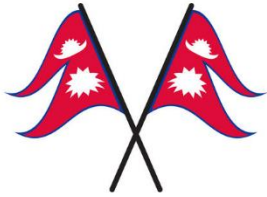


# Human Rights Newsletter



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## NHRC's Monitoring: Recommendation for Adequate Rehabilitation and Compensation

The Madhesh Province Office of the NHRC, Nepal has conducted a special monitoring regarding the incident of houses, shops and other structures being demolished in Birgunj Metropolitan City area during the expansion of the Tribhuvan Highway.

In Birgunj Metropolitan City area of Parsa, the structures within 25 meters on both sides from the center point of the Tribhuvan Highway were demolished by using a dozer on April 19, 2026 during the road expansion.

The Commission initiated action based on complaints and additional petitions filed by the affected people and subsequently carried out monitoring and investigation. According to the complaints submitted by the affected parties, they had constructed houses and other structures on land they legally owned and had been operating businesses over there. However, the District Administration Office, Parsa issued a notice to remove their belongings and vacate temporary shelters from the structures before 4:30 a.m. on 19 April.

The complainants stated that the notice provided an unreasonably short period, making it impossible to remove household belongings and business materials at the specified time. As a result, the dozer operation directly affected vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, senior citizens, single women, children, and even patients receiving treatment in hospitals. The complaints further alleged that the structures were demolished without adequate prior notice or sufficient

time for evacuation, that some houses were demolished beyond the prescribed road expansion boundary, and that no alternative arrangements were made for the affected families.

### The Complaint States:

The notice was issued without providing sufficient time to make necessary arrangements or remove their belongings. Consequently, persons with disabilities, senior citizens, single women, children and even patients undergoing treatment in hospitals were directly affected by the demolition.

- Based on its monitoring, the Commission found that the notice provided to the affected people was inadequate and the demolition of structures without allowing sufficient time for preparation seems to have adversely affected the enjoyment of the constitutional rights to property, rights to information and rights to housing guaranteed by the Constitution of Nepal.
- It has been found that the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and the prevailing laws have been violated by this nature. Therefore, the Commission decided to recommend the Government of Nepal for adequate arrangements, compensation and rehabilitation.



It has been demanded to respect and protect human rights, stating that a significant number of families have become homeless due to such work carried out in the name of road expansion, losing their employment and livelihood, and being deprived of electricity and clean drinking water services.

After the complaint was registered, monitoring and investigation team was formed and proceeded with the inquiry by incorporating 20 additional petitions received



via email. During the monitoring, the team had sought necessary details from the Road Division Office, Hetauda, as well as monitoring and observing the affected areas,

and held discussions and interactions with the affected individuals and concerned stakeholders.

The monitoring revealed a dispute over where to measure the center of the road, the demolished structures are still in a dangerous condition, and the affected residents were facing serious difficulties, with some families forced to take shelter in relatives' homes.

The monitoring team observed that persons with disabilities, senior citizens, single women and children were suffered. It concluded that rights guaranteed by the Constitution and prevailing laws had been violated.

Based on its report, the Commission decided to recommend the Government of Nepal to make appropriate arrangements for affected vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, senior citizens, single women, children and patients, and to provide suitable relief, compensation, rehabilitation and resettlement measures for all affected people.

The monitoring and investigation team comprised of Joint Secretary Buddha Narayan Sahani, Under Secretary Jeevan Neupane and Human Rights Officer Rahul Kumar Thakur.

### HR Enjoyment Remains a Major Challenge in Karnali Province: NHRC High-Level Team

A high-level monitoring team led by Hon. Chairperson of the NHRC, Nepal Top Bahadur Magar, has conducted a field assessment of the overall human rights situation in various districts of Karnali Province.

The team, which included NHRC Secretary Murari Prasad Kharel, Joint Secretary Samjhana Sharma and other NHRC's officials, carried out field monitoring from June 7 to 17, 2026 in the districts of Surkhet, Dailekh, Jumla, Kalikot and Mugu. During the monitoring, the team conducted field observations, held consultations with stakeholders and interacted directly with local communities. The team also engaged in dialogue with local governments, government bodies, civil society and human rights defenders to assess the overall human rights situation, identify local concerns and discuss institutional strengthening.



As the part of the monitoring, the Chairperson-led team held an interaction program in Manma, the district headquarters of Kalikot, on June 9. The program brought together the elected representatives of local governments, heads and representatives of government offices, human rights defenders, civil society activists, journalists and representatives of professional organizations. Participants held extensive discussions on the overall human rights situation in the district,

highlighting challenges related to local governance, public service delivery, good governance and the issues related to civil rights.

The team also held a discussion program on overall human rights issues in the district with elected representatives, human rights defenders and stakeholders of Chandannath Municipality in Jumla on June 10. The program focused on expanding cooperation between the municipality and the Commission, strengthening the protection of human rights and improving mechanisms for addressing citizens' complaints.

Similarly, a detailed interaction and discussion program was held on June 11 on the overall human rights situation in Karnali Province under the chairmanship of Hon. Chairperson Top Bahadur Magar. The program was attended by Hon. Judges from the High Court in Surkhet



and the District Court in Jumla, the President of the District Coordination Committee, representatives of local levels, government bodies, media persons, non-governmental organizations, civil society, human rights defenders and other stakeholders.

### NHRC Inaugurates Karnali Province Branch Office

On the occasion of the office visit, the Hon. Chairperson Top Bahadur Magar formally inaugurated the NHRC's Karnali Province Branch Office in Jumla at a special ceremony on June 12.



The program had an in-depth discussion on the challenges seen in the areas of social, cultural and economic rights, good governance, health, education, women and children's rights, social justice, drug control and public service delivery. The participants had presented various suggestions to the Commission, pointing out the need for effective inter-institutional cooperation. The Commission had expressed its commitment to take necessary initiatives on the issues raised in the program.

Meanwhile, on June 13, the NHRC high-level team conducted a similar interaction program in Mugu to review the district's overall human rights situation. The program was attended by Hon. Chairperson Top Bahadur Magar, Secretary Murari Prasad Kharel, Joint Secretary Samjhana Sharma and NHRC officials, along with representatives of government offices, civil society, NGOs, journalists, human rights defenders and media professionals.

Participants raised a wide range of concerns relating to human rights challenges, including public service delivery, social justice and the protection of civil rights in the district. The Hon. Chairperson Magar and Secretary Kharel addressed the issues raised in the program.

In addition to the NHRC's monitoring team, the heads and representatives of government and non-governmental organizations at the district level also participated in the inauguration program.

## Interaction on the Human Rights Situation in Karnali Province

Hon. Chairperson Top Bahadur Magar led NHRC's team organized an interaction and discussion program on June 16 regarding the current human rights situation, key challenges and possible measures for improvement in Karnali Province. The program, held in Surkhet, brought together the heads and representatives of government bodies, civil society and other stakeholders.

The discussion covered a wide range of issues, including education, healthcare, food security, women and child rights, prison management, the rights of persons with disabilities, gender-based violence, drug abuse, road safety and access to justice.

Participants highlighted several major concerns affecting human rights in the province, including inadequate school infrastructure, shortages of specialist doctors and essential medicines, child marriage, domestic violence, the practice of *Chhaupadi*, gender discrimination, deaths in custody, lack of disability-friendly infrastructure, food insecurity, and weak road infrastructure.

Addressing the program, Chairperson Top Bahadur Magar stressed that safe roads, reliable electricity, quality education and accessible healthcare services are indispensable for the development and protection of human rights in Karnali Province. He emphasized that there can be no compromise on the lives and dignity of citizens in the name of development, and informed that the suggestions and facts obtained from the monitoring will be presented to the government through the official report and initiatives will be taken for its implementation.

NHRC Secretary Murari Prasad Kharel stated that the lack of quality education, healthcare services and basic



infrastructure, along with child marriage, caste and gender-based discrimination, poverty and unemployment, remain serious human rights challenges in Karnali Province. He further identified the poor condition of the Karnali Highway and the shortage of human resources as major provincial concerns and expressed his commitment to make necessary recommendations to the government based on the findings of the monitoring.

The program was attended by members of the Provincial Assembly, heads and representatives of ministries and government bodies, political leaders, representatives of non-governmental organizations, media persons, human rights activists and civil society.

The welcome speech was delivered by NHRC Joint Secretary Samjhana Sharma, while the program was moderated by Human Rights Officer Rajendra Neupane. Ramesh Kumar Thapa, the Head of the NHRC Karnali Province Office, presented an overview of the overall human rights situation in the province.

## NHRC Issues Press Release Drawing the Government's Attention

Based on the findings of its high-level monitoring mission in Karnali Province, the National Human Rights Commission of Nepal (NHRC) issued a press release on June 18, drawing the attention of the Government of Nepal and other concerned authorities to the overall human rights situation in the province.

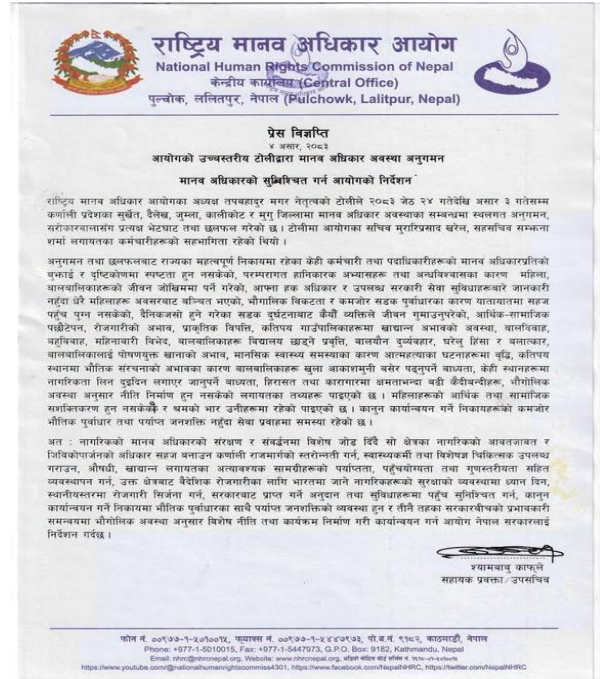
As the preparation of the detailed monitoring report would require additional time, the NHRC released its preliminary findings and called upon the Government of Nepal to take immediate measures to ensure the human rights of the people of Karnali Province.

According to the press release, the human rights of women, children and disadvantaged communities in



Karnali are affected due to poor road infrastructure, limited awareness of human rights, poverty, unemployment and harmful social practices. The Commission identified child marriage, gender discrimination, domestic violence, child sexual abuse, school dropout, malnutrition, prison overcrowding, weak public service delivery and social injustice.

The Commission urged the Government of Nepal to upgrade the Karnali Highway, expand access to healthcare services and essential commodities, create local employment opportunities, strengthen the protection of migrant workers seeking foreign employment, ensure equitable access to government services, and to effectively implement policies and programs suited to the geographical conditions by coordinating among all three levels of government.



### NHRC Holds Appreciation and Farewell Program for Former Employees



The NHRC Nepal has organized a farewell and Thank-You Program on June 3, appreciating the contribution of former employees who have contributed to the NHRC at various times and have retired or left the Commission through resignation or for other reasons.

The program was chaired by Hon. NHRC Chairperson Top Bahadur Magar and moderated by Administrative Officer Kalpana Ghimire. It was attended by the Secretary, Joint Secretaries and other employees of the Commission. The welcome address was delivered by Joint Secretary Dr. Tikaram Pokharel.

The Commission had previously organized a similar program on August 6, 2012. For this year's event, thirty nine former employees who have served the Commission for at least one year since August 2012 and are subsequently separated from the organization were invited, of whom ten attended the program.

The participating former employees were Dipak Karki, Dipak Thapa, Pooja Neupane, Abhishek Chand, Saniksha Bade, Babukaji K.C., Saman Manandhar, Indra Bahadur Suwal, Menuka Pokharel, and Balmukunda Karki.



During the program, NHRC Secretary Murari Prasad Kharel and Joint Secretaries Yagya Prasad Adhikari,



Navaraj Sapkota and Samjhana Sharma praised the former employees for their valuable contributions to the Commission's institutional development and performance. They wished their best wishes for the participants' continued success, progress and future endeavors.

Speaking on behalf of the former employees, Dipak Thapa, Pooja Neupane, and Balmukunda Karki reflected on their experiences while serving at the Commission. They expressed sincere gratitude for the honor and

farewell given by the organization and conveyed their confidence that their relationship with the Commission would continue in the future.

Concluding the program, Hon. Chairperson Top Bahadur Magar expressed his deep appreciation for the dedication, integrity and commitment demonstrated by the former employees during their service and wished them continued success and prosperity in their future careers.

### Consultation About the Implementation of the UPR Recommendations

A consultation program on the role of provincial governments and local levels in the implementation of the recommendations received from the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) organized by the Sudurpaschim Province Office of the Commission was held in Dhangadhi.

The program was chaired by Man Bahadur Karki, the Acting Head of the NHRC Sudurpaschim Province Office, and Bhim Bahadur Bhandari, the Speaker of the Sudurpaschim Provincial Assembly, attended the event as the Chief Guest, while Megh Raj Khadka, Minister for Social Development, served as the Special Guest.

The program was attended by Provincial Assembly members Indira Giri and Lalita Sunar; Secretary of the NHRC, Murari Prasad Kharel; Deputy Mayor of Dhangadhi Sub-Metropolitan City, Kandakala Rana; Secretary of the Provincial Policy and Planning Commission, Ganesh Bahadur Singh; and Head of the Provincial Office of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Rajkumar Dhungana among others. Similarly, there was a significant participation of heads and representatives of various ministries of the Sudurpaschim Province Government, representatives of various offices of the Government of Nepal, security agencies, representatives of local levels of Kailali and Kanchanpur, NGOs, development partners, media persons, legal practitioners, women's rights activists, civil society leaders and students.

During the program, UNFPA representative Sameer Ghimire delivered a presentation on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process.

Addressing the program, Secretary of the National Human Rights Commission Murari Prasad Kharel emphasized that the recommendations received from the UPR should be effectively implemented by the provincial and local level governments. He stated that issues such as violence against women, access to justice, Dalit rights, rights of sexual and gender minorities, child rights and human trafficking are major human rights issues in the Sudurpaschim Province, and said that in the context of Nepal having signed various international human rights treaties as a member state of the United Nations, it is the responsibility of the state to respect, protect and fulfill human rights.

During the consultation, participants shared their views on the major human rights challenges, opportunities and strategies for effective implementation in the



Sudurpaschim Province. They pointed out the need to strengthen coordination, collaboration and accountability to ensure the effective implementation of human rights recommendations at the provincial and local levels.



## Consultation on the Impact of Child Marriage



The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) organized a consultation program with the members of the Karnali Provincial Assembly in Birendranagar on the impact of child marriage for the enjoyment of human rights.

The program was chaired by Dr. Lily Thapa, Hon. Member of the Commission and coordinator of the National Inquiry on the Impact of Child Marriage for the Enjoyment of Human Rights, and was attended by Karnali Provincial Assembly Speaker Nanda Gurung as the chief guest. The program was attended by Deputy Speaker Yashoda Neupane; Minister for Social Development Ghanashyam Bhandari; Provincial Assembly members; the NHRC Secretary Murari Prasad Kharel; Provincial Assembly

Secretary Dr. Arjun Kumar Khadka; researcher Dr. Anita Ghimire and other stakeholders.

In the program, Murari Prasad Kharel, Secretary of the National Human Rights Commission, delivered a presentation highlighting how child marriage adversely affects children's rights to education, health, a secure future and a life of dignity. Likewise, researcher Dr. Anita Ghimire facilitated the program. Ramesh Kumar Thapa, the head of the NHRC Karnali Province Office, welcomed the participants and highlighted the objectives of the program, while Mr. Rajendra Prasad Neupane, Human Rights Officer, moderated the session.

During the discussion, most of the participants expressed their views on the legal and social problems that child marriage creates, including marriage registration and birth registration, and this directly affects the education, health, safe future and right of children to live with dignity. The participants pointed out that effective implementation of legal provisions, raising public awareness, local level activism and provincial level policy initiatives are necessary to reduce child marriage. The program emphasized the need to strengthen coordination and collaboration among all state bodies to prevent child marriage, considering it a serious human rights challenge.

## NHRC Marks Its 26th Establishment Day with Various Programs



The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) celebrated its 26th establishment day with various programs across the country. The Commission, which was

established on May 26, 2000 (13th Jestha 2057 B.S.), has been celebrating its establishment day every year by organizing various programs through its central office as well as its seven provincial and provincial Branch offices on the occasion of the establishment day.

The main ceremony was held at the NHRC Central Office in Harihar Bhawan under the chairmanship of Top Bahadur Magar, the Hon. Chairperson of the Commission, while Dol Prasad Aryal, the Right Hon. Speaker of the House of Representatives, attended the event as the Chief Guest. The program was attended by office bearers of constitutional bodies, senior government officials, members of the diplomatic missions, senior officials of



security agencies, political parties, civil society and the representatives of the media professionals.

The program held with the theme *“The Rights to Life, Dignity, Equality and Freedom: The Foundation for Sustainable Peace and Prosperity,”* the speakers commended the Commission’s contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights over the past 26 years. They also emphasized the need for effective implementation of the Commission’s recommendations, institutional strengthening and necessary legal reforms.

Delivering the welcome remarks, Dr. Lily Thapa, Hon. Member of the National Human Rights Commission, stated that the journey towards the protection of human rights remains challenging. She expressed concern over the unsatisfactory implementation of the Commission’s recommendations and stressed the need for greater vigilance against human rights violations committed through digital and electronic platforms. She also emphasized that the State must assume greater responsibility for protecting the rights of senior citizens, children, the landless, squatters and other marginalized communities.

Addressing the program, Dol Prasad Aryal, the Right Hon. Speaker of the House of Representatives, stated that Parliament remains committed to introducing the



necessary legal reforms to strengthen the independence and autonomy of the Commission, including amendments to the National Human Rights Commission Act in line with the federal governance structure. He further reaffirmed the commitment of both the Government and Parliament to advancing transitional justice, combating human

trafficking, protecting the rights of migrant workers, mitigating the impacts of climate change, and safeguarding the rights of women, children and marginalized communities.

Arjun Bhattarai, President of the NGO Federation of Nepal, highlighted the need to provide the Commission with adequate resources, institutional strengthening and its own permanent office building. He urged the Government to ensure the effective implementation of the Commission’s recommendations and emphasized the importance of enhanced collaboration among the Government, Parliament, the private sector, civil society and the international community to promote and protect human rights.

Julien Chillevard, representative of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Nepal, noted that the Commission’s successful retention of the “A Status” accreditation from the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) reflects its credibility, independence and continued commitment to international human rights standards.

In his closing remarks, Chairperson Top Bahadur Magar expressed concern over the low rate of implementation of the Commission’s recommendations and stressed the need for stronger commitment from the Government in this regard. He also underscored the importance of prioritizing issues such as transitional justice, business and human rights, climate change, digital rights, environmental justice and the protection of the rights of marginalized communities.

On the occasion, four employees working in the Commission were honored with this year’s Human Rights Awards. Under Secretary Shyam Babu Kafle was honored with the Best Performer Human Rights Award; Human Rights Officers Khim Lal Subedi and Kalpana Nepal Acharya were honored with the Excellent Human Rights Award; and Office Helper Rojina Luitel was honored with the Human Rights Award.

In addition, employees who completed 25 years and 15 years of service with the Commission were honored with Long Service and Special Recognition Awards, respectively.

## Interaction Program Held to Mark the NHRC's Establishment Day

On the occasion of the establishment day, the NHRC Karnali Province Branch Office, Jumla, in coordination with Tatopani Rural Municipality, conducted an interaction program on human rights with local stakeholders on May 21.

The program focused on discussions regarding the current human rights situation, key challenges and possible measures for addressing them. Participants emphasized the need to expand the Commission's outreach to the local level, while speakers stressed that effective protection, promotion and implementation of human rights require close cooperation and collaboration among all stakeholders.

The program was chaired by Kalpana Nepal Acharya, Head of the NHRC Jumla Office, and hosted by Gauri Nanda Acharya, President of District Coordination Committee, Jumla, attended as the Chief Guest, while Nanda Prasad Chaulagain, Chairperson of Tatopani Rural Municipality, participated as the Special Guest. The event was attended by elected representatives of local governments, former elected representatives, government officials,



representatives of political parties, security agencies, civil society, human rights defenders and other stakeholders.

During the program, Kalpana Nepal Acharya presented a working paper on human rights issues. At the conclusion of the program, participants collectively reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening coordination and cooperation among all stakeholders to ensure the respect, protection, promotion and effective implementation of human rights

## Greeting Exchange Program Held to Mark the NHRC's Establishment Day



The Bagmati Province Office of the Commission has celebrated the establishment day of the Commission by organizing a greeting exchange program in Hetauda.

The program was chaired by Chandrakant Chapagain, Head of the NHRC Bagmati Province Office, and graced by Deepak Prasad Devkota, Province Chief of Bagmati Province, as the Chief Guest. The event was attended by

Krishna Bahadur Shahi, Secretary of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law; Dhurba Adhikari, Secretary of the Ministry of Social Development; representatives of various provincial ministries, human rights defenders, non-governmental organizations, civil society and media professionals.

Addressing the program, Secretary of the Ministry of Social Development, Dhurba Adhikari stated that every citizen should be able to enjoy the human rights guaranteed by the Constitution and emphasized that close cooperation among all state institutions is essential to achieve this objective.

Speakers at the program emphasized the effective implementation of the recommendations of the Commission, stating that the Commission has been playing an important role in the protection and promotion of human rights. Participants expressed the view that the

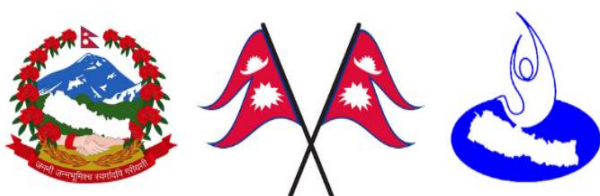


victims have not been able to experience effective justice due to the delay in implementing the recommendations given to the Government of Nepal by investigating complaints related to human rights violations.

Similarly, suggestions were also given for the Commission to conduct more effective monitoring and investigation in the areas of human rights, development, environmental protection, transitional justice, child rights, women's rights, health, education, food rights and consumer rights.

Participants also emphasized the need to further strengthen coordination and collaboration among the NHRC, provincial government and local levels to ensure the effective implementation of human rights.

The program was facilitated by Human Rights Officer Krishna Prasad Mishra and the welcoming speech was delivered by Human Rights Officer Pabitra Bhandari.



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