role of Commission by issuing relevant and important directives to various government agencies for effective implementation of this Act.

Chief Guest of the program mentioned that, "The need of effective implementation of RTI is not only important for NIC, it is equally important for government and all stakeholder." The chairperson of the program highlighted that the role of RTI is to ensure rule of law, transparency and accountability and to enjoy other fundamental rights.

Editor's Note: CCRI is a registered non-partisan, non-political and non-profiteering NGO. It has been working for the promotion and protection of right to information in Nepal. It strives for transparency, good governance and monitors functions of the government for effective enforcement of Right to Information.

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