



e-Newsletter



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Discussion held with the Secretaries of the GoN on the Current Human Rights Situation of the Country

LALITUR: The National Human Rights Commission has sought the information from the Secretaries of the Government of Nepal (GoN) on human rights and other current situation of the country. The discussion was held at the presence of the NHRC Chair Justice Anup Raj Sharma, Commissioners and the secretaries from Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Commerce and Supplies and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At the program, the Commission sought the information from all the three different ministries on the concerns related to the obstruction caused at the border points, demonstration including the supply of petroleum products, medicines and other daily essential commodities, initiatives taken by the GoN with regard to addressing the situation, security concern and the control of pervasive black marketeering.

During the program, the commission

facilitated the suggestions to seek the solution to the crisis through political and diplomatic initiatives. The Commission also drew the attention of the secretaries towards the future shortage of life saving medicines and other essential commodities due to the

lack of effective arrangement of supply.

At the discussion Surya Prasad Silwal of Ministry of Home Affairs, Indra Prasad Upadhyay of Ministry of Commerce and Supplies and Arjun Kanta Mainali of Ministry of Foreign Affairs were present.



NHRC Chair Justice Anup Raj Sharma and the secretaries of Government of Nepal at a discussion held at NHRC on current HRs situation in the country

NHRC all set to investigate into the Implementation Status of the Recommendations on the Incidents of Human Rights Violations

LALITPUR: The National Human Rights Commission has launched investigations into the status of implementation of its recommendations on human rights violation cases and the condition of the victims' families.

The Commission is all set investigate into 12 major incidents including those of Doramba of Ramechhap, Badarmude of Chitwan, Kapilvastu, Nagi of Panchthar and Godar of Dhanusha in the first phase. The Commission will also investigate into the cases of caste discrimination in Siraha and Doti and the condition of the victims of violence against women perpetrated in accusation of witchcraft in Mahottari district.

The Commission will also carry out investigation into the incidents of Phulbari, Dang in which 8 people were killed and 3 were injured in 2001, incident of Kotwada, Kalikot in which 37 people were killed, incident of Nagi, Panchther in which 6

people were killed while 23 people had sustained injury in 2003, incident of Doramba, Ramechhap in which 21 people were killed, the incident of Bangadovan, Baglung in which 6 people were killed including the incidents with regard to the violence against women in which a woman was brutally tortured in charge of witchcraft in 2001.

The Commission has also prioritized the incident of Godar, Dhanusha in which five youths were killed in 2003 including the incident of Chisapani, Khotang in which 4 people were killed. The Commission has also enlisted other incidents including the incident of Badarmude, Chitwan in which a large number of people were killed in 2005 and the incident of Pili, Kalikot in which 58 people were killed. Necessary investigation is to commence into the implementation status of the NHRC recommendations and the condition of the victims' families with regard to these incidents.

Continued on page 11

IN THIS ISSUE

Content	Page
NHRC condemns...	2
Meeting held with...	3
Pay heed to...	3
Give an end...	4
High alert urged...	4
Human Right situation...	5
Human Right situation monitored...	6
Commitment expressed not...	6
HR Camp mobilization...	7
Social Disharmony...	7
Human Trafficking still...	8
Political Parties urged...	9
Spare schools and...	10
NHRC Team Kalikot...	11
HRs monitoring conducted...	11
Commission hails Constitution...	12
NHRC urges to...	12
Implementation Status of...	12

NHRC condemns the Incident of Firing in Public Place, ensure the Right to Life of All including Children

PROTECTION

LALITPUR: The National Human Rights Commission has expressed serious concern over the incident of the death of 4 year old Chandan Patel and 13 year old Ranjana Chhetri among four persons including Binod Kumar Lakaul and Raj Kumar during a clash between security force and agitating party in Bethari of Rupandehi district on September 15, 2015. Yet another victim of police firing Nadini Pandey breathed her last after she was brought from India where she underwent treatment on Gorkahpur and Delishi.

The NHRC monitoring has found that four persons including two children have been killed when police opened fire during the clash escalated between the Joint Democratic Front cadres and security force at Bethari Chok. The security force was escorting a truck from the industrial area located at Lumbini Corridor. People protesting against the banda also resorted to violence during the retaliation, the monitoring report unveils.

Expressing grief over the death of the deceased, the commission has concluded that the right to life of those killed has been violated. The monitoring teams deployed by the NHRC Central Office and Sub-Regional Office Butwal have obtained the information about the injured in the incident at Bhairahwa hospital the same night of the incident.

It is learnt through the monitoring that 5 general citizens, 17 personnel of Nepal Police and 3 personnel of Armed Police Force have sustained injury in the incident. The right to life of innocent children, who were not involved in the incident in any way, was violated due to the police firing.



NHRC Officers during the monitoring human rights situation during the protest held in Nawalparasi and Rupandehi districts

Apparently, the security agencies do not appear to be sensitive towards the norms of human rights as they have ignored the suggestions and recommendations put forth repeatedly by the commission about methods to control such incidents. Likewise, it is very unfortunate that innocent children have met death due to the bullet shots by the police in public place. Such an incident is utterly against Universal Declaration of Human Rights-1948, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights-1966 and the United National Convention on the Rights of the Child - 1989.

The Commission has urged the government to probe into the incident, to drag the accused to justice, to provide appropriate relief and compensation to the families of the deceased and to make arrangement of free treatment to the general people and

the security personnel injured in the incident. Similarly, the commission has also urged the agitating parties to make their protest program peaceful.

Meanwhile, the NHRC monitoring team comprising Human Rights Officer Neetu Gaudaula and Assistant first Mandira Shrestha has monitored the human rights situation in Chitwan district and found the situation to be normal. During the monitoring, the team interacted with the media persons, human rights defenders and security personnel and took the stock of the information. The team also attended the gathering organized by Shivasakti Mother group in coordination with the RIDS Nepal. Around 40 participants took part in the awareness raising program organized among the local Tharu women

The team met with the Chief District Officer, security chiefs, human rights defenders including the leaders of the agitating party in Nawal Parasi and took the stock of information with regard to the ongoing agitation and the impact left on the daily life of the people in the district.

The monitoring found that most of the industries and factories were closed down and the educational institutions and movement of the vehicular traffic were brought to halt due to the ongoing banda called amid the agitation launched by the disgruntled parties over the issue of the new constitution.

The team also visited the district hospital during the course of monitoring.



NHRC Officers attending an awareness raising program organized by Shivashakti Mother Group comprising local Tharu women in Chitwan district

Meeting held with the Chiefs of Security Bodies on Human Rights Situation



NHRC Officials and the Chiefs of Security Bodies at a discussion held on the current law and order including human rights situation in Terai – Madhes

LALITPUR: The high level monitoring teams headed by the NHRC Commissioners have conducted situation monitoring on ongoing agitations launched in 20 different districts of Tarai-Madhesh and other hill districts with regard to the issues including the demarcation of proposed federal states in the constitution making process. In course of monitoring in those districts, it has been found that 35 people have been killed, hundreds of people have been injured and large amount of public and private properties have been damaged.

The monitoring teams have found that the security force has used date-expired tear gas shells including deadly weapons to repress the agitation. National and International Laws to use limited force have largely gone unheeded while the security force employed excessive force on protestors with the bullets shots on their heads, chests and stomachs.

Likewise, despite the fact that the agitating political parties have committed to make their agitation peaceful, the unrestrained protestors have been found resorted to arson and vandalize the police posts and public properties by using domestic weapons, home-made bomb, petrol bomb and other explosives.

The indefinite strike and the failure of government to effectively address the issue as such have led to curtailment of various

human rights of the people. As local administration has deployed army in riot-prone areas after imposing curfews and declaring riot zones to sustain peace and security, citizens have had to live in fear and cannot exercise their rights.

The Commission has urged the government and local administration to immediately withdraw army and let agitating parties put forth their demands peacefully and also let all sides resolve the crisis through fruitful talks in a sense of responsibility.

Meanwhile the commission invited the Chiefs of Security Bodies including high ranking officials to the commission and had comprehensive discussion about the ongoing critical situation emerged through the ongoing agitation and deteriorating human rights situation in parts of the country. On the occasion, Nepal Police Chief Upendra Kanta Aryal, Armed Police Force, Nepal Chief Kosh Raj Onta, National Investigation Division Chief Dilip Regmi and other participants briefed about the current situations. They apprised to the commission about the initiatives and measures to control violence during the agitation.



NHRC Officials interacting with protesting party cadres during monitoring human rights situation in Terai-Madhesh

Pay heed to hardship of General People

LALITPUR: The serious attention of the National Human Rights Commission has been drawn to growing hardship faced by the general citizens due to subsequent shortage of daily essential commodities including petroleum products and medicines following the ongoing agitation, banda and demonstration for a long time.

The NHRC monitoring has found that the person's right to life, right to food, access to administration of justice, consumers' rights, right to freedom of movement, right to education including the enjoyment of overall human rights have been obstructed due to the deepening crisis in the country.

The Commission, therefore, urges the concerned parties to resolve the crisis through meaningful dialogue and negotiation in order to remove the border points and national highways catered obstruction the on humanitarian ground and due sensitiveness given to human rights.

The Commission also urges each business and entrepreneurs to remain sensitive towards their ethic and obligation for the smooth supply of the consumable items, concerned agitating parties not to cause obstruction and government to guarantee public law and order. The Commission

is also of the view that government needs to pay attention control black marketeering of essential daily commodities and to step up regular monitoring on such act.

The Commission also reminds the Government of Nepal that it is the state obligation to ensure the enjoyment of human rights guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights-1948, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights-1966 and the Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights-1966 to which Nepal is a party.

Give an end to Crisis Ridden Situation through Meaningful Dialogue: NHRC

PROTECTION

LALITPUR: The National Human Rights Commission has been seriously monitoring the situation including the incidents of human rights violations following the general strike, protest rallies and agitation organized for a long time by the Joint Democratic Madhesi Front, various political parties and action committees over the demarcation of the proposed federal states in Tarai- Madhesh including various parts of the country.

In recent incidents, 11 general citizens have lost their lives in Mahottari, Dhanusha and Saptari in police action and lately Sub-Inspector of Armed Police Force Thaman Bahadur B.K was brutally killed by the protestors on September 10, 2015 by dragging him out of ambulance while ferried to hospital. These incidents are unfortunate and downright condemnable from the perspective of human rights and humanitarian law. The Commission urges the government to institute a fair probe into these incidents and take legal action against the culprits involved in the incident.

The emergency meeting held today at the Commission urged the government and agitating parties to exercise restraint in order to make their agitation peaceful. In the context of contemplating the challenges of worsening human rights situation including the infringement of citizens' right to live in peaceful environment, freedom of



NHRC Officers monitoring the rallies and protest program organized in Tarai-Madhesh amid the agitation launched by various Madhesh based political parties

movement, freedom to engage in any occupation or be engaged in employment, industry and trade, Commission believes that resolution of the problems rests upon the political level only.

The Commission has urged the Government of Nepal to rethink over its decision to deploy security persons and agitating parties to halt all forms of agitation and strike to

hold fruitful dialogue and negotiations in order to drive the current crisis ridden situation towards a positive direction with a sense of responsibility.

Similarly, the Commission has urged the Government to provide relief and compensation to the families of the people and security personnel who lost their lives during the agitation and arrange for effective treatment of the injured ones.

High Alert urged to cease Repercussion of Tikapur Incident

LALITPUR: The Monitoring of the Commission has found that eight persons including Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Laxman Neupane and security personnel have been killed by the use of home-made weapons in Tikapur incident of Kailali. SSP Neupane among other security personnel was killed with the use of spear, axe and Khukuri by Tharuhat cadres despite the request to Tharuhat cadres not to deter social harmony. The monitoring has also found that a two year old baby was also killed playing at his porch due to the firing from nearby paddy field.

It was learnt through monitoring that apparently the protesters became out of control and resorted to counterattack after the police shot teargas shells and opened fire at them. Former Maoists combatants, most of them in their youth hood from Joshipur Village Development Committee, were also involved in the protest, it is learnt.

Despite the fact that the agreement reached in an all-party meeting held between administration and agitating parties on

August 23, 2015 in District Administration Office, Kailali to sustain social harmony by organizing peaceful protest, the implementation of the agreement was found breached. The monitoring has found that arsons in private residences of general public including that of lawmakers in the aftermath of the carnage the following day on August 25, 2015 have posed a challenge to law and order

The Commission has, therefore, urged the government and the agitating parties to institute a fair probe into the incident to drag the culprits into justice, to ensure security of the local denizens, to provide appropriate relief and compensation to the families of the deceased and to make appropriate arrangement of the treatment of the injured and to be on high alert towards ceasing repercussion of the Tikapur incident.

Meanwhile, the Commission has demanded the details of the report including that of the post mortem with regard to the incident from Nepal Police and District Administration Office. The Commission

has also written to Thrauhat/Tharuwan Action Committee and Akhanda Sudur Paschim Movement Mobilization Committee demanding the detailed report of the incident. While the further investigation into the incident is underway, the daily life of the people has been hit hard due to the negative impact left on the occupation, business and employment following the curfew clamped in the area. The Commission has therefore urged the concerned parties to resolve the crisis.



Photo : Janakpur Office

The vehicle carrying the monitoring team faces the blocked caused with tyre burnt by the protestors in the middle of the road

Human Rights Situation monitored amid ongoing Agitation in Terai

PROTECTION

SAPTARI/SIRAHA: The NHRC monitoring team deployed by the central office took to the districts of Siraha and Saptari for situation monitoring with regard to incidents of human rights violation during the agitation launched by the Madhesh based political parties on the issue of the demarcation of proposed federal states in the constitution.

During the monitoring, the team comprising Human Rights Officers Shyam Babu Kafle, Hari Prasad Gyawali and Divye Jha met with the Chief District Officers of the respective districts, representatives of the protesting parties, human rights defenders, civil society members, journalists and the security agency deployed in the districts and took the stock of the information.

The incidents of casualties and injury on both sides of protestors and security force were reported while on the other hand the public and private properties were vandalized and damaged by the uncontrolled demonstrators in both Sihara and Saptari district.

The team found that the excessive force was employed on the demonstration while the agitation was said to have been peaceful though, it turned out to be violent. Attempts were learnt to have been allegedly made to instigate social disharmony.

The monitoring has found that the vehicular movement was brought to grinding halt due to the prolonged banda. Educational institutions were shut down hindering the teaching and learning process at both public and private schools. The team also found that there was scarce of daily commodities including fuel and the right to live in peaceful environment was infringed. On the other hand, the ailing people could not get the health treatment service due to the closure of hospital and nursing homes.

The monitoring has therefore forwarded the recommendation upon analysis that the rights violations is apparently sporadic and the crisis ridden situation will further go to worse unless the solution to the problem is reached well in time.

The monitoring has also recommended to draw the attention of the state bodies, security bodies and the agitating parties to sort out the crisis through meaningful dialogue and negotiations before it is too late. The team has also concluded that it is the state obligation to ensure the effective treatment of the injured in the incidents and right to life of the people.



Photo : Janakpur Office

NHRC Officers and the leaders of the agitating parties at discussion held amid protest launched in Siraha district

BARA / PARS A: Meanwhile, the NHRC monitoring team has monitored the human rights situation around the protest organized in Bara and Parsa districts amid the agitation launched by the disgruntled parties over the issue of the demarcation of the proposed federal states in the new constitution.

The team comprising Human Rights Officer Basu Dev Bajagain and Assistant First Kiran Ghimire were in the field monitoring from September 23 -27 with the objective to conduct on-the-spot monitoring on human rights situation. The team also monitored the funeral of those killed in the agitation. During monitoring, the team met with the protesting party leaders, security personnel, district based human rights activists including journalists and took the stock of the information about the protest.

end to the government and the protesting parties to resolve the crisis through talks and negotiations before it is too late.

The infrequent clashes between the security force and the demonstrators were reported during the protest. Both the demonstrators and the security personnel sustained injuries

in a clash that took at the Miteri Bridge located at the bordering area of Birgunj, a very busy business centre of Terai. An unofficial embargo was imposed at the bordering area where the demonstrators organized their sit-in program.

Similarly, though the protesting parties had committed not to misuse children in the political program, children were used in rallies and demonstration who allegedly pelted stones at the security personnel.

The educational institutions, on the other hand, resumed their teaching and learning process only in the morning shift as per the consensus reached between the protesting parties and the school authorities.

However, the prolonged banda appeared to have left adverse impact on the supply of very much essential daily commodities including the medicines. Also the general citizens endured difficulty in getting the health treatment service due to the closure of the district based hospital and nursing homes.

The report with analysis has been forwarded to the central office urging to recomm



Photo : Janakpur Office

Security force and motorcycle ridden protesters during the mob control at the Miteri Bridge along the bordering area of Birgunj

Human Rights Situation monitored amid continuous Unrest in Eastern Districts



Photo : Biratnagar Office

The Monitoring team including Commissioner Govinda Sharma Paudyal, Director Kosh Raj Neupane and HRO Badri Subedi with the UDMF and Limbuwan leaders at a meeting held in Morang district

ILAM: The NHRC monitoring team led by Commissioner Govinda Sharma Paudyal visited Morang, Sunsari, Dhankuta, Jhapa and Ilam districts and conducted the human rights situation monitoring amid ongoing agitation organized by various parties over the demarcation of the proposed federal states in the would-be framed constitution.

The monitoring team comprising Commissioner Govinda Sharma Paudyal, NHRC Regional Director Kosh Raj

Neupane and Human Rights Officer Badri Subedi held a meeting with district based Security Chief, Chief District Officers of eastern districts, including the Regional Administrative Officer Dhankuta district and had comprehensive discussion with them.

The team also met with representatives of agitating groups, including Federal Socialist Forum, Nepal, Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities and Sanghiya Lumbuwani Party Nepal, civil society

members, local level political party leaders and media persons.

Commissioner Govinda Sharma Paudyal said the issues emerged in political periphery need to be resolved through meaningful dialogue and consensus in political level. He urged the agitating parties to make their protest program to have their demand met out without violating human rights of the general citizens. Commissioner Sharma also urged the agitating parties to adopt the peaceful approach to protest and sustain social harmony in the area. He also urged the security force to restraint and comply with the minimum standards to use force as a last resort in order to maintain public order.

He added that the commission had already directed the government to probe the Tikapur incident in which nine people were killed on August 24. He also called on both agitating parties and the security bodies to restraint in order to evade the repercussion of the violent incident that is likely to infringe human rights of people.

During the meeting, the agitating party leaders requested the commission to mediate the dialogue between the agitating parties and the government.

Commitment expressed not to misuse Children in Political Programs

JUMLA: The NHRC Jumla Sub Regional Office organized an Interactions Program at Khalanga Bazar, Jumla on the occasion of the International Child Rights Day.

During the program, NHRC Sub Regional Officiating Director Shree Ram Adhikari raised his voice and denounced the misuse of innocent children in political rallies. He urged the political parties and other concerned stakeholders to duly implement the commitment to treat the school and child as the zones of peace. He also slammed the act of political party cadres for mistreating the two of the NHRC staff members.

At the program, the Registrar of the Appellate Court Tahigindra Kattel flayed the political party for misusing children in demonstration for political interest. Adding that the misuse of nude children in protest by the political parties of Jumla was unfortunate, he said that it is utterly against norms and values of human rights.

Bali Raj Shahi, Central Committee Member of the Federal Socialist Forum Nepal denied the misuse of children, he said that allegation surfaced after the children were found involved due to infiltration. However, other participants representing Nepali Congress, CPN UML, UCPN (Maoist) admitted that



Photo : Jumla Office

The Sub Regional Chief Shree Ram Adhikari and the participants at a program on child rights held with the representatives of the local government bodies, political parties and media

they do not have intention as such to misuse children in their programs and expressed their commitment that they wouldn't misuse the children and school in political activities in the days to come. They also committed that they would not enforce the schools to shut down during banda.

Meanwhile, the NHRC Jumla called on all the party representatives to make the district a child friendly district. At the program, the

representatives of all major political parties of the area, government agencies working for the rights of children and media persons among others were present.

The CRC was passed by the UN general assembly on November 20, 1989 and implemented on 2 September 1990. Nepal ratified this convention unconditionally on 14 September 1990.



The NHRC Officer and the human rights mobile camp mobilizing committee members at a workshop-cum-sharing program held in Kavre district

KAVREPALANCHOK: Chairperson Justice Anup Raj Sharma has said that, as envisaged, Human Rights Camp would strengthen the human rights situation of the earthquake survivors through the effective implementation of HR Camps.

Speaking at the inaugural function of program entitled 'Workshop on Monitoring Human Rights Situation in Natural Disaster' organized on 11-12 September, 2015 with the support of the National Coalition for Children as Zones of Peace and Child Protection (CZOPP), Chairperson Sharma commended the collaborative efforts spearheaded by the Commission and three other entities including Federation of Nepalese Journalists, NGO Federation and Nepal Bar Association to redress the emergence of incidents of human rights violations and abuses following the natural disaster.

On the occasion, Commissioner Justice Prakash Osti, citing the best practices and lessons learnt from the disaster management experience of the earthquake hit Indonesia, Haiti and New Zealand, urged the HR Mobile Committee to adopt prototype practices of Indonesia on the ground.

The objective of the workshop was to share information and orient Human Rights (HR) volunteers, facilitators and members of HR Camp Mobilization Committee on monitoring. The two day workshop also aimed at honing the skills and knowledge of the incumbent committee members of Human Rights Mobile camp to tackle the incidents of human rights violations and abuses in earthquake ravaged districts.

At the inauguration session, Secretary Bed Prasad Bhattarai stressed on the need of identifying lapses and challenges while addressing the human rights issues in the earthquake affected districts.

The speakers of the session included CZOPP Chairperson Krishna Subedi, NBA Secretary Sunil Pokharel, FNJ Secretary Prabhat Chalaune, Acting CDO of Kavrepalanchok district Arjun Kumar Sharma and Member of National Planning Commission Bimala Rai Paudel. Program Analyst of UNDP Tek Tamata, Prabhat Chalaune, Chairperson of NBA Hari Krishna Karki also spoke on the occasion.

At the workshop, consultant Kapil Acharya presented his working paper on 'Natural Disaster and Child Rights.' Bhanu Parajuli from CZOPP presented on major initiatives and achievements of the CZOPP with regard to safeguarding the rights of child both in normal and emergency situation during natural catastrophe.

At the workshop, the HR Camp Facilitator and Coordinator shared and updated the human rights situation the post quake period and the activities expedited by the respective human rights mobile camp mobilization committees.

Meanwhile, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer of SCNHRC Madhab Regmi presented on 'Measurable Indicators for HR Mobile Camp.'

Human Rights Officer Shyam Babu Kafle presented on human rights monitoring during natural disaster and fundamental skills in dealing with traumatized victims while Human Rights Officer Kalpana Jha briefed on women rights related issues focusing on natural disaster.

Promotion Division Head Surya Bahadur Deuja made presentation on 'Identification of victims from Vulnerable Groups and

their Special Needs including Coordination with Protection cluster.'

Admin Finance Officer of SCNHRC Amrit Basnet presented on financial guidelines and policies so as to enable the HR committee members and facilitators to record and manage the financial transactions in accordance with the specified financial rules.

Head of Disaster Management Section, MOHA Rameshor Dangal made presentation on Government plans and policies with regard to rescue, relief including reconstruction efforts in post disaster period.

At the program, CDO and District Court Justice of Kavre and National Planning Commission Commissioner shared their experience on ground situation and underlying needs of earthquake affected people.

Social Disharmony denounced

LALITPUR: The serious attention of the National Human Rights Commission has been drawn to the press release entitled 'Non-Cooperation Movement' issued by the name of Joint Democratic Madhesi Front and National Muslim Action Alliance on September 13, 2015. Urging the locals to socially boycott the security personnel, the press releases has asked to vacate all police units and posts, to remove the security personnel from the rented rooms within 48 hours from across Rautahat district including the district head quarter.

Such a press release publicized to prompt social disharmony and to violate freedom to engage in any occupation or be engaged in employment, industry and trade is downright objectionable from human rights perspective. Such an insensitive step taken is against the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and humanitarian law.

The Commission, therefore, urges the concerned political parties not to publicize such an ominous expression that deters social harmony and not to harbor or cause to harbor such expression to ensure or cause to ensure human rights by sustaining social harmony in society.

The Commission would also like to draw the attention of all the concerned parties to be on high alert to impede the publication and dissemination of leaflets, pamphlets and press releases that would deter social and professional harmony.

Meanwhile, the Commission invited the former NHRC Chair, former Commissioners and Madhesh related Rights Activists separately about ongoing Madhesh and had comprehensive discussion about the ongoing agitation and human rights situation in parts of the country.

9th National Day against Human Trafficking-2015 Human Trafficking still a Big Challenge to surmount over



Keynote Speakers, invitee Guests and the awardees of the honors at a mass program held in Kathmandu on the occasion of the 9th National Day against Human Trafficking – 2015

KATHMANDU: A mass rally was organized by various organizations and agencies working in the field of women’s rights including the National Human Rights Commission to mark the 9th National Day against Human Trafficking – 2015 on 17 September, 2015. Internalizing the theme ‘Let’s all unite together to end the problem of Human Trafficking and fulfill our duties and desires to face the disaster,’ for this year, the rally took to the streets from Bhrikuti Mandap and went to various thoroughfares of downtown Kathmandu and converged into a mass program at Nepal National Academy, Kathmandu.

The program was chaired by Minister for Women, Children and Social Welfare Nilam KC . Other guests included NHRC Commissioner / Spokesperson Mohna Ansari, Chair of National Women



A scene of mass rally organized to mark the 9th National Day against Human Trafficking – 2015

Commission Sheikh Chand Tara, Chairpersons of CCWB Dilli Ram Giri and Chairperson of Shakti Samuha Sunita Darlami among others.



Participants of the rallies and mass gathering held on the occasion of the 9th National Day against Human Trafficking – 2015

At the program, various speakers shared their views and opinions about combating human trafficking under the current circumstances. Given the fact the fear of children and women falling prey at the hands of the human trafficker has increased in many ways following the Nepal - earthquake, they said that the authorities and other concerned stakeholders need to keep strict vigil along the Indo-Nepal border to prevent transnational human trafficking.

The speakers also urged the concerned authorities to evolve measures to mitigate increasing challenges of trafficking by fully complying with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking in persons. They also criticized the government for its sluggishness to amend and implement the prevalent laws against trafficking.

On the occasion, as the guest of the program, Commissioner/Spokesperson Mohna Ansari said that vulnerability of women has, by and large, reached to its heights and women and children have become susceptible to trafficking due the recent deadly earthquake that hit the nation on April 25th, 2015. She therefore urged the service providing non-governmental organizations to change the centralized working approach and take their protection related work to the local level.

Commending the initiatives of the Security agency for dragging the educational consultancies into legal justice for their involvement in human trafficking in the name study overseas, Commissioner Ansari urged the concerned authority to seriously investigate such offense committed sporadically.

She also underscored the need to ratify the UN Protocol on Trafficking (Palermo Protocol). ‘Though challenges remain intact due to the failure of the government to effectively implement the prevalent Acts and Laws, all need to accelerate their activities to combat and control trafficking in persons,’ she observed. Nonetheless, Commissioner Ansari also urged the government for the adoption of victim-centric legal framework, enforcement and prosecution.

At the program a drama on human trafficking in persons was performed by the representatives of Shakti Samuha, an NGO working for the protection of women’s rights.

Around 3000 people from cross section of society participated in the rally and speech program. On the occasion, the persons dedicated to work for the rights of women, staff of government authorities and those who often penned their work for the protection of women’s human rights were honored and awarded with the certificates for their significant contribution in the field of safeguarding human rights of women.

The program was organized in coordination with the Office of the Special Rapporteur of Trafficking in Persons of the National Human Rights Commission.

Each year, International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8. The first International Women's Day was held in 1911. Thousands of events occur to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women. Organizations, governments, charities, educational institutions, women's groups, corporations and the media celebrate the day.

The Global Slavery Index Report (2013) ranks Nepal fifth among 162 countries in modern day slavery.

LALITPUR: A program entitled 'Stop Using children in Political Activities' was organized jointly by the National Human Right Commission and the National Coalition for Children as Zones of Peace and Child Protection (CZOPP) in Lalitpur on 17th September 2015 to mark the National Children's Day – 2015.

The objective of the program was to draw the attention of the political parties and other concerned stakeholders towards rampant use of children in political party program and to evoke their accountability and responsibility to implement the school and Children as Zones of Peace declared by the government in 2011.

At the outset, Krishna Subedi, the Chair of CZOOP, throwing light on the objective and rationale of the program, welcomed the invitee guests and participants.

At the program, Kamala Gyawali of the Department of Education, presented her paper on the child rights scenario and the government initiatives made for safeguarding the rights of child.

Similarly, Human Rights Officer Manju Khatiwada made presentation on the child rights issues including lying gaps in protection of the rights of child. Highlighting the international human rights instruments including Universal Declaration of Human Rights-1948, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights- 1966 and the Convention on the Rights of the Child – 1989, constitutional provisions including the past commitments expressed by the political parties to spare the children from using in their party events, she shared about the NHRC initiatives made for the protection and promotion of the rights of child in the country. She also highlighted the state obligation for the respect, protection and fulfillment of the rights of child.

On the occasion, former Education Minister Gangalal Tuladhar, Member Secretary of the National Dalit Commission Sitaram Ghali Pariyar, former NHRC Commissioner Gauri Pradhan, Leader of CPN (Maoist) Pampha Bhusal, Spokesperson of Nepali Congress Dilendra Badu including various speakers representing from Child Clubs shared their views and opinion with regard to the misuse of children in political activities and the risk emerged due to the involvement of the children in political party rallies and demonstration amid the political impasse. It was also urged to the GoN to bring an appropriate and child friendly law to help protect children from all political activities.



Photo - Umesh Rana Magar, Central Office

NHRC Commissioner and Spokesperson Mohna Ansari delivering the closing remark at a program held on the occasion of the National Children's Day -2015 in Kathmandu

The speakers at the program expressed their discontent in unison about the children being misused in the political rallies for political interest. Underlining the norms and values of the children and school as zones of peace, the speakers expressed their commitment to implement or cause to implement this by all the political parties.

The implementation of the Children as Zones of Peace has largely gone unheeded since the political parties have nurtured the culture of misusing the children for the political interest by ignoring the risk of violent protests often faced by the children, it was shared in the program.

Mentioning about the continuous general strike and banda in many southern districts and in a few hill districts of the country, speakers urged the agitating parties to give free access to the school bus to ply just like ambulances during banda so as to sustain normalcy in teaching and learning process at schools. They came up with the urge that while using the rights of own let not the rights of others violate.

At the program, the participants opined that besides the state obligation to safeguard the rights of child, the misuse of children in the protest program of the political parties is utterly against UDHR, ICCPR, and CRC, they said.

On the occasion, NHRC Commissioner / Spokesperson Mohan Ansari, in her closing remark, said that the commission has been monitoring the child rights situation amid the political agitation launched by various parties on the issues related the delineation

of the proposed federal state in new constitution.

Keeping strict vigil on the misuse of the children in the demonstration and political parties and groups, that the commission has time and again urged the political parties to spare the children from misusing them in their program, Commissioner Ansari mentioned. She urged that the government, in the first place, needs to be responsible to evade such occurrence.

She also raised her concern about the school premises being used for the political party program and the school buildings being used for the storage of relief materials thereby hindering the teaching and learning process in those schools.

She concluded that the Commission would like to see that the commitment expressed by the government, political parties including all the concerned stakeholders is fulfilled at their disposal.

The program saw a huge number of participants representing various child rights organizations, child clubs, PABSON, N-PABSON, Guardians Association of Nepal, NHRC Secretary, staff members of NHRC and CZOPP and media persons among others.

In order to commemorate Nepal's signing to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on 14 September 1989, 'National Children's Day' has been observed since the restoration of democracy in Nepal on 29th September every year.



Photo : Janak Raj Bhatta, Central Office

NHRC Chair Justice Anup Raj Sharma receiving the letter of memorandum from the representatives of the PABSON and N-PABSON at a program held at the NHRC on the resumption of the educational institutions

LALITPUR: The National Human Rights Commission has drawn the attention of all the concerned authorities towards the use of children in general strike and protest program and to create an atmosphere for the resumption of regular classes without any hindrance.

In an interaction held with delegation representing various education related organizations and agencies at the Commission, Chairperson Justice Anup Raj Sharma said that right to education is the fundamental rights of children and urged that while enjoying one's rights, the rights of others should be respected.

Responding to the concerns raised by the representatives of the delegation, Chair Sharma said that the NHRC has been conducting its mandated activities in order to make the government accountable for the right to education.

Adding that the Commission has been incessantly monitoring the human rights situation in various districts in the country, Chair Sharma reiterated that the use of children in political program such as Banda is against international treaties to which Nepal is a party.

On the occasion, Commissioner Govinda Sharma Paudyal briefed about the NHRC monitoring in different parts of Nepal and its initiatives to resume schools and recommendations sent to the government and concerned stakeholders to abide by the commitment to implement Children as Zone of Peace.

On the occasion, stakeholders including president of N-PABSON Karna Bahadur Shahi, President of PABSON Lakshya Bahadur K.C., Chair of Guardian Association of Nepal Suprabhat Bhandari, Vice President of HISSAN Ramesh Silwal urged the NHRC to make necessary intervention including mediation between the agitating parties in various parts of the country such as Tarai-Madesh for the resumption of schools and adhere to earlier commitment of the parties to respect the children's rights to education and treat the schools as the zone of peace.

The participants said that frequent banda and strike have deprived thousands of children to enjoy right to education and it has also infringed the right to education of 71 hundred thousand students due to which parents are forced to take their children in neighboring countries.

The stakeholders drew serious attention of all the political parties to pay respect the norms and values of schools and Children

as Zone of Peace as declared by the Government of Nepal in 2011.

On the occasion, concerns were also raised on the deadline for filling up the form for board exams of grade XI which is approaching too closer.

Criticizing no responsive approach turned to the grievances of the educational institutions by the Ministry of Education for the smooth operation of school and colleges, stakeholder representatives urged the agitating parties to pay heed to the norms and values of Schools and Colleges as Zone of Peace and give unhindered access to the transportation of the educational institutions to ply like ambulances.

At the program, the organizations including PABSON, N-PABSON, HISSAN, Guardian Association of Nepal and the Teachers' Federation drew the attention of the Commission to initiate to call on the agitating parties to create an atmosphere for the resumption of regular classes without any hindrance.



Representatives of the Guardian Association of Nepal, the PABSON and N-PABSON sharing their views and opinions on the impact left on the education institutions due to indefinite banda called in Tarai Madesh including other parts of the country

Photo : Janak Raj Bhatta, Central Office

NHRC Team in Kalikot to investigate Conflict—Era Incidents of Human Rights Violations

KALIKOT: The team of National Human Rights Commission Sub-Regional Office Jumla has reached Kalikot in connection with the investigation into the incidents of human rights violation of the armed conflict. The team comprising the Sub-Regional Officiating Director Shree Ram Adhikari and Human Rights Officer Rajendra Neupane visited Pili and Kotwada in order to look into the implementation status of the recommendations including the conditions of the victims' families with regard to the incidents of during the armed conflict period as per the directives from the NHRC Central Office.

The team is all set to investigate the backlog cases in which 63 security personnel and 26 Maoists cadres were killed in an incident of clash between the conflicting parties including the then Royal Nepal Army and the rebellion CPN (Maoist) in Pili on

August 7, 2005 and another incident of cold blooded killing of 29 construction workers of the airport in Kotwada.

During the investigation, the team took to the incident spot, met with the families of the victims including Shakti Malla and Pare Gharti on September 25, 2015 and had discussion with regard to the incident.

The team also met with the Chief District Officer and the Chiefs of the district based Security Agencies in the district on September 25, 2015 in connection with the incident. 'The research based investigation into those backlog cases is launched as because the NHRC recommendation sent to the Government of Nepal on the basis of the decision made on August 21, 2005 with regard to the Pili incident to provide compensation to the victims' families and to prosecute the accused has remained dormant for years now,' Sub Regional

Officiating Director Shree Ram Adhikari said.

Though 55 security personnel, 2 general citizens and 60 Maoists cadres were abducted in Pili incident as per the NHRC data, 62 names of the security personnel have been inscribed in the memorials erected in memory of those killed in Pili attack.

The team in the field has said that the team deployed by the Central Office is all set to carry out investigation into the incident of Jogimara, Dhading in which 35 general citizens were killed. The team will head towards Kotwada in second phase. 'Meanwhile, the team will hold meetings with the local human rights defenders, journalists and civil society members and discuss about the incident including necessary coordination,' said Sub Regional Officiating Director Adhikari.

Continued from page 1

NHRC all set to...

The Commission will also conduct on-the-spot investigation with regard to the implementation status of the recommendations made on the incident of the Kapilvastu in which 14 people were killed and hundreds of them were displaced and injured in 2007 and the victims of flood in Kailali and Kanchanpur, Saptatri and Sunsari. The incidents of caste discrimination in which Dalits were deprived of their entry into Saileshwari Temple in Doti, the incident of Siraha in which disputes had emerged when Dalits refused to dispose the carcasses including the incident of violence against women perpetrated in Simardehi, Mahottari in 2001 have also been enlisted for carrying

out the investigation into the implementation status of the recommendations on these incidents.

The Commission will demand the information from the Nepal Army with regard to the incident of killing of the families of Army in Gam (Rolpa), Mangalsen (Achcham), Ghorahi (Dang), and Pili (Kalikot). Similarly The Commission will ask the information from Nepal Police with regard to the incident of killing of family members of Nepal Police in Bahnkundebeshi (Kavrepalanchok), Naumune (Dailekh) and Bhiman (Sinduli). The Commission will also acquire information from the Armed Police Force with regard to the

incident of Dhankhola (Dang), Khairikhola (Banke), Kusum, Bhaluwang (Dang), Chaipur (Sankhuwasabha) and Satbaryia (Dang).

During the course of investigation, the Commission will interact with the victims' families and other stakeholders. The investigation team will comprise the Officers from the Commission including the students specified Nepal Law Campus. Three different teams will be mobilized in Ramechhap, Chitwan and Dhading effecting from September 24, 2015.

The Commission urges all the concerned to extend necessary support and coordination during the course of investigation studies from their end.

HRs monitoring conducted amid Unrest in East

KHOTANG: The NHRC Sub-Regional Office, Khotang has monitored the human rights situation in Diktel, the district headquarter of Khotang amid general strike called on September 20, 2015 by the disgruntled parties including Federal Socialist Forum, Maoists (Vaidya Faction) and Maisits (Biplav Faction) over the issue of demarcation of federal states to be on the basis of identity following the endorsement of new constitution of Nepal.

On-the-spot monitoring conducted by the NHRC Jumla Office has found that the impact has been left on the vehicular

movement, educational institutions and industries though no incidents of human rights violations were reported.

The banda enforcers were raising their demands including the end of repression on the peaceful agitation as well as withdrawal of army. Meanwhile, the agitating parties had declared blackout in the night of the endorsement of new constitution.

Following the continuous banda and its adverse impact left on the daily life of the people, the local entrepreneurs and business

houses took to the streets protesting against the banda. They also called on the authority to maintain public law and order in the area.

One day banda was also called in Solukhumbu. However, only a few sporadic incidents of black out, displaying of black flags, tearing the draft of new constitution and installation of boards with local names were reported in Okhaldhunga, Bhojpur, Khotang and Solukhumbu, no unprecedented incidents such as arrest spree were reported to have occurred, according to the report sent from the NHRC Sub-Regional Office, Jumla.

Commission hails Constitution of Nepal

The National Human Rights Commission has taken endorsement of the long awaited Constitution of Nepal on September 20, 2015 by the majority of the people's representatives as a historic document and the foundation of democracy and human rights. The Chief Law of Land has come into force now after a decade long wish and concerted effort inculcated by the Nepali people. The commission expresses its confidence that the newly promulgated constitution would help ensure the identity of Nepalis, their freedom and equality.

The commission has expressed serious concern over the adverse impact on fundamental issues of human rights including the livelihood of people, their employment, education, health, security and freedom of movement due to the worsening situation emerged from ongoing shutdown and agitations.

Since no sustainable solution could be sought to any issues such as the profound indent, existence and dignity through the shutdown, strike and use of force, the Commission once again urges both the agitating parties to call off their demonstration and the Government of Nepal to reach out to the solution through amicable dialogue and negotiation. There are both pros and cons in the supreme law promulgated by the Constituent Assembly and thus the Commission yet again urges both the government and the agitating parties to sort out the differences through dialogue by exercising maximum flexibility on basis of factual analysis.

It is not pardonable from human rights perspectives to create a situation where children, women and innocent citizens have to give up on their lives in various districts of the country just because of the absence of dialogue.

The Commission urges the agitating parties to be on alert and to stop arson and vandalizing private properties which cause their constitutional right to peaceful assembly to go in vain and their valid demands to go under shadow.

The Commission once again urges all the concerned to foster respect for the rights of others while enjoying their own. The Commission also urges the security force to employ force with full compliance of law.

First Death Anniversary of Nanda Prasad Adhikari, Corpse still in Mortuary NHRC urges to end Impunity

KATHMANDU: The NHRC has expressed concern on the violation of human rights caused due to the deprivation of cremation of Nanda Prasad Adhikari as per the tradition and culture even after one year of his death.

The Commission has taken this as an unfortunate incident. The Commission has, therefore, urged the Government of Nepal (GoN) to drag the accused to justice, to provide justice to the victim's family and to implement the commitment expressed by the government before the family of deceased Adhikari by publicizing the factual truth with regard to the incident.

Nanda Prasad Adhikari breathed his last while fighting for justice demanding legal action against the accused involved in the murder of his son Krishna Prasad Adhikari.

The Commission has been continuously monitoring the health situation of Ganga Maya Adhikari who has also been staging hunger strike for a long time now. Her health condition is found to be deteriorating. The Commission had investigated the aforementioned incident on April 5, 2008 and recommended to the GoN to take legal action against the accused on criminal charge and to provide compensation to the victim's family.

Similarly, the Commission has urged the GoN to ensure justice by investigating all types of incidents of armed conflict period in order to end the state of impunity in the country. The Commission had written to the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers with regard to the incident related to Krishna Prasad Adhikari on August 12, 2013.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Implementation Status of the NHRAP in a Dismal State: NHRC Monitoring

KHOTANG: The NHRC Sub-Regional Office Khotang has monitored the implementation of Five Year National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) of the government in Khotang from September 11- 17, 2015.

With the objective to oversee whether or not the NHRAP is implemented in local level, the team deployed by the Sub Regional Office, Khotang took to Khotang bazaar and conducted on-the-spot monitoring in the government offices and Area Administration Office in Khotang Bazaar. During the course of monitoring, the team held interviews followed by personal and group based discussions.

The team had prioritized 18 subject matters included in the current work plan intended for the implementation by the local government bodies. The monitoring also aimed at facilitating necessary measures to improve in the implementation status of the NHRAP.

The monitoring has found that though there is a provision laid out for the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, National Planning Commission, concerned line Ministries and authorities, local government bodies and non-governmental



Photo : Khotang Office
NHRC Sub Regional Chief of Khotang, Jhanker Rawal during the monitoring of NHRP in Khotang district

organizations to monitor the implementation status of the NHRAP, it is in a very dismal state, the NHRC monitoring unveils.

Apart from the basic human rights provisions enshrined in the Interim Constitution of Nepal – 2007 and in line with international human rights instruments, priorities have also been given to safe housing, social service and security, drinking water, sanitation, electricity and consumption of natural resources, among others. Above all, the NHRAP has also emphasized on the execution of Supreme Court decisions and recommendations of National Human Rights Commission.

Twenty five participants comprising the representatives of various government and non-governmental organizations took part in the interaction.

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