

**PUBLIC**

**AI Index: ASA 31/059/2004**

**27 February 2004**

**Further Information on UA 78/04 (ASA 31/048/2004, 23 February 2004) Fear for safety / possible "disappearance"**

**NEPAL**

**Bal Krishna Devkota (m), lawyer  
Dhananjay Khanal (m), aged 40, lawyer**

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Amnesty International has received information that Bal Krishna Devkota and Dhanajay Khanal were released on 26 February. They were reportedly both arrested at different locations at around 11pm on 21 February. Amnesty International has no further information about where they were held, or in what conditions.

These two lawyers are believed to have been arrested because of their involvement in defending people arrested under the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Control and Punishment) Act. This gives the security forces the power to arrest without warrant and detain suspects in police custody for up to 90 days.

**No further action is required from the network at this time. Thanks to all who sent appeals.**