



Human Rights e-Newsletter

National Human Rights Commission of Nepal



• Harihar Bhawan, Lalitpur, Nepal • Volume 8 • Issue 5 • November, 2012

Kathmandu Resolution-2012 Adopted: Combined Effort Stressed for Human Rights of Migrant Workers



Rt. Hon'ble Dr. Ram Baran Yadav, President of Nepal along with the participants of the International Conference on Cooperation between NHRIs for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in the Asia Pacific Region hosted by the NHRC – Nepal

Photo: Rajendra Chitrakar

KATHMANDU: Hosted by the National Human Rights Commission of Nepal, International Conference on Cooperation between the National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in the Asia Pacific Region concluded in Kathmandu with the adoption of the Kathmandu Resolution - 2012.

Addressing the two day conference, President of Nepal, Dr. Ram Baran Yadav stressed the need of collective efforts to ensure the rights of migrant workers and expressed his concern over the downtrodden human rights condition of migrant workers.

"With the peoples' movement in 2006 we made significant strides in Nepal's

"We are committed to pluralist democracy, rule of law, devolution of power, human rights, and fundamental freedoms of our people. However, we are equally facing formidable challenges in Nepal to bring about rapid and tangible economic benefits to our people", the President added.

Continued to Page 8

International Conference on Cooperation between NHRIs for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in the Asia Pacific Region, 26-27 November 2012, Kathmandu

The Resolution, sketched in line with the International Convention on the Protection of the Migrant Workers and Their Families and various other human rights treaties and instruments including Programs of Action, had been a deeply sought-after regional mechanism for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers.

democratic development and journey that began with the historic 1950 revolution and 1990 movement for multiparty democracy culminated in historical achievements of 2006. In this long journey, it was only in mid-nineties we constituted National Human Rights Commission as our endeavor to create democratic institutions", the President said.

Contents	Page
Kathmandu Resolution-2012.....	1
Collaboration Stressed.....	2
NHRC Urges the	2
Interaction held on.....	3
Karnali Region endures.....	3
Synopsis of Resolution.....	5
HOMAGE.....	5
Child Rights Activists.....	5
International Conference... ..	6
Right to Education Monitored	7
Glimpses of the Conference.....	8

In this issue...

Delegates of NHRC -Korea Visit NHRC- Nepal

Collaboration Stressed for the Protection of Human Rights of Migrant Workers



Delegates of NHRC-Korea along with the Office Bearers of the NHRC – Nepal during the visit of Korean delegates to the NHRC – Nepal

Photo: Sagar Shrestha

LALITPUR: Following the International Conference on the Protection of Human Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the delegates of the NHRC-Korea called on NHRC-Nepal on November 28, 2012.

During their visit, the Office Bearers of the NHRC-Nepal and Korean Delegates led by the Chairperson of NHRC Korea Hyun Byung Chul had broad discussion on broadening the area of mutual support and collaboration for the promotion and protection of human rights of migrant workers.

At the meeting, Chairperson of NHRC Korea Hyun Byung Chul stated that the NHRC-Korea has been seriously working on the protection of human rights of migrant workers in Korea.

He underscored the recommendations frequently sent to the Government to ensure the rights of migrant workers particularly regarding right to health, right to education of their children and other fundamental rights and freedom of migrant workers in Korea. He also informed that the attention of the Korean Government is drawn to the status of the migrants who have reached there through marital relation

as well as the undocumented migrant workers for the protection of their human rights.

Welcoming the Korean delegates, the NHRC Chairperson Justice Kedar Nath Upadhyay regarded the National Human Right Commission of Korea to be a closed partner in working for the protection and promotion of human rights.

Recalling the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) inked between

the NHRC-Nepal and NHRC-Korea, Chairperson Upadhyay expressed his enthusiasm to work further in collaboration to achieve significant goal in human rights movement in the days ahead. He also showed his keen interest towards the rights of the Migrant Workers based in Korea.

On the occasion, NHRC Member Gauri Pradhan stated that there are abundant possibilities for the mutual collaboration between the two countries that would widen the scope of international and regional assistance for the protection of rights of Migrant Workers. He expressed his willingness to work hand in hand on the common issues concerning human rights of Migrant Workers.

Member Pradhan also stressed on the necessity of regular monitoring for the effective implementation of the MoU between NHRC-Nepal and South Korea.

Member Ram Nagina Singh, Secretary Bishal Khanal and Directors were also present in the meeting.

The "Memorandum of Understanding" on the rights of Migrant workers was signed between the National Human Right Commissions of Nepal and the NHRC-Korea on 27th December, 2010.



NHRC- Chairperson handing over the souvenir to the Chairperson Hyun Byung Chul of the NHRC- Korea during the goodwill visit of the Korean delegates to the NHRC

Photo: Sagar Shrestha

NHRC Urges the Ratification of the UNCPRMW

LALITPUR: The National Human Rights Commission held a meeting at its premises and recommended to the Government of Nepal to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

Similarly, the meeting also passed the Human Rights Defenders

Guidelines-2069. In the guidelines, the Commission has incorporated the resolutions passed by the National Conference of Human Rights Defenders held on 9 October, 2012 in Lalitpur. The Guidelines is developed in line with the norms of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect the Universally Recognized

Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders)-1998.

Likewise, in the meeting, the Commission has also recommended to the Government of Nepal to endorse the Guidelines on the human rights collaboration and coordination-2069 which has been developed with the objective to strengthening and institutionalizing the collaboration between human rights defenders and civil society.

Interaction held on the Situation of Conflict Victims in Janakpur



Participants of the interaction held on conflict victims held in Janakpur

Photo: NHRC Regional Office, Janakpur

DHANUSHA: The NHRC Regional Office, Janakpur held a two day interaction program on the situation of conflict victims from 23- 24 November, 2012. The objective of the program was to have discussion on the situation of conflict victims, to bring to light their problems and their remedial solutions.

Inaugurated by the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court Tej Bahadur K.C , the program was attended by 30 participants from various districts including Saptari,

Udaypur, Siraha, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Bara and Parsa. The program was chaired by the NHRC Officiating Director Buddha Narayan Sahani Kewat in which the representatives of each district made their presentation on the pervasive situation of the problems faced by the conflict victims even after the CPA was signed ahead of peace process brought in progress in the country. They presented the activities with regard to the problems of conflict victims and the progress so far made in the respective districts.

On the second day of the program, the interaction session continued at the presence of Hon. Tej Bahadur K.C as the chief guest of the program, Krishna Raj Upadhyaya- chief district Officer - Dhanusha, Basanta Pant-Superintendent of District Police Office - Dhanusha and other participants from various districts.

On the occasion, the interaction mainly focused on the role and responsibilities of the peace committee, coordination between local peace committee and district administration office and security agency in the district. They raised their concern

that though the peace committee is autonomous in nature, it doesn't seem to work independently due to pervasive political influence. The office term for the coordinator and office secretary is limited to three to six months resulting in ineffective deliveries. They also raised their strong concern over the appointment of the office bearers in the peace committee on the basis of the letter sent straight from the ministry for relief distribution to those who do not fall in the defined category of victims . They also criticized for ignoring the recommendations placed by the district level peace committee.

The participants also noted that incumbent Chief District Officer couldn't look into such matter as he used to be busy in his own administrative works. The participants also expressed their anxiety over the dilly dallying in the reinstatement of the police unit in village level which was destroyed during the conflict period. They also had thorough interaction over the responsibilities given to the peace committees to monitor the public and private properties destroyed during the conflict period. They, however, lamented that this has yet not materialized to this effect since the committee hasn't received any directives from the centre and the concerned district police office of the district.

Karnali Region Endures Pitiably Health Services: Improvement Stressed

JUMLA: The intellectuals and the civil society members of Karnali region have stressed the improvement of the poor health services in the region.

They pointed out this at a workshop entitled "Human rights and right to Health" organized by the NHRC Sub Regional Office, Jumla.

Speaking at the program, Bishnu Neupane of Homeopathy Hospital of Jumla stated that though the number of patients are increasing day by day, adequate health services are a far-dream for the patients due to the unavailability of medicine. Commending the NHRC initiative to conduct the much needed health related program, Jiwn Sajwal of Human Rights Network stressed that the program as such should be frequently held.

Bhupendra Thapa, Chief District Officer of Jumla district pinpointed the necessity of further effort of the political parties to be inculcated from their side for the improvement of health services in the district. Similarly, the forerunner of the civil

society Sarpananda Hamal stressed on the necessity of the role to be played by the political parties for the improvement of the health services in the region.

On the occasion, acting Local Development Officer Chhetra Bahadur Budhathapa said that the district development office has been actively working for the improvement of the health services in the district through the fund made available from the HIV/ AIDS and Village Development Health Programs.

Stressing the necessity to improve the health services in the Karnali Region, District Attorney General Krishna Pudasaini, Vice Chairperson of Bar Association-Padam Banadur Shahi, President of the NGO Federation, Purnanand Pandey including Advocate Rajendra Neupane provided their comments and suggestions to improve health facilities in the region.



NHRC Officials and the representatives of the government authorities at the program held on health services in Jumla district

Photo: NHRC Sub-Regional Office, Jumla

Fifty participants comprising the health workers of Jumla and Mugu districts, security personnel, representatives of the political parties, civil society, media persons and the VDC secretaries participated in the workshop.

Though 22 posts available for doctors in Jumla hospital, only four doctors hold the office and on top of that, the hospital acutely lacks much needed specialized doctor.

KATHMANDU RESOLUTION, 2012

(Synopsis)

The International Conference on Cooperation between National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Migrant Workers was held in Kathmandu, Nepal on 26-27 November 2012 with an outcome document known as Kathmandu Resolution, 2012. The Conference organized by the National Human Rights Commission of Nepal with participants from NHRIs, International Organizations and National Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), independent experts, civil society organizations and academics from the Asia-Pacific countries discussed in-depth the prospects and opportunities for international cooperation towards the promotion and protection of the rights of the migrant workers.

Section I: Principal Areas of Cooperation

1. NHRIs in the Asia Pacific Region are encouraged to take action in the following areas for the purpose of promoting and protecting the human rights of the migrant workers:
 - (i) Establishment of regional cooperation mechanism among the respective NHRIs of the Asia Pacific Region to enhance mutual cooperation and advocacy for the protection of the human rights of the migrant workers,

Outcome Document of the International Conference on Cooperation between National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Migrant Workers 26-27 November 2012, Kathmandu

- (ii) Standard-setting on women migrant workers in the regional and international levels,
- (iii) Promoting the regional cooperation towards the universal ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, 1990 including among destination countries in Asia Pacific Region,
- (iv) Promoting universal ratification and implementation of all other international UN human rights treaties and ILO conventions relevant to the rights of the migrant workers,
- (v) Strengthening of cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants and other Special Procedures established by the Human Rights Council (HRC),
- (vi) Enhancing cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), particularly with the National Institutions Unit (NIU) and Asia and the Pacific Unit,
- (vii) Enhancing cooperation with international organizations, as well as regional organizations in particular, International Labor Organization (ILO),



Members of the working committee representing the various NHRIs during the formulation of the Kathmandu Resolution – 2012

Photo: Sarki Man Tamang

International Organization for Migration (IOM), South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and ASEAN Inter Governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR),

- (viii) Encouraging and supporting establishment of independent NHRIs in conformity with the Principles Relating to the Status and Functioning of National Institutions for Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (Paris Principles) and Strengthening of NHRI mandates with regard to the human rights of the migrant workers,
- (ix) Encouraging development and implementation of National Human Rights Action Plans (NHRAP) that include the human rights of migrants, and ensuring the implementation of such action plans,

- (x) Cooperating towards providing effective remedies such as complaints-filing, counseling, investigation, etc., regarding human rights violations against the migrant workers, in particular, irregular and undocumented workers, victims of trafficking, smuggling and sexual abuse with special emphasis to adopt the special measures to ensure human rights of the migrant workers under high risk and vulnerable situations as per 4R Approach (Rescue, Repatriation, Rehabilitation and Reintegration) with shared responsibilities among the sending, receiving and transit countries respectively.

Section II: Plan of Action

NHRIs in the Asia Pacific Region are encouraged to undertake the following actions for the purpose of promoting and protecting the human rights of the migrant workers:

1. Monitoring of the human rights situation of the migrant workers in each country and develop strategy for the development and strengthening of remedies to address human rights violations committed against migrant workers, including undocumented and irregular migrant workers,
2. Establishing bilateral or multi-lateral frameworks of cooperation for the promotion and protection of the rights of the migrant workers among NHRIs of the Asia Pacific Region through mutual cooperation, exchange of information and making of joint action, where appropriate,

- to address issues of mutual concern that require an internationally coordinated response,
3. Initiation of an international campaign for the universal ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, 1990,
 4. Development of training modules and materials related to the human rights of the migrant workers for developing capacity of the NHRIs, NGOs and organizations working in the area of rights of the migrant workers,
 5. Monitoring and participation in the regional standard-setting and institution-building processes related to the human rights of the migrant workers.
 6. Engage with a broad range of stakeholders including Government, International Organizations, NGOs, Trade Unions, Business and Labour Supplying Agencies, Academics and other concerned agencies for the promotion and protection of the rights of the migrant workers,
 7. Undertake advocacy and public awareness for introduction, reformation and effective implementation of law, policies and plan of actions for the rights of the migrant workers,
 8. Develop cooperative relations with stakeholders, especially NHRIs in other labour sending and labour receiving countries to undertake research, share information and exchange expertise,
 9. Designate and strengthen the capacity of the NHRIs staff within their institutions to act as 'Focal Points' on the rights of the migrant workers
 10. Active engagement of NHRIs in all phases of preparation, submission and follow-up of the reporting of the implementation of recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and Treaty Bodies including the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, 1990.

Kathmandu, 27 November 2012

For full text, please visit: <http://www.nhrcnepal.org/decision>

HOMAGE

The National Human Rights Institutions participating in the International Conference on Cooperation between NHRIs for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in the Asia Pacific Region in Kathmandu are deeply saddened to have learned the sudden demise of 121 factory workers in Bangladesh apparel factory on November 25, 2012.

We, the participants of the Conference, express our heartfelt condolences over the demise of ill-fated workers.

The Conference hereby urges the Government of Bangladesh to take steps for the necessary medical treatment for the injured workers and adopt safety measures to avoid the recurrence of such incidents in the future.

The Conference also urges the Government of Bangladesh to provide appropriate compensation to the victims and their families.



The Chairpersons, Members and Representatives of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh, National Human Rights Commission of India, National Human Rights Commission of Korea, National Human Rights Commission of Maldives, National Human Rights Commission of Nepal, National Human Rights Committee of Qatar, and Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka.

Child Rights Activists Honored

KATHMANDU: The Child Workers in Nepal Concern Centre (CWIN) has honoured different persons for their contribution in the protection and promotion of child rights.

On the occasion of 25th anniversary of CWIN, Prime Minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai conferred with honor to NHRC Chairperson Justice Nath Upadhyay, NHRC Member and CWIN founding chair Gauri Pradhan, former Speaker of Constituent Assembly Subash Nembang, former health minister Professor Dr. Mathura Prasad Shrestha and human rights activist Padma Ratna Tuladhar amidst a programme in Kathmandu.

Chancellor of Nepal Academy of Fine Arts Kiran Manandhar, politician Rakam Chemjong, right activists Sharada Raman, Bhuvaneshwori Satyal, Nupur Bhattacharya, and Baburam Adhikari were also honored on the occasion.

Addressing the programme, Prime Minister Dr. Bhattarai urged one and all to help the government for safeguarding child rights.

Though the UN General Assembly adopted the Child Rights Convention (CRC) on November 20, 1989, the CWIN has been organizing programs on child rights since 1986.

News Courtesy: RSS

International Conference...

On the occasion, the President called on the National Human Rights Institutions of the region to play a significant role in helping ensure the human rights of migrant workers.

The President also emphasized to bring necessary reforms in the national laws and mechanisms to ensure the rights of migrant workers.

The President added that MWs worldwide contribute considerably to both home and destination country with the contribution of remittance. Expressing his anxiety over female domestic workers for being vulnerable to malpractices and abuses, the president said that the protection of human rights of the migrant workers should be a matter of collective concern of all including sending, receiving and transit countries

Appreciating the initiatives taken by the NHRC-Nepal by bringing the NHRIs of the region together to share and discuss ideas and experiences on the promotion and protection of human rights of the migrant workers, he expressed confidence that the NHRIs of the region can play a crucial role in working with their respective Governments and concerned organizations for the promotion and protection of the rights of migrant workers.

The President expressed hope that the conference will be an appropriate platform in developing common strategies of NHRIs for the better protection of human rights of the migrant workers in region.

Speaking on the occasion, NHRC Chairman Kedarnath Upadhyay said the conference would be meaningful in ensuring the rights of migrant workers.

He said that migration is natural phenomena and one out of thirty three persons in the world is a migrant. Though they are routinely defrauded, exploited and stigmatized, this has been a least cared issue of human rights, he said.

Underlining the rationale of having the regional mechanism on the holistic issue of human rights of MWs, the Chairperson said, 'on international level we find that human rights standard for migrants has been developed through a number of international instruments including the convention on Protection of Rights of all Migrant Workers and the Members of Their Families, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Person, Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air etc. Since wide spread acceptance of these instruments have not been achieved so far robust campaign is needed for their accession or ratification universally.'

Since these documents may provide abundant insights to work out common standard and evolve best practices based on reciprocity and mutual convenience, NHRC Nepal has already recommended to the Government of Nepal to ratify the UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Family,' the Chairperson reiterated.

Mentioning about the MoU signed between the NHRC- Nepal and NHRC-Korea on the issues related to the human rights of migrant workers, the Chairperson observed that the other countries of this region may have their own bilateral or sub regional treaty engagements to promote and protect human rights of migrants.

On the occasion, NHRC-Commissioner Justice Ram Nagina Singh, in his address, said, 'the Conference aims to identify key issues and challenges with regard to protecting the rights of migrant workers and exploring ways to address them.'

He stressed that in the absence of an effective mechanism, the role of NHRC's of the respective countries becomes more important to have dialogue with their Government, the NGOs and the human right activists, who are working in this field and make some necessary initiatives to protect and promote the rights of migrant workers and their families.

Me. Andrew Bruce, the Regional Director of Asia Pacific Region of International Organization for Migration (IOM) said, 'The effective management of migration policies supported by national government is crucial for public awareness that would mitigate forced labor.' He added that labor migration can be mutually well managed provided foreign job regulations are in forefront to ensure that migrants are treated well abroad.

Likewise, the governments of both the sending and receiving countries should be encouraged to ratify the all important human rights instruments including the Convention on The Protection of Human Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families, he observed.

He also emphasized that it's time the Government officials, parliamentarians and civil society explore ways against the challenges of the labor management.

At the conference, following the inaugural session three key papers were presented by the NHRIs representatives of various countries of the region. Thereafter, board discussions were held among the National Human Rights Institutions of the region on the programs, plans and policies adopted by the United Nations, various governments and NHRIs.

During the conference, member representatives of the NHRIs and experts including Mr. Andrew Bruce of IOM presented the paper on Situation and Challenges of Migrant Workers-Major Challenges of



Migrant Workers in the Asia-Pacific Region. Secretary Bishal Khanal, Secretary of NHRC-Nepal presented the paper and Situation and Challenges of Migrant Workers in South Asia in the context of sending countries with special reference to Nepal.

Mr. Yankul from Korea of NHRC-Korea and Ms Mariyam Azra Ahmed, the Chairperson of the Maldives commented on the paper whereas Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Chairperson of NHRC- India moderated the session.

Upon the presentation of NHRC Nepal's Secretary Khanal, NHRC India's Chair Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, and Mr. Priyantha RP Perera Chair of NHRC Sri Lanka, commented and Mr Mizanur Rahman, the Chairperson of Bangladesh moderated the session.

According to set modalities of the conference, different NHRIs have presented their paper and opinion regarding their role and responsibilities for wider protection and promotion of human rights and better relation among the NHRIs in order to resolve the cases of human rights of the migrants.

Chaired by Chairperson Justice Kedar Nath Upadhyay, next session was followed by the presentations on the situation of migrant workers made on the country situation by the various NHRIs representatives including Mr. Najibullah Babrakzai, Coordinator of AIHRC Child Rights Protection and Promotion Unit, Afghanistan, MD Tajul Islam Chowdhury, Secretary Bangladesh NHRC and Hon'ble Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, NHRC Chair of India. After a short recess, chaired by K.G. Balakrishnan, chairperson of NHRC- India, the presentation on the country situation continued with the presentation made by the representatives of NHRC- Korea, the Maldives, Sri Lanka and Qatar respectively.

On the second day, the discussion session began with the relentless engagement of the participants in which NHRC – Member and spokesperson Guari Pradhan presented the paper on the Role of NHRIs in protecting and promoting the Rights of Migrant Workers. Chaired by Prof. Mr. Seong phil



Photo: Rajendra Chitrakar

Hong, NHRC Korea, the session continued with the comments facilitated by K.G. BalaKrishnanan, Chairperson of NHRC-India and Member of NHRC Qatar Mr. Essa Rashed M. Al- Kaabi.

The participants broadly discussed focusing mainly on the human rights of migrant workers and provided their inputs on the key issues of the protection of human rights of migrant workers during the entire two day sessions. They also provided their inputs on the resolution prior to its adoption.

Finally, moderated by NHRC Member Gauri Pradhan, the discussion was held on the Draft Kathmandu Resolution, 2012 prepared by the twelve member working committee on the resolution comprising Prof. Niru Kumar Chakma, Bangladesh-NHRC, Chair, Justice Priyantha RP Parera, SriLanka NHRC, Mr Jaber Salih HA Almarri, NHRC Qatar, MrHussain Ali Moni, AIHRC- Afghanistan, Chair Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, NHRC-India, Mr Sungyong Hwang, NHRC- South Korea, Maryam Azra Ahmed, Presentent, HRCM, Maldives, Shamun Hameed, Secretary General, HRCM, Maldives, Gauri Pradhan, Member, NHRC-Nepal, Mr Som Luitel, Civil Society, Mr Deepak Dhital, MOFA, Nepal and Dr. Renu Rajbandari, Civil Society

Meanwhile, the Conference noted and expressed condolences over the sad demise of the 121 Bangladeshi workers in a fire accident in an apparel factory in Dhaka on November 25, 2012. The Conference has appealed to the Government of Bangladesh to provide necessary treatment to the injured and compensation to the ill-fated fire victims and their families.

Participants of the Conference comprised the Chairs and the Member Commissioners representing the NHRIS of Afghanistan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Qatar, South Korea, Sri Lanka and the National and International Non-Governmental Organizations (I/NGOs), independent experts, representative of Nepal Government, civil society organizations and academia from the region.

Right to Education Monitored in Parbat District

PARBAT: Giving impetus to regular monitoring on the Economic, Social and Cultural rights to ensure various rights including right to education of general citizens, the NHRC Regional Office.

In this context, the Commission conducted monitoring in Parbat district on November 8-13, 2012 on the basis of the citizens' right to free education, access to secondary and higher secondary education, opportunity to obtain educational materials such as text books.

The objective of the monitoring was to include the sense of accountability among the concerned stakeholder agencies for the protection of right to education, to obtain the information about the provision free education, scholarships and disable friendly infrastructure in the school as per the policies introduced by the government. Another objective of the monitoring was to build coordination among various Non-Governmental Organization, concerned stakeholder organizations and agencies to bring effective programs in the field of right to education.

During the monitoring, the team deployed by the Commission met with the officials of the district education office, school inspectors, principals, resource persons, head masters, school management committee, chief and representatives of various non-governmental organizations. Similarly, the

team found the wretched physical condition including leaking roofs. Many schools were lacking the laboratory facilities as well.

Despite the fact that the Ministry of Education has the provision of free education, the schools were found to have charged fees haphazardly from the students in the pretext of examination fee, renovation of the physical infrastructures of the schools. However, the texts books were found to have been distributed free of cost as per the policies

Nonetheless many school have started the students enrolment campaign but the turn out of the students was found considerably low as 2 % of the students remained outside the schools even though the enrolment campaign was launched during the time of admission.

The conflict hit students are found to have received RS 10, 000 top 16,000 as scholarships. 950 secondary level students have been receiving RS 700 on monthly basis where as 1341 Dalit students were found receiving Rs 500 per month. On the other hand, 81 physically challenged students of secondary level received RS 50 to 500 per month as stipend, it is learnt.



Participants of the Interaction program entitled the Right to Education held in Kushma of Parbat district

Photo: NHRC Regional Office, Pokhara

A few schools in the district head quarter were found built as per the set standard of the government whereas many schools didn't have this facility. Having the schools established within the average a distance in the VDCs, most of them are accessible for the students of the area.

The street children in the district are apparently deprived of education. Though a few non-governmental organizations and the district school welfare committee have initiated for their education, the children are still in dire straight due to the problem of food and shelter.

The report from the Regional Office says that the state actors including the concerned authorities have funded as per the constitution, acts and polices and the commitment expressed in Millennium Development Goal. Contrarily, the is that the street children are still deprived of education. The Commission has urged to find out the solution to this pervasive problem in order to ensure the rights to education of all.

The Commission, in its report, has also urged the political parties and their sister wings to restrain from the organizing the Bandhs and strikes allowing the schools to perform their teaching and learning activities. The concerned authorities have also been urged to look into the physical condition of the schools, resources and various apparatuses to ensure the qualitative education in the schools. Above all, the Commission has urged the government to bring special program for the education of the street children, the report says.

The participants including Tek Prasad Pandey (School Inspector), Baburam Subedi (Former Teachers Society), Rajendra Pahadi (Sid Nepal, Parbat), Gobinda Pahadi (Human Rights Alliance) Kul Prasad Sharma (Vice President, Nepal Teachers Association) Ghanshyam Lamichhane (President, All Nepal Teachers Association, Parbat), Sagar Prasad Upadhyay (Child Protection Officer) Madhav Raj Pandey (INSEC Representative, Parbat) provided their suggestions and inputs during the program,

Glimpses of the Conference



National Human Rights Commission

Harihar Bhawan, Lalitpur, Nepal
Phone: 00977-1-5010015 (Hunting Line)
Fax: 00977-1-5547973, 5547976
Email: nhrc@nhrcnepal.org
Website: <http://www.nhrcnepal.org>

e-Newsletter publication supported by SCNHRC/ UNDP Project

Editors: Nawin Chandra Gurung, Yam Bahadur Dura
Kailash Kumar Siwakoti

Please send your feedback about the NHRC
e-Newsletter to nhrc@nhrcnepal.org