



# राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission, Nepal

केन्द्रिय कार्यालय Central Office

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



**Press Release**

**April 24, 2020**

## **Request to pay attention to the reliable and rapid testing**

The expansion of the COVID-19 in the Udhayapur district including others created the additional state of being vigilant though the lockdown is effected for the prevention and control of the global COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. The Commission draws its attention towards the very little testing of COVID-19 in some of the places as the number of COVID-19 infected persons are increasing. Though the RDT testing is high in number as compared to PCR but as per the other countries' experience the RDT technology is not reliable and only the PCR testing technology makes sure whether the person is infected or not, therefore, the Commission requests to speed up the PCR testing and contract tracing.

The lockdown is not fully followed though social distancing is the main basis for the prevention of COVID-19 as the Monitoring Committees in the central, province and the district level observe. Even from Kathmandu valley including other various cities huge number of people heading towards their destination, the continuity of the crowded local markets in the various districts of Terai region, and lack of social distancing as crowd of people gathering in the food and grocery stores show the risk of snowballing the infected persons. Thus, the Commission appeals to the concerned all to follow and cause to follow the lockdown maintaining individual and social distance without being in a crowd.

The Commission requests to make an enough arrangement considering towards lack of the adequate ventilators, isolation wards, PPE, essential drugs in the days to come as the situation of the pandemic is increasing day by day. Similarly, the Commission requests to make necessary coordination among the federal, province and the local governments to respect, protection and promotion of human rights properly arranging the distribution of relief package to solve the problems, pay proper attention in the relief package to the persons with disability, pregnant women, senior citizens, children, detainees and prisoners, squatters and the severely poor, to adopt effective measures for the prevention of violence of women as increased during lockdown, to do additional arrangement inside the quarantine, and to implement the interim order of the respected Supreme Court of Nepal with regard to the nationals living in the quarantine at the borders.

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Bed Bhattarai  
Secretary/Spokesperson