



Human Rights e-Newsletter

National Human Rights Commission of Nepal



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64th Int'l Human Rights Day

Government Serious on the Protection of Citizens' Rights: Prime Minister



Prime Minister Dr. Babu Ram Bhattarai addressing a program organized by the NHRC on the occasion of the 64th Int'l Human Rights Day

LALITPUR: Prime Minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai has said that the new constitution will ensure the rights of the citizens in a progressive manner as their guarantee was essential to the existence of the democracy.

Addressing the program organized by the National Human Rights Commission to mark the 64th International Human Rights Day on December 10, 2012, the Prime Minister, as the chief guest, said 'The Interim Constitution has guaranteed the economic and social rights of the people as the Constitution was the outcome of the People's Movement-II and the Madhesi Movement.'

'The Constitution to be promulgated by the CA will further guarantee the rights of the people.' The Prime Minister added.

Underlining the need to guarantee human rights and free legal aid to the needy, Prime Minister emphasized on the need of an independent judiciary and mentioned that the government has recently made administrative and fiscal reform policy.

PM Bhattarai also said the government has ensured the rights of minority groups by reserving 45 percent seats in the public service sectors.

Addressing the program organized with the global theme 'Inclusion and the Right to Participate in Public Life', Chairperson Justice Kedar Nath Upadhyay said, 'the NHRC would like to reiterate its request before the Government of Nepal to initiate prosecution to the accused of human rights violations pursuant to the NHRC recommendations, provide relief, reparation and compensation to the victims as early as possible.'

He flayed the Government for bringing the Commissions with blanket amnesty other than the conceptualized Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and the Commission on the Enquiry of Disappeared (CoID).

The Chairperson, in his address, requested the Nepal Government not to withdraw the cases of rights violations and end this inglorious political trend.

Chairperson also lamented over people's frustration towards attaining the political and economic rights. 'It is time now that all have to think seriously for rejuvenating democracy and revitalizing human rights resulted from the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly without brewing any substantive result, existing vacuum in the Apex Court and almost all constitutional bodies,' the Chairperson added.

On the occasion, Chairperson of the National Women's Commission Sheikh Chand Tara, President of the NGO Federation- Nepal Sharmila Karki and the Coordinator of the Human Rights Magna Meet Sudarshan Subedi spoke on the pervasive wretched situation of



women's rights, child rights, minority rights, rights of persons with disabilities including migrant workers. They didn't spare to slam the Government for its obliviousness to address the pertinent issues of human rights.

UN Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator to Nepal Robert Piper said the withdrawal of cases from the courts on political grounds by successive Governments undermines the morale and credibility of justice system.

Stating that the consultations on Transitional Justice Mechanisms had started as a healing process, Mr. Piper called on the stakeholders once again for discussions on the transitional justice bills to return to the full light of day, with victims and their families at the centre.

He, however, mentioned that the transitional justice system does not necessarily cripple the regular criminal justice system and the

registered cases must take their own course with due process.

NHRC Secretary Bishal Khanal, welcoming the guests to the function, shed light on the accomplishments of the NHRC including the difficulties and challenges it is facing.

NHRC members duo Ram Nagina Singh and Gauri Pradhan, Chairperson of National Women's Commission Sheikh Chand Tara, President of NGO Federation -Nepal Sharmila Karki, Ministers, UN representative, Excellencies Ambassadors of Diplomatic Missions, Government Officials, Representatives of Human Rights Organizations, Representatives of NGOs, INGOs and CSOs, Representatives of Professional Organizations, Media Persons and students among others participated in the program.

Every year, Int'l Human Rights Day is celebrated across the world on 10 December. On this day, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the first global enunciation of human rights and one of the first major achievements of the new United Nations which was drawn with virtuous lines on inherent dignity and equality of all human descendants and remains as the source of inspiration for all.

This auspicious day is observed by entire human race in world over including the United Nations and the UN member states.

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NHRC Submits Annual Report to Prez

KATHMANDU: The NHRC presented its 12th annual report (2011-12) to President Dr. Ram Baran Yadav amidst a programme held at the Rastrapati Bhawan on 7th December, 2012. On the occasion, President thanked all the officials at the Commission for their hard work and dedication to duty.

On the occasion, the NHRC officials led by Chairperson Justice Kedar Nath Upadhyay apprised the President of the different challenges faced by the Commission such as lack of the transitional justice delivery, rising state of impunity, lack of full implementation of the NHRC recommendations, existing resource crunch including the shortage of staff and deplorable physical infrastructures.

According to the report, NHRC received 276 new complaints this past year while it was already dealing with 5,380 complaints since the past few years. It delivered decisions on 394 complaints last year.

In recent days, NHRC said it has been receiving complaints on murder, torture, displacement, social and economic rights and legal aids, child and women's rights and rights of the detainees among others, the report reads.

The compensations are provided to the victims but the government



President Dr. Ram Baran Yadav along with the NHRC Officials during the submission of the NHRC Annual Report amidst a program held at Rastrapati Bhawan on 7th December, 2012

hasn't implemented even a single recommendation for legal action against those booked on both the wartime and post-war criminal charges. The NHRC had recommended 104 criminal cases to the government for legal action in a decade.

The President told the NHRC delegation that he would draw the government's attention to implement the NHRC recommendations. Member Justice Ram Nagina Singh and Member Gauri Pradhan, Secretary Bishal Khanal and other Officials were also present at the program.

NHRC Urges Improvement of the Prisons and Detention Centres

LALITPUR: The NHRC has corresponded to the Office of the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers urging for the improvement of the condition of prison and detention centers across the country.

In a letter to the Government, the Commission has pointed out that the prisons were in vulnerable situation from the point of view of natural catastrophe such as earthquake, fire and also security.

The Commission has expressed concern over the excessive pressure of inmates in the prison and lack of adequate arrangement to meet the needs of women inmates and the proper upbringing and education of their children.

Stating that the detention center is for reforming the inmates and not for

inflicting torture on them, the Commission has urged the Government to make necessary arrangement of appropriate skill oriented training, library and sports for their occupational skills development, education including their physical and mental development.

The Commission has also emphasized on the need to bring appropriate reforms to the prisons and ensure the rights and well-being of the inmates as per the standards set forth in the Commission's 'Prison and Detention Centers Monitoring Guidelines, 2065 BS.'

The Commission has also urged the Government of Nepal to implement the recommendations sent by the Commission in the past and also effectively implement the suggestions provided by the "High Level Commission for the Prison Reformation"

Concern Expressed over Attack on Media

LALITPUR: The attention of the Commission has been drawn to the attack perpetrated on the media persons of Nagarik Daily on December 20th, 2012.

Issuing a press release, therefore, the Commission has said that Such an attack on the media under any pretext damages the sentiment of press freedom as well as the norms and values of democratic system. The Commission has, therefore, urged the Government to immediately advance legal action against those involved in the attack on the media persons associated with the Nagarik, the national vernacular daily.

The Commission has also urged the concerned parties to stop threats and attacks on the journalists and sort out the objection to any news story through legal procedure.

NHRC Urges Legal Action against the Accused of Violence Against Women

LALITPUR: The serious attention of the National Human Rights Commission has been drawn towards the increasing incidents of killing, violence and atrocities against women in the country.

Issuing a press release, therefore, the Commission has said that it is saddened by the recurrences of the incident which came to light on the heels of a 16 Day National Campaign against Violence against Women in Nepal. It is unfortunate to see the state falling short of effective mechanism to deal with such hideous crimes, the press release reads.

The Commission is regularly monitoring and investigating over the actions taken by the government with regard to the involvement of government officials and police in robbing and raping of a migrant worker of Bhojpur including other cases of violence against women.

The Commission is monitoring the incidents of killings of Shiwa Hasmi of

Bardiya, Bindu Thakur of Bara, Saraswati Subedi of Dhading and Mamata Mahato of Sarlahi including ill-treatment perpetrated on Kawali Sarki of Dailekh and Puja Sharma of Siraha.

The Commission is also carrying out monitoring of other cases of rape and abuses of women including the incident of mysterious disappearance of Chori Maiya Maharjan who has been missing for the last 10 months. No substantive investigation is learnt to have been launched with regard to the missing Maharjan, says the press release.

These cases show that the right to live, security and dignity of women is being grossly violated. The Commission has, therefore, urged the Government to bring those involved in atrocities and other crimes against women under the purview of law and immediately provide relief, compensation and reparation to the victims' families upon conducting fair investigation.

The Commission has urged all the concerned parties to respect the rights of the women guaranteed by the Interim Constitution, 2007 and the 'International Convention on the all Forms of Discrimination against Women' to which Nepal is a party.

The Commission has also urged all to adopt 'Zero Tolerance' in order to give impediment to the recurrences of the incidents such as violence against women and inhuman treatment perpetrated to women in society.

Similarly, the Commission, through the press release, has drawn the attention of the Nepal Government for necessary initiatives to institute the conceptualized 'Fast Track Court' meant to investigate the incidents of violence against women and gruesome killing in swift manner and take appropriate action as per the law.

Discussion Taps Impetus on Violence against Women and Access to Justice

BANKE: An Interaction Program entitled Violence against Women and Access to Justice was organized jointly by the NHRC Regional Office-Nepalgunj and various organizations working in the field of women's rights.

The objective of the program was to have interaction among the stakeholder organizations on the existing violence against women in society and to hit upon the remedial solutions to the problems of victims of VAW and their access to justice. The program also aimed at creating collective pressure on the state to do away with the systematic abuses and violence against women.

Organized in the context of the '16 Day Movement against Gender Violence,' one day interaction entailed the broad discussion on the women's right to education and right to property ownership. During then program, denouncing the existing ill-culture in Nepalese society, the participants stressed on the effective

implementation of prevalent international laws and promulgation of stern national laws to prevent and control the widespread violence against women. They unanimously argued that the prevention and control on the violence against women is not possible unless effective law is bought into force regarding the legal punishment against the discrimination against women.

At the program, Basanta Gautam of Advocacy Forum presented the paper entitling Access to Justice of the Victims of Violence against Women upon which Mirari Kharel, the Regional Director of NHRC - Nepalgunj facilitated the comments.

Ms Shova Shah, the Chief of the Women and Children Office, Nepalgunj chaired the program. Justice Prakash Dhungana of Appellate Court, as the chief guest, Justice duo Shiva Raj Adhikari and Kishore Silwal, Chief District Officer of Banke Dhindiraj Pokhrel, Regional Director of NHRC Murari Prasad Kharel attended the program as guests.



Participants at an interaction program held in Nepalgunj on the violence against women and access to justice

Eighty four participants consisting of the representatives of various organizations and agencies, stakeholder organizations, legal professionals, representatives of the political parties, Nepal Police (Women's Cell) and journalists among others took part in the program.

Special Missions Deployed to Investigate the Complaints

LALITPUR: The National Human Rights Commission has deployed special missions in the districts of Tarai in eastern and mid-western region to launch investigation on complaints registered at the Commission.

The missions of 28 comprising 21 officers and 7 staff members deployed from the NHRC Central Office and the Regional Offices of Janakpur and Pokhara have been sent to the districts of Saptari, Siraha, Udaypur, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Bara, Parsa and Makwanpur.

Deployed for the period of two weeks, the Missions have been meeting with the victims, witnesses and the accused persons of the incident. They will also be visiting the indent-spot in the course of investigation.

The NHRC has accomplished investigations over 800 backlog complaints by deploying the missions in Banke and Bardiya districts last Aug/Sep. and in Jhapa, Sunsari, Morang, Kapilvastu, Nawalparasi and Rupendehi last Oct./ Nov., 2012 respectively.

The missions on tour are expected to accomplish over 350 investigations over complaints.

Most complaints registered at the NHRC are related to the killings, disappearance, displacement, property seizure, and violence against women of the conflict period in the country.

21st International Disabled Day

Ensure the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: NHRC



Participants at a rally organized to mark the 21st International Disabled Day in Nepalgunj

BANKE: On the occasion of the '21st International Disabled Day,' an interaction program entitling the Effective Implementation of Legal Provisions: Ensure the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was held in Nepalgunj on December 3, 2012. The program carrying the slogan 'Remove Obstacles and Build a Inclusive and Accessible Society' was jointly organized by the NHRC Regional Office, INSEC, National Federation for the Persons with Disabilities, Human Rights Network and Women and Children Office - Nepalgunj.

The objective of the program was to mount pressure on the government to implement the provisions laid out in the international human rights instruments that ensure the rights of the persons with disabilities. At a time when the national laws, policies and programs are almost dormant, the program also

aimed at making the stakeholder agencies accountable and creating the environment for the coordination between the Government and Non-Governmental Organizations in order to give the persons with disabilities easy access to the service and facilities provided by the state.

Chaired by Bhawuk Jung Thapa, the Regional President of the Federation of the Disabled, the program was attended by the Chef District Officer of Banke Dhundiraj Pokhrel, the Director of the NHRC Regional Office Murari Prasad Kharel as guests. At the program, the central Member of the Federation Devi Dutta Acharya presented the paper on Existing Challenges in Implementing the Plans and Policies of the Nepal Government.

At the program, following the comprehensive discussion, the participants unanimously expressed their commitment to review the conditions of the persons with disabilities and to make the stakeholder agencies accountable for finding the solutions to the existing problems faced by the persons with disabilities. The challenges included the lack of coordination between the non-governmental organizations working in the field of the disabilities and also between the Government and Non-Governmental Organizations. The discussion was also held on the discount facility to be provided to the physically challenged persons commuting by the

public transport, employment, education, health facilities and society security allowances provision to the persons with disabilities. Above all, the discussion was focused on violation of human rights of persons with disabilities and lack of access to justice faced by them.

During the program, the participants emphasized in unison to draw the attention of the local government to the service delivery and facilities provided to the persons with disabilities and their effective implementation. They also urged to carry out supervision and monitoring whether such provisions are implemented or not.

Kanti Rai of INF, Khajuragard VDC Secretary Shashidhar Pokhrel, Dayaram Adhikari, Ramesh Sahu of Banke Blind Association, Basudev Sedai of Disabled Nawjiwan Centre, Hasta Bahadur Giri of BAB, Rana Prasad Rana of Nepal Disabled Association, Prema Regmi of Milap Nepalgunj, Janak Ram Bhandari of District Veterinary Office, Bishnu Prasad Adhikari of District Education Office, Ramesh Shah of District Development Committee, Gopal Acharya of Bhery Technical Institute, Jiwan Kumar Malla of District Public Health Office, Murari Kharel of NHRC Regional Office - Nepalgunj, DhundiRaj Pokhrel of District Administration Office and Bhawuk Jung Thapa of National Federation of the Persons with Disabilities shared their comments and suggestions.

The participants of the program comprised sixty three representatives of the persons with disabilities and their family members, various organizations and agencies working in the field of disabilities, representatives of the Government and Non-governmental Organizations, concerned stakeholder organizations and media persons among others.

Stakeholders Pledge Support to Apply HRBA to Development, NHRAP

NUWAKOT: National Human Rights Commission organized a Training Workshop on Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) to Development in Nuwakot district on Dec. 14-15, 2012.

The objective of the training was to familiarize participants with the introduction, concept and importance of rights based approach and its linkage with sustainable human development, to familiarize participants in defining minority groups and disadvantaged groups and the need of special measures to be adopted for the protection and promotion of their human rights.

The participants were also familiarized with the values and principles of

human rights, concerns related to the state accountability for the promotion and protection of human rights and to train the participants on the application of HRBA steps in development issues. Not to mention, the participants were also made aware of the 3rd phase of the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) of the fiscal year 69-70.

The training was provided by the NHRC Secretary Bishal Khanal and NHRC Director Bed Prasad Bhattarai the under Attorney Director General Diwakar Bhatta.

Having received the thorough insights on the HRBA to Development during the workshop, the district level development

actors expressed their commitment to internalize the approach and implement them through human rights perspectives in their plan and actions. They further committed to pledging their support to apply the NHRAP. The participants also stressed on the strengthening the relationship between the NHRC and development actors of the district level.

The workshop was conducted with the participation of 33 representatives of the Government Offices including the District Development Committee, Public Health Office, Women and Children Office, District Education Office, Irrigation Department, District Agriculture Development, NGO Federation and Federation of Nepalese Journalists.

Interaction Held on Rights and Duties of Human Rights Defenders

KASKI: Coinciding the 'International Human Rights Defenders Day,' an interaction program on the Rights and Duties of Human Rights Defenders was jointly organized by NHRC Regional Office, Pokhara, INSEC and Human Rights Education Club in Pokhara.

At the program, disseminating the 'Human Rights Defender Guidelines' NHRC Director Yagya Prasad Adhikari urged the human rights defenders of the region to have sincere, responsible and transparent monitoring on the issues of human rights in order to make the state responsible towards the respect, promotion and protection of human rights. He also urged the HR defenders to have passion, honesty, professional commitment, patience, tolerance and full respect for human rights as their qualification.

Speaking at the program, Human Rights Defender Teknath Baral strongly urged to have unity for the protection and promotion of human rights. Stating that HR defenders often fall in vulnerable situation, he called on the HR defenders to be cautious at all times while carrying out monitoring and investigation on the incidents of human rights violation.

Coordinator of Civil Society Network for Peace Bishnu Baral suggested HR defenders to be patient, transparent and aware of whatever they do in the name of monitoring on the issues of human rights violation.

Similarly, underlining the significance of '16 Day Campaign against Violence Against Women' President of Women Rights Defenders Network Nandakala Nepali urged all the stakeholder participants to work for the minimization of violence against women.

Member of Local Peace Committee Secretariat Khagraj Acharya, Coordinator of Media Person Group Western Region Basanti Bastola, Dalit Rights Activist Chameli Pariyar, Capacity Development Organization for Person with Disabilities Giridhar Subedi, Samundra Poudel of



Senior Human Rights Activist Teknath Baral speaking at the interaction program on the Rights and Duties of Human Rights Defenders organized jointly by NHRC and INSEC, Pokhara

Alternative Nepal, President of Human Rights Education Club Tulasi Dahal delivered their speech on the occasion.

Representatives of Governmental/ Non-Governmental Organizations, Security Agencies, Civil Society, Rights Activists, and Media Persons among others participated in the program.

Development Actors Trained on Good Governance and Human Rights



Chief District Officer Basanta Gautam sharing his opinion in the interaction program on Good Governance and Human Rights

KASKI: An interaction program entitling 'Good Governance and Human Rights' was organized in Pokhara on the occasion of International Day against Corruption on December 9, 2012. The program was jointly organized by NHRC Regional Office Pokhara, INSEC - Pokhara and Civil Society for Good Governance.

At the outset, Justice of Appellate Court Dilli Raj Acharya presented the paper on 'Good Governance and Human Rights.' During the presentation, Justice Acharya urged the stakeholder participants to

take good governance as the most important element for the respect and promotion of human rights. He recommended fulfilling one's duty keeping promotion and protection of human rights at the pinnacle. According to him, the essence of good governance are the interrelation and the prevalence of democratic political system, justice and effective law and judicial system, financial discipline, equality, public participation, accountability transparency.

On the occasion, Officiating Regional Administrator Ram Prasad Thapaliya opined that the local issues should be given priority to have the good governance to prevail in society. He also urged the media to play its role on the investigation over pervasive corruption in society.

Similarly, mentioning social dimension and moral values to be important for human rights and good governance, Chief District Officer Basanta Gautam said that judiciary has important role in controlling prevalent corruption in the society.

DIG of Western Regional Police Office Ramesh Shekhar Bajracharya claimed to have human rights trained manpower in the police force and they are sensitive towards human rights concerns while discharging their duties at all time.

Human Rights Defender Tek Nath Baral, Coordinator of Network of Civil Society for Peace Bishnu Baral, Former Coordinator of Network Khag Raj Acharya, Member of Federation of Non Government Organization Ram Prasad Subedi, Chairperson of Federation of Nepalese Journalists (Kaski) Badri Binod Pratik, Chief of Land Revenue Office Raghu Nath Adhikari, Giridhari Subedi of Blind Association, Members of Civil Society for Good Governance, Lecturer Dr. Bedhnath Sharma, Sundar Gurung, Khagendra Raj Baral from District Forest Office, Media Persons Deependra Shrestha, Kamal Poudel Athak, Geeta Bista, Kripa Bhandari, Druga Bhandari and Member of Network for Women Human Rights Defenders Bishnu Shrestha also shared their comments and suggestions during the program.

Fifty one participants representing the governmental and non-governmental stakeholder organizations, security agencies, civil society, human rights activists and media persons participated in the program.

Statement by Hon. Justice Kedar Nath Upadhyay, Chairperson of NHRC-Nepal on the Occasion of the 64th Int'l Human Rights Day December 10, 2012 (Excerpts)

Today, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights completes its 64th year and all of us are gathered here to mark this great day. In commemoration of this auspicious day, we have internalized the global theme of the year 'Inclusion and the Right to Participate in Public Life' in Nepal as well. I, on behalf of National Human Rights Commission of Nepal and also on my own behalf, welcome and extend my greetings to the Chief- Guest Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai including all our invitees for kindly accepting our invitation to the function organized to mark the Day.

Human Rights and Rule of Law are indispensable to each other. Without human rights, no punishment can be delivered to the violators of human rights and no justice can be delivered to the victims. On this day, therefore, we are bound to be committed towards the Rule of Law for ending the pervasive culture of impunity to make the Nepal citizens realize their human rights.

The National Human Rights Commission would like to reiterate its request before the Government of Nepal to initiate prosecution to the accused of human rights violations pursuant to the NHRC recommendations, provide relief, reparation and compensation to the victims as early as possible. At the same time, we also request the Government to end the culture of withdrawing cases and to end this inglorious political trend. Similarly, the Commission heartily requests the Nepal Government to bring the draft on different type of Commission instead of the conceptualized Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and the Commission on the Enquiry of Disappeared (CoID) prepared by the government which implicitly would work for amnesty.

Human Rights and Rule of Law are the norms and values of a democratic system. No human rights and rule of law can sustain without democracy. The democratic system, therefore, is inevitable

for the protection and promotion of human rights. We ought to realize that the present democratic norms and values are not only majoritarian democracy but also inclusive one. That's the reason the UN slogan chosen for the human rights day this year is perceived as a relevant one to give emphasis on the adoption of the inclusive principle in public life concern. Unless the inclusive Constituent Assembly and the Constitution drafted through it reflects the inclusive sentiment, apparently, peace and human rights would be a far-off dream in the country. We, therefore, wish to have the constitution reflected by the inclusive sentiment.

Although the strengthening of the people' sovereignty was conceptualized in the ongoing transitional period, we are still in crisis-ridden situation as the national unity is eroding day by day, the pillar of democracy is shaking, and the people in general are becoming frustrated towards attaining the political and economic rights. It is time now that all have to think seriously for rejuvenating democracy and revitalizing human rights resulted from the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly

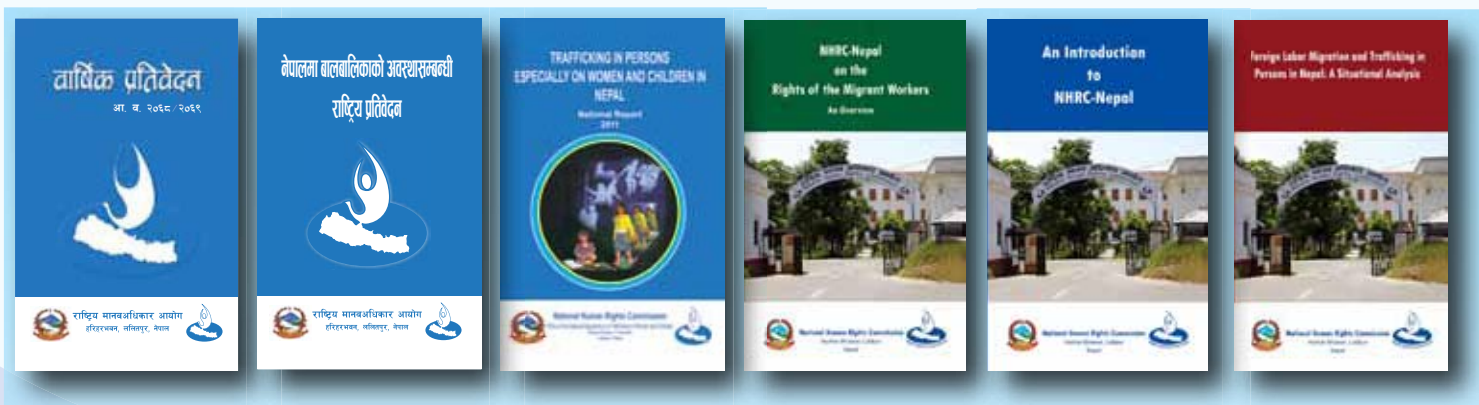
without brewing any substantive result, existing vacuum in the Apex Court without justice and almost all constitutional bodies remaining handicapped of being able to make policy wise decisions apart from being in existence just for the name sake and the government being in the power as the care-taker government.

I hope this day will remain as an encouraging one for all of us. Lastly, we, the Officers-bearers and the Staff of the Commission, have been highly encouraged by your cordial presence, the support extended from civil society, acceptance of the invitation by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister and his stimulating speech. I once again extend my heartfelt thanks to you all and conclude my remark here.

Thank You



Recent NHRC Publications



NHRC Annual Activities (15 Jul. 2011-14 Jul. 2012): At a Glance

National Human Rights Commission has constitutional responsibility to submit its Annual Report to Hon. President. The Report of the fiscal year 2068-2069 including the activities accomplished till date has been submitted on 7th December, 2012.

The Interim Constitution of Nepal -2007 has mandated the NHRC to ensure for the respect,

protection and promotion of human rights and their effective implementation. During this past year, 276 complaints have been registered. Among them, 5,380 complaints including previous and newly registered ones still await for the decision making process. On the protection side, the Commission has recommended the Government to provide compensation

to the victims and to prosecute the perpetrators of human rights violations on the basis of the evidences discovered through the investigations of the fact finding missions. During this period, 212 missions were deployed for monitoring on the human rights issues whereas the Commission has dispensed decision on 394 complaints.

SN	Activities	Number/ Events	Theme/Area
1	On the Protection of Human Rights		
1.1	Complaints Received	276	Killing, abduction, disappearance, threats, torture, displacement, ESC rights, explosion, and legal remedies etc.
1.2	Monitoring Missions	212	Overall human rights situation, child rights, women's rights, displacement, rights of prisoners, human rights situations during the bandhs and strikes organized by various groups, rights of freed Haliyas (bonded laborers) etc.
1.3	Investigation of complaints	394	Killing, explosion related deaths, disappearance, displacement, torture, threats, rights of prisoners, children, women and minorities etc.
1.4	Dismissal / Revoking	370	Killing, disappearance, explosion, displacement, torture, threats, property seizure, rights of prisoners, children, women, minorities ESC rights etc.
1.5	Recommendations (for compensation, prosecution, departmental action or interim relief)	104	Compensation/ interim relief, prosecution and departmental action against human rights violators
1.6	Policy Recommendations	35	Treaties, Policies, Laws etc.
1.7	Complaints under Consideration	5380	Inclusive of the Central, Regional and Sub-Regional Offices
2	On the Promotion and Capacity Building		
2.1	Interaction	74	Child rights, women's rights, rights of dalits, human rights defender, exhumation related, displacement, disappearance,
2.2	Meetings	68	Human rights situation, law and order situations, bandh, strikes, consumer rights and supplies. etc.
2.3	Training	57	Right based approach to development, training to HRDs on Transitional Justice, Use of ESC rights indicators, Child rights, Exhumation Human rights basic, Human rights and media, Management,
2.4	Discussions	33	on the themes stated in 2.3 above
2.5	Workshops / Seminars	24	Senior citizens, Child Rights and Transitional Justice etc.
2.6	Number of participants trained	2320	On the themes stated in 2.3 above
2.7	Expertise Services (key note, guest speaker, resource person)	250 plus (facilitators in 151 sessions)	Provided in the form of lectures, inputs and key note by the commissioners/senior officers, and trainer/ facilitators by officers mainly to security agencies and CSO sponsored programs on various themes including 143 sessions
3	On the Publication and Dissemination		
3.1	Publications	37	
3.2	Regular Publications	12+2	Annual Report, Child Rights, Monthly Newsletter
3.3	Press Conference	2	Inclusive of Regional Offices
3.4	Press Statements/ Notes	33	Inclusive of Regional Offices
4	On the Legal and Policy Support		
4.1	Advisory to Nepal Government	8	
4.2	Adoption of monitoring guidelines	2	Detention Center Monitoring Guidelines, Consumers' Rights Monitoring Guidelines
4.3	Policy Recommendations and other Bills	4	On the senior citizens, impunity, Penal code Bill, National Human Rights Workers Service Bill
5.	On the Human Resources		
5.1	Chairperson	1	
5.2	Commissioners	4	
5.3	Staff	163	

64th Int'l Human Rights Day

Mangala Kumari Shrestha Conferred with 'Bhajan Human Rights Award -2012'

BANKE: Human Rights Defender Mangala Kumari Shrestha, 63, has been honored with Bhajan Human Rights Award - 2012. The Chairperson of INSEC-Subodh Raj Pyakurel and Justice Kishore Silwal of Appellate Court of Nepalgunj conferred Mrs. Shrestha with the award amidst a program organized by the NHRC Regional Office and Human Rights Network, Nepalgunj on the occasion of the 64th International Human Rights Day on December 10, 2012. She was given away the cash award RS 15,000 and a shawl.

Rights Defender Shrestha is the resident of Narayan Gopal Chok, Ward -8 of Guleriya Municipality who has made exceptionally inspirational contribution towards the movement for the rights of single women for a long time. She is also consistently involved in humanitarian activities conducted through the 'Mother Group', Child Welfare and Red Cross in the area.

The award function was organized coinciding the interaction program entitling Collective Accountability to Ensure Human Rights held on the occasion. The participants comprised 142 representatives from various human rights organizations, government agencies, security agency, civil society, professional organizations, media persons and local residents among others.

Late Bhajan Chaudhary, who untimely took his heavenly abode on 30th May 2012, served as a senior human rights officer in INSEC for many years. "Bhajan Memorial Fund" was established in fond memory of late Chaudhary at the effort of

human rights organization and agencies to honor his invaluable contribution made in the field of human rights.



Human Rights Defender Mangala Kumari Shrestha receiving the Bhajan Human Rights Award -2012 at a program organized on the occasion of 64 Int'l Human Rights Day - 2012 in Nepalgunj

Human Rights Magna Meet - 2012

LALITPUR: The NHRC including more than 84 Organizations organized the National Human Rights Magna Meet - 2012 as one of the main events from 9 -11 December, 2012 on the occasion of 64th International Human Rights Day-2012.

Addressing the Meet, NHRC Chairperson Justice Kedar Nath Upadhyay remarked that though the Commission had sent letters to the Government and major political parties on crucial human rights concerns, they have not been paid any heed.

'We had requested that the Government justify its rationale for all of those withdrawals of criminal cases time and again but the government has turned its deaf ear,' the Chairperson added.

Speaking at the program, Ganesh BK of Human Rights Alliance said that human rights would not be protected until the status quo tendency of the government is changed.

INSEC chairperson Subodh Raj Pyakurel said that advocacy should be given priority to ensure incorporation of fundamental duties. He said, 'Dissolved CA had selected 10 fundamental duties in the constitution adding those should be regarded to private and family,



NHRC Chairperson Upadhyay along with the Key Note Speakers of Human Rights Magna Meet - 2012 held in the capital on the occasion of the Int'l Human Rights Day -2012.

social and collective and professional and business duties.'

Internalizing the global theme 'My Voice Counts: Inclusion and the right to participate in public life,' the Magna Meet -2012 of this year was concluded by issuing the 10-Point Declaration including advocating for upholding human rights values and giving end to the growing impunity in the country.

Impunity and post conflict justice were the main agendas of the Declaration. Apart from this, the issues of minority, marginalized communities, women's rights, protection of the rights of the human rights defenders, economic, social and cultural rights and

press freedom were also raised in the Declaration drawn on the occasion.

Organized in coordination of Main Organizing Committee of Human Rights Magna Meet - 2012, the participating organizations of Human Rights Magna Meet - 2012 comprised 84 human rights organizations of the country.

On the occasion, a massive human rights rally (Prabhat Pheri) was organized on December 10, 2012 in which a number of human rights organization and agencies participated. The rally taken from Bhirikuti Mandap went to thoroughfares of the downtown Kathmandu and converged into an assembly at Peace Garden- Ratna Park.



64th Int'l Human Rights Day Human Rights Rally



JUMLA: Internalizing the global theme 'Inclusion and the right to participate in public life,' the NHRC Sub Regional Office Jumla, organized various programs to mark the 64th International Human Rights Day on 10th December, 2012.

On the occasion, the NHRC in coordination with dozens of rights organizations active in the area organized a human rights rally (Prabhat Pheri). The participants comprised the representatives of various human rights organizations including political parties, civil society, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), entrepreneurs, Nepal Bar Association (NBA), students and journalists among others. The rally was also participated by the top figures including Justice of Appellate Court of Jumla Khemraj Sharma, District Judge of

Jumla) Mahendraraj Gautam, Acting Chief District Officer (CDO) Bhupendra Thapa, SSP of Nepal Police Ramesh Pandey and Brigadier of Nepal Army Deepak Karki.

The rally was organized with much fanfare including the cultural programs and human rights-related slogans.

The rally, which started from the Tundikhle field, took to the thoroughfares of various places and converged into an assembly back at the premises of council hall of the District Development Committee.

The local media, especially radios of Jumla, had aired special talk programs



Participants at a rally organized in Jumla on the occasion of the Int'l Human rights Day -2012

and informative jingles carrying human rights message to mark the occasion.

Around fifteen hundred people representing the cross-section of the society participated in the campaign.



Security Personnel participating in Sanitation Campaign held in Jumla to mark the 64th Int'l Human Rights Day - 2012.

Sanitation Campaign

On the eve of 64th International Human Rights Day on 9th December 2012, NHRC's Sub-Regional Office- Jumla organized 'Sanitation Campaign' in the premises of Karnali Health Science Institute/ Teaching Hospital.

The campaign was inaugurated by Mahendraraj Gautam, Justice of District Court Jumla in which the Acting Chief District Officer (CDO) Bhupendra Thapa, SSP of Nepal Police Ramesh Pandey and Brigadier of Nepal Army Deepak Karki participated in the campaign.

Football Tournament: Promotion of Human Rights through Sports

JUMLA: In coordination with the main organizing committee, NHRC Sub Regional Office, Jumla hosted the Friendly Football Tournament with the objective to promote human rights through sports. The tournament was held at the field of the Nepal Army Siddhabox Battalion, Jumla. Coordinated by the NHRC Sub Regional Office, Jumla, the entire events were held at the support extended from the co-organizers of the event namely the District Administration Office, Nepal Police, Nepal Army, Non-Governmental Organizations and Agencies, Federation of Nepalese Journalists, Nepal Bar Association, Dalit NGOs, Federation of Indigenous People, Network for Women Human Rights Defenders, Human Rights Networks, Various Political Parties, Professional Organizations and other stakeholders among others.

The team 'Administration'-11' consisting the Nepal Army, the Nepal Police and the Chiefs of Government Offices and the team 'Human Rights -11' consisting NHRC Sub-Regional Office Jumla, Human Rights Organizations and Agencies, Bar Association, NFJ, Women Development Office, Civil Society and Red Cross contested in the exhibition match held on the occasion.

Justice of Appellate Court, Jumla inaugurated the tournament by handing over the ball to the match officials. The teams appeared to have internalized the maxim of fair play during the entire match which was witnessed by the huge number of spectators including the Brigadier of Nepal Army Dipak Karki, SSP of Nepal Police Ramesh Pandey, Chief of the government Offices, media persons and general public. The match played between

the two teams was declared draw with no goals in favour of both the teams.

At the end of the tournament the awards and certificates were given away by the Chief Guest to the technical team conducting the tournament, Sports Development Committee, District Football Association (ANFA) and the participants of the tournament.



Chief Guest, Match Officials and the players representing the "Human Rights - Eleven" and "Administration - Eleven" at a friendly football match organized in Jumla on the occasion of the Int'l Human Rights Day - 2012.

Stakeholders Trained on Monitoring Consumer's Rights

PARSA: NHRC Regional Office, Janakpur organized a two day training workshop on Monitoring Consumers Rights in Birgunj from 4-5 December, 2012.

The program was inaugurated by NHRC Member Justice Ram Nagina Singh as the chief guest whereas the inaugural session was chaired by Officiating Director of NHRC Regional Office Janakpur Buddha Narayan Sahani.

At the outset, delivering welcome remarks, Bed P. Bhattarai, Director of NHRC also shed light on the objectives of the program.

Speaking as the chief guest, Member Ram Nagina Singh highlighted the importance of the training at the time

RUPANDEHI: NHRC Sub Regional Office Butwal organized yet another training entitling Monitoring Consumer's Rights as one of the series of the programs laid out in the NHRC Work Plan from 6-7 December, 2012.

The program was inaugurated by NHRC Member Ram Nagina Singh as the chief guest. The inaugural program was chaired by Deputy Director of NHRC Sub Regional Office Butwal Deepak Jung Dhoj Karki.

Welcoming the stakeholder invitees and the participants at the inaugural function, NHRC Director Bed P. Bhattarai, threw light on the objective and the rationale of the program.

Speaking as a chief guest of the program, Member Justice Ram Nagina Singh highlighted the importance of the training program at a time when the issues relating to consumer's rights are sidelined. He said that perhaps the consumer rights being the most important of ESCR, is often treated with the least priority. Thus, its time

when consumers' rights are at stake. Pointing out the fact that NHRC Nepal has initiated its steps for the promotion and protection of ESC rights including the consumers' rights, Member Singh stated that NHRC as a watchdog facilitates its surveillance over the activities of the government for the protection of consumers' rights.

At the program, guest speakers Jyoti Baniya, General Secretary of the Forum for Protection of Consumer's Rights Nepal, Mr Kailash Bajimaya, Chief District Officer of Parsa, Hon'ble Lekh Nath Ghimire, Judge of Parsa District Court and Ananda Mohan Bhattarai, Judge Appellate Court of Hetauda presented their remark. They also threw light on the rationale and applicability of the training to the district level stakeholders for the promotion and protection of consumers' rights. The

now that all have to work for the protection of the consumer's rights with utmost sincerity, he added.

He also mentioned about the NHRC initiatives for the promotion and protection of the consumer's rights. Stating that monitoring the activities of the concerned government authorities as one of the NHRC's works for the protection of consumer's rights, he called on all the concerned to inculcate collective efforts and help protect the rights of consumers.

At the program, wishing success of the program, guest speakers Judge Mr Ishwor Prasad Khatiwada, Appellate Court Butwal, Jyoti Bania, General Secretary of Forum for Protection of Consumer's Rights Nepal, Hari Krishna Poudel, Chief District Officer of Rupandehi, Posh Raj Pokhrel, Deputy Superintendent of Police of Rupandehi, Birendra Air, Deputy Superintendent of Armed Police Force of Rupandehi, Tej Prasad Pathak, President of Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industries of Rupandehi, Ganesh Sapkota, central member of FPCR-Nepal shared their comments and suggestions with

Zonal Chief of Narayani zone SSP Pankaj Shrestha was also present in the program.

Member Mr Ram Nagina Singh, NHRC Director Bed P Bhattarai, HR Officer Suresh Malla, Consumer Rights Activist and General Secretary of FPCR-Nepal Jyoti Baniya, Judge of Appellate Court of Hetauda Mr Ananda Mohan Bhattarai were among the resource persons of the training.

The training program was participated by 42 participants representing from NGOs, civil society, legal professionals, journalists and government officials and the representatives working for the promotion and protection of consumers' rights from 6 different districts including Parsa, Bara, Rautahat, Makawanpur, Sarlahi and Dhanusha.

regard to the applicability and importance of the training program for the promotion and protection of consumers' rights.

NHRC Nepal has initiated its action for the promotion and protection of ESC rights including the consumer's rights.

Member Ram Nagina Singh, Director Bed P Bhattarai, NHRC Deputy Director of Sub Regional Office, Butwal Deepak Jung Dhoj Karki, HR Officer Suresh Malla, General Secretary of FPCR-Nepal Jyoti Baniya, Judge of Appellate Court of Rupandehi Ishwor Prasad Khatiwada were among the resource persons of the training program.

Forty six trainees comprising the representatives of NGOs, civil society, lawyers, government officials and others from the districts including Rupandehi, Nawalparashi Arghakhanchi, Kapilbastu, Palpa, Chitwan and Gulmi participants in the training.

Both the trainings were conducted in the facilitation of the Forum for the Protection of Consumers' Rights - Nepal.



NHRC Member Justice Ram Nagina Singh along with the Chiefs of the Government offices, local level entrepreneurs, representatives of the consumer rights organizations at a program held in Birgunj on the Protection of Consumers' Rights

Collective Accountability, Need of the Hour to Ensure Human Rights



Justice Kishore Prasad Silwal of Appellate Court- NPJ, Chairperson of INSEC- Nepal Subodh Raj Pyakurel Maimuna Siddique, Chairperson of Fatima Foundation- NPJ, NHRC Director Murari Prasad Kharel among others at an interaction program held in Nepalgunj on the occasion of 64th Int'l Human Rights Day-2012

BANKE: Internalizing the universal slogan: 'My Voice Counts: Inclusion and the right to participate in public life,' the NHRC Regional Office, Nepalgunj marked the 64th International Human Rights Day on 10th December, 2012 by organizing various programs.

On the occasion, an interaction entitling, "Collective Accountability to Ensure Human Rights," was organized jointly by the NHRC Regional Office, NPJ and other human rights organizations active in the area.

Chaired by Maimuna Siddique, Chairperson of Fatima Foundation- NPJ, the program was attended by Justice Kishore Prasad Silwal of Appellate Court-NPJ and Chairperson of INSEC-Nepal Subodh Pyakurel as the chief guest and special guests respectively.

At the program, the participants expressed their collective commitment to foster regional collaboration, support and coordination among the stakeholders in order to ensure human rights. Meanwhile, INSEC-Nepal announced to confer the eminent rights activist with the 'Bhajan Memorial Human Rights Award' through the fund established in profound memory of human rights defender late Bhajan Chaudhary.

The interaction was held among the representatives of various governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations including the representatives of the professional organizations and agencies, political parties, human rights organizations and agencies and the media persons among others.

Kin of Conflict Victims ask to Publicize the Condition of the Disappeared Citizens

BANKE: Stakeholders in Mid-West have flayed the political parties for their obliviousness in helping address the problems of conflict victims. At a discussion program organized by the NHRC Regional Office in Nepalgunj, they said that they aren't honest in addressing on the cases of conflict victims.

While the conflict victims languish with no justice provided to them, the perpetrators move scot free, lamented the participating members of the victims' families. 'We are left high and dry and living painful life ever since our beloved ones disappeared. We haven't received the compensation and others facilities as yet. The process for receiving the compensation is also complex and difficult. Government and political parties show their concern with regard to the center based political issues only. They don't tend to pay any heed to our problems and thus the voice of victims are always ignored, they added.

They further said that the Police Administration is also oblivion in helping solve the issues related to the conflict victims. They are not sensitive to register the FIR. If at all the case is registered, the

further procedure either remains acutely sluggish or dormant.

Hoping that the Transitional Justice Mechanism such as the Commission on the Inquiry of Disappeared and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission provisioned through the Comprehensive Peace Accord (CPA) would be formed at the soonest possible time, the participants urged the stakeholder organizations to mount pressure on the Government and political parties.

Speaking at the program, kin of victim Jagat Kumari Basnet said, 'My son had disappeared in conflict period. I am ageing day to day but I am still unknown about the whereabouts my son. My husband has become physically weak and it is very difficult to run the family.'

Laxmi Thapa, wife of the late journalist Dekendra Thapa said, 'My husband was killed by the Maoist. It is extremely agonizing to learn that the perpetrators are not booked till date. I, like other members of the conflict victims, am aggravated to witness the ever-stretching state of impunity.

Usha Dahal, another member of victim's

family, said, 'My husband disappeared with the involvement of the state in the incident and his condition is not yet publicized by the state.' She demanded that the Government publicize the whereabouts of the disappeared persons during the conflict period and take legal action against those involved in the act of enforced disappearance.

Sushila Oli, who is a dual victim of State and Maoist, said that she wasn't hopeful for justice. ' My daughter was taken by the Maoists during the conflict period and later she was arrested by the security force. Nobody has made us known about the status of her being anywhere and we never know whether she is alive or dead. Justice now seems a very far off dream for me.'

The participants of the program comprised the representatives of the stakeholder organizations, victims family members, various organizations and agencies working in the field of conflict victims, security agency, political parties and media persons among others.

Glimpses of the 64th Int'l Human Rights Day



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