



## TARANATH DAHAL

Taranath Dahal is one of the prominent journalists of Nepal. He has been in the professional journalism of Nepal for the past 23 years. Dahal has established his good name as the Right to Information (RTI) activist and pioneer. He has initiated the RTI movement in Nepal when he was the general secretary of Federation of Nepali Journalist (FNJ).

He has been in the frontline of RTI movement in Nepal which has the history of more than one-and-half decade since 1990. Similarly, he was the member of RTI draft committee formed for the first time and served as the government taskforce of RTI Bill in Nepal for two times.

He has authored several books, research papers, working papers and write-ups on RTI and compiled and edited journals on RTI, press freedom and freedom of expression. Besides this, he has delivered various training and lectures as key note speakers on RTI in and outside the country.

Currently Dahal is the chairperson of Freedom Forum-a leading civil society organization working for the cause of promoting RTI and freedom of expression in Nepal. Freedom Forum has accomplished substantial works on RTI whether that be in creating pressure for the enforcement of RTI Act, or be in spreading public awareness or in rendering analysis and recommendations, in bringing it into practice and in promoting information culture in Nepal.

The major accomplishment of Freedom Forum in this area is its initiative for drawing up Agenda for Change on Freedom of Expression and Right to information in Nepal which includes comprehensive plan for strengthening these themes in Nepal. It was accomplished on the collaboration with ARTICLE 19 and Federation of Nepali Journalists (FNJ) and Dahal played lead role to chart out the long-term strategy and plan in connection with establishing these themes in Nepal.

In addition, Dahal is the chairperson of Citizens' Campaign for Right to Information (CCRI)-a network of prominent civil society organizations and individuals working for the cause of RTI in Nepal. It has been functional in policy reform, public awareness building and academic works on RTI.

Besides, Dahal has substantial working experience in the areas of media policy reform, good governance and transparency.