Press Release

7 February, 2021

The monitoring of the murder incident of Bhagrathi Bhatta began

Bring book the culprits in the legal proceeding

The Commission draws its attention seriously towards the rape and murder incident of 17 years old Bhagrathi Bhatta on 3 February, 2021 who was studying in grade 12 at Sanatan Dharma Secondary School, Khochale a resident of Dogadakedar rural municipality - 7, Baitadi district. The monitoring team of the NHRC Province Office Dhangadi is heading towards the incident spot.

The Commission sent a letter to the District Police Office Baitadi asking to send information with regard to the investigation and the current situation of the incident. As per the information received by the Commission she was brutally murdered and thrown into the Lavalake jungle under the Khocheleka Giredanda rural road while returning from school.

In the mountainous and Himalayan districts including Baitadi, the students have their obligation to cross furthest physical distance by foot to go to school so that there is lack of safety and security and such types incidents may create obstacle to the children's rights to life, right to protection and right to child development this leads to the negative impact to the child psychology.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1948 and the Constitution of Nepal and other existing laws guarantee the right to live with dignity, right to protection and right to access to justice.

Thus, the Commission requests to the government of Nepal to investigate the incident impartially and effectively, pay special attention to the victim's protection and collection of the evidences during investigation, bring book the culprits involved in the incident, provide intrim relief to the victim's family.

Dr. Tika Ram Pokharel
Spokesperson
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