



# राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission, Nepal

केन्द्रिय कार्यालय Central Office

हरिहर भवन, पुल्चोक, ललितपुर, HariharBhawan, Pulchowk, Lalitpur, Nepal



Press Release

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## Request to immediately solve the sugarcane farmers' problem

National Human Rights Commission concerns seriously towards the news reports and farmers staging protest in Kathmandu demanding their outstanding dues from the sugar mill operators as the sugar mill operators had not cleared dues of the farmers from Sarlahi, Rautahat and Nawalparasi for a long time.

The Commission has corresponded to the Government of Nepal, asking it to provide information regarding sugar mill companies who had not cleared dues amount of purchasing the sugar of the farmers and the action taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies for disbursement of subsidy to sugarcane farmers. The Commission team has been holding discussion with the officials of concerned ministries of Province 2, sugarcane farmers from Sarlahi and sugar mill owners.

The farmers, who are dependent on sugarcane farming, not getting their dues from the sugar mill operators in a timely manner have been denied their fundamental rights to have the right to acquire, own, sell, dispose, acquire business profits from and otherwise deal with, property. The Commission also reminds to feel the responsibility as the provisions stipulated in the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights-2011, which requires the business sectors have the responsibility to protect and promote human rights and the state to protect from business-related human rights abuses and provide the victims access to effective remedy. The Commission also reminds that it has already recommended to all the three tiers of government regarding formulation of the laws for the rights protection of farmers on the basis of the conclusion drawn from the previous monitoring and the study to increase production and the productivity and arrange the proper cost of the agricultural production and access to the market.

Thus, the Commission requests to the Government of Nepal, sugar mills and concerned all to be sensitive for the effective implementation of the laws arranged for the protection of the rights of the farmers and resolve the problem faced by the sugarcane farmers and protect their fundamental rights and human rights.

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Bed Bhattarai

Secretary/Spokesperson