



# राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission, Nepal

केन्द्रिय कार्यालय Central Office

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Press Release

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## **The National Campaign on Reduction of Violence against Women and the Protection of Human Rights is Initiating from Kanchanpur District**

The National Human Rights Commission in association with Nepal Police is going to initiate a national campaign on "**Accountability of Nepal Police in Reduction of Violence against Women and Protection of Human Rights**" from Mahendranagar Kanchanpur on 5 September, 2018. During the campaign, the Commission's team will also discuss the progress made so far in connection with the rape and murder of Nirmala Panta and conduct a site monitoring, besides holding a discussion with families of the victim.

The Commission is carrying out monitoring of news and reports in media regarding VAW and violation of human rights, and complaints relating thereto filed at police offices on a regular basis. In the Nepal Police offices 1,480 cases of rape, 727 rape attempts, 308 trafficking in persons, 62 child marriage, 48 violence on the charge of witchcraft and 18 forced abortions are seen to be complaints throughout the country in the fiscal 2017-18. Most of the victims of rape and rape attempt seem to be minors between the ages of five and 16 years. A monitoring conducted by the Commission shows that security personnel are also involved in reconciling the victims with perpetrators in some cases against the law. Most of recorded incidents of rape have been perpetrated by members of the same family and close relatives, while other persons are involved in gang rapes and a recent trend shows that perpetrators of gang rape kill the victim after the incident. The failure of Nepal Police to bring to book the perpetrators by conducting prompt and effective criminal investigation further poses a threat to the life of the victim and gives rise to impunity. Various complaints received by the Commission show that rape victims have also been deprived of legal aid, medical treatment and protection.

Nepal Police has a crucial role in controlling and reducing crimes, including VAW like this over the women. Therefore, the Commission would like to urge all concerned parties to make the investigation and prosecution process more effective and enhance access of victim to protection and justice in the context of increasing incidents of VAW. With this aim, the Commission is organizing different programs in all seven provinces including the Kathmandu valley.

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Mohna Ansari  
Member/Spokesperson