



राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission, Nepal

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय Central Office

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Press Release

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Be sensitive to children's health

National Human Rights Commission draws its attention seriously towards the crisis of COVID – 19 from the last year and the rising number of coronavirus cases of new variant and the rising risk towards children.

The Commission recently conducted a monitoring of schools in the Kathmandu Valley to know about the implementation of the essential health protocol and the situation of the coronavirus infection. The monitoring found that the government schools were more susceptible to the coronavirus than the private schools as they are not implementing the health protocol. The enforcement of safety measures was also weak as the number of students is very high, and the students suffering headache were together with normal students.

The NHRC has been informed via various media that more than 300 children were infected with the coronavirus in the last two weeks. The Ministry of Health and Population even provided suggestion to close immediately the educational institutions of high-risk zones of 14 districts including the Kathmandu valley as well as the other services but the educational institutions are neither enforcing the health protocol nor are closed, these are running physically so that right to children's health is at risk. The Commission further reminds that the children's right is ensured by Article 39 of the Constitution of Nepal and the article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of Children, 1989 also provides that Children have the right to the best health care possible in which Nepal is a state party.

Thus, the Commission requests to the Government of Nepal and all the concerned stakeholders to pay attention to children's right to health and ensure alternative arrangement to their education, pay attention to children's right to life ensuring right to education, be serious about the dissemination of information on sensitive health issues, not to issue contradictory notices in terms of the operation of schools from the Ministry of health and population and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, not be instilled with psychological fear to the parents and students, disseminate sensitive information only after taking consultation and suggestions from the health ministry, take seriously the issue like health.

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Dr. Tika Ram Pokharel

Joint Secretary/Spokesperson

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