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Government committed to Human Rights: Khila Raj Regmi



Rt. Hon. Chair of the Council of Ministers Khila Raj Regmi addressing at the special program organized at the NHRC on the occasion of the 65th International Human Rights Day, 2013

LALITPUR: The Chair of Council of Ministers Khila Raj Regmi said, ‘The government is committed to the preservation, protection and promotion of human rights in the country.’

Addressing the special program organized to mark the international Human Rights Day at NHRC, Chair Regmi, as the chief guest of the program, lauded the nationwide NHRC monitoring on the Constituent Assembly election through human rights perspectives.

Commending the NHRC activities carried out amid critical transitional phase, the Chair of Interim Election Government Regmi expressed his commitment that the posts lying vacant at NHRC would be filled anytime soon upon the political and constitutional consultations.

He also said that government was serious about the perennial problems such as the resource crunch and the poor infrastructures

endured by the NHRC.

Addressing the program, NHRC Acting Secretary Bed Prasad Bhattarai said, ‘It is hoped that the general people now expect that the recent successful accomplishment of the Constituent Assembly election-2070 would be a breakthrough for the country to end the prolonged transitional phase.’

Secretary Bhattarai reiterated that the new elected government would duly revive

the components of transitional justice to mitigate the scars of the conflict.

Extending wishes to the government and all stakeholders to have the ‘Three Year National Human Rights Action Plan’ of the GoN reached to the grassroots level of people, Secretary Bhattarai said that the NHRC is ready to collaborate with all national and international agencies over all human rights concerns.

Secretary Bhattarai, on behalf of the NHRC and all Nepalese, shared his deep sorrow with entire human rights and peace loving world community over the sad demise of South African anti-apartheid leader and Noble laureate Nelson Mandela and paid heartfelt homage to the departed soul on the occasion.

Celebrated with the slogan “Together for Human Rights,” marking of International Human Rights Day began with the welcome address delivered by NHRC Director Subarna Karmacharya.

Speaking at the program, UN Resident Coordinator in Nepal Jamie McGoldrick said he was hopeful that soon-to-be formed Constituent Assembly (CA) would properly address human rights issues.

“As envisaged, addressing human rights issues should be participatory and thus all strata should be involved in the process with adequate priority,” McGoldrick said.

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Save the lives of Adhikari Couple: NHRC

LALITPUR: The Office of the National Human Rights Commission has expressed serious concern over the deteriorating health condition of the Adhikari couple Nanda Prasad Adhikari and Ganga Devi Adhikari who have been staging hunger strike for the last 38 days demanding a probe into the murder of their son Krishna Prasad Adhikari.

Through a press release issued, the Commission has said that it is unfortunate that the family members of murdered Adhikari are compelled to stage fast unto death on numerous occasions demanding the probe into the same old conflict-era case. It is, therefore, necessary that the longstanding

cases of human rights violations of conflict period such as the case of Krishna Prasad Adhikari must be addressed and settled down as soon as possible, the press release says.

In this concern, the Commission corresponded to the Government of Nepal many times but the government turned deaf ear to the demands for justice by the Adhikari couple.

The Commission has reminded about the non-implementation of the agreement reached between the Government of Nepal and the civil society representatives on September 7, 2013 with regard to request the couple to end their hunger strike.

The then Maoist cadres allegedly abducted Krishna Prasad Adhikari of Fujel VDC of Ward 7 - Gorkha district in 2004 while he was visiting his grandparents in Jaimangala village, Chitwan district. Abducted from Bakulahar Chok of Ratnanagar municipality of Chitwan on June 5, 2004, Krishna Prasad Adhikari was murdered on 5th June 2004. Krishna's relatives had lodged a complaint against the murderers.

The Commission had issued a press note on August 7, 2013 urging the Government to advance investigation on the murder case of Krishna Prasad Adhikari. Following this, the Commission had also written to the Office of the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers on August 12, 2013 with regard to the same concern.

Widen the area of Investigation: NHRC

LALITPUR: The Office of the National Human Rights Commission has taken the recent investigation process by the Nepal Police on the case of Krishna Prasad Adhikari's murder of Conflict era as a positive step.

By issuing the press release, the NHRC has said that it is hopeful that such a step would generate respect towards human rights with justice provided to the victim through swift

investigation process of the lawsuits.

Meanwhile, upon informed about the ineffective police investigation over the case of Krishna Prasad Adhikari, the Office of the Commission has urged the Nepal Police and the Government of Nepal to widen the area of investigation process of the case in an effective way.

The press release says that, in this regard,

the Commission is closely monitoring the episodes of the case investigation and a team from the NHRC Central Office will proceed to Chitwan for further monitoring update.

The Office of the Commission has also appealed all the concerned stakeholders to help make the investigation process further effective.

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Government committed to ...

Underlining the need to address the critical human rights grievances of the past in accordance with international norms, he urged that the appointment process at the NHRC should be in consistent with the Paris Principles.

On the occasion, Chairperson of National Dalit Commission Sushila Shirpali laid her emphasis on human rights issues to be treated as one of the vital agendas in new constitution making process.

Similarly, Chairperson of the National Women Commission Sheikh Chand Tara said there is an urgent need to form the much awaited Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) to have the conflict era human rights violations addressed appropriately.

She strongly urged to the government and other stakeholders not to ignore the human rights issues related to women.

At the program, the Chair of NGO Federation Sarmila Karki said, 'Constitution is the one and only strong legal base for the protection of political, civil, economic, social and

cultural rights including other rights of the general citizens.'

She stressed that new constitution should incorporate the provisions that guarantees non-discrimination, equal, equitable and prosperous society together with the value of the human rights and democracy.

She also laid her strong emphasis on the effective implementation of the NHRC

TOGETHER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

recommendations as committed by the various parties in power in the past.

On the occasion, the Chair of the fifth National Human rights Magna Meet – Nepal, Gajadhar Sunar stated that the Magna Meet this year had the issues of untouchability and racial discrimination as the key agenda and thus he was hopeful that pertinent issues as such would be addressed with due priority.

The National Human Rights Magna Meet is a common forum for the organizations and agencies working in the field of human rights which meets for a week ahead of international human rights day every year .

Underscoring the need to establish equitable society rather than equality in society, Mr Sunar added that there will be conflict in the society as long as there is no peace in society. It is, therefore, necessary to bring about change in present scenario for strengthening of justice, equality and peace in society.

At the program, Hon. Ministers, chiefs of the constitutional bodies, Justices, chief secretary of Government of Nepal, former NHRC members, secretaries including high level officials of the GoN, chiefs of the diplomatic missions to Nepal, chief of Nepal Army Staff, IGPs of Nepal Police and Armed Police Force, leaders of various political parties, civil society representatives, human rights defenders, media persons and students among others participated in the program.

The International Human Rights Day is observed on 10 December by entire human race in world over including the United Nations and the UN member states. This year, the program was postponed due to the demise of South African leader Nelson Mandela and was observed on 18th December, 2013.

'International Day of Persons with Disabilities' Observed

RUPANDEHI: Having 'Open up inclusive path removing barriers' as the maxim for this year, NHRC Sub Regional Office (Butwal) observed the 22nd International Day of Persons with Disabilities amidst a function in Nawalparasi.

Speaking on the occasion, Dipak Karki, Deputy Director of NHRC Sub Regional Office Butwal, said that health service, mobility, employment, dignified participation in all spheres of social and professional lives of persons with disability should be guaranteed.

Director Karki added by saying that there should be disabled friendly infrastructures for the easy mobility of people with disability.

He also stressed on the need of participation of people with disability in the course of budget allocation.

Speakers including Sanjaya Shrestha, Dhameshwori Bhusal, Buddhi Sagar Pandey, NHRC Human Rights Officer Chandrakanta Chapagain shed light on ways of safeguarding the rights of persons with disability. They



Participants and the resource person at a program held on the rights of person with disabilities to mark the Int'l Day of Persons with Disabilities in Rupandehi district

also spoke on the need of collective efforts for the well-being of persons with disability.

At the program, participants laid their emphasis on mutual cooperation and coordination among the stakeholders for the cause of ensuring human rights of persons with disability.

There is general estimation that seven to ten per cent of people of the total population in Nepal suffers from certain forms of physical disabilities. Road accident, natural disaster,

physical violence, armed conflict, etc. are the main causes of disability.

The program was jointly organized by NHRC Sub Regional Office (Butwal) and CRB Network (Nawalparasi).

Nepal became the party to United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) on December 27, 2009. There is a tradition of observing 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities' on December 3 every year.

Security Body Representatives interact on VAW



Representatives of security agencies along with the resource persons from the NHRC at an interaction program held on the violence against women

BHAKTAPUR : Coinciding with the 16 day campaign held on Violence against Women (VAW), the Office of the National Human Rights Commission organized an interaction entitling 'violence against women, the issue of women human rights in relevant to white ribbon & 16 days campaign on violence against women'.

The program commenced with one minute prayer held to pay homage to South African anti apartheid leader and Nobel peace laureate Nelson Mandela prior to the inaugural.

At the outset, Human Rights Officer Sarita

Gyawali threw light on the objective and rationale of the program. NHRC Director Subarna Kumar Karmacharya enumerated that violence against women was women's human rights issue which have been enshrined in a number of international human rights instruments to which Nepal is a party.

At the program, DSP Kiran Rana made comparative analysis of two years records on violence against women, national plans and policies and the engagement of national mechanisms to prevent and control violence against women.

Similarly, DSP Toran Karki elaborated confidentiality of victims of violence and advised the police officers to keep the information and personal confidentiality of victim during investigation of the cases related to violence against women. The representatives of the security agencies, in unison, expressed their commitment to protect the rights of victims

Forty participants comprising the police officers from 3 different districts namely Lalitpur and Bhaktapur participated in the program.

Fifth National HRs Magna Meet concluded: 14 Pt. Declaration Adopted

LALITPUR: Fifth National Human Rights Magna Meet that started five days ago came to an end on December 11.

The mega event concluded with the issuance of a 14-point Declaration. The Declaration is inclusive of demands of SAARC-level Human Rights Charter and necessary legal provisions and structures based on the convention regarding trafficking in persons especially on women and children.

The declaration also lays emphasis on security and social respect of dalit, persons with disabilities, sexual minorities and elderly people; participation, empowerment and leadership development of youth and teenagers; respect and protection of children, end to impunity, protection of human rights defenders; press freedom; ratification, fulfillment and implementation of international treaties, among others.

Speaking on the occasion, former member of NHRC Professor Kapil Shrestha said that there were discussions over redressing the rights of marginalized people during this year's magna meet. He also reiterated that human rights defenders of Nepal were carrying out works despite risks.

Chairperson of Dalit NGO Federation and coordinator of Human Rights Magna meet Gajadhar Sunar said that more than 25 thematic discussions were held in the magna meet which, he said, would be instrumental for human rights advocacy on the rights general citizens.

Blood Donation Campaign

LALITPUR: Like past years, the Office of the National Human Rights Commission organized a blood donation campaign coinciding the occasion of the 65th International Human Rights, 2013. The campaign was held amidst a program organized at the premises of the NHRC on 18th December 2013.

The representatives of Nepal Armed Police Force, Nepali Army, Nepal Police, National Law Academy, Nijamati Kitabkhana, National Library including staffs from NHRC participated in the blood donation program. A total of 154 participants donated blood on the occasion.

Nepal Red cross society provided the technical support for the program.

Role of Law Enforcing Agency Pivotal in abating Rights Violations



Former NHRC member Ram Nagina Singh along with the chiefs of district level government bodies at an interaction held in Sarlahi district

SARLAHI: On the occasion of the international human rights day, an interaction program was jointly organized by the mid- western regional office, Janakpur and Nepal Bar Association, Sarlahi.

Chaired by Buddha Narayan Shahani Kewat, the regional head of NHRC, Janakpur office, the program entitling 'our roles in the promotion and protection of human rights' was well received of the stakeholders of the area.

Former NHRC member Ram Nagina Singh was the chief guest of the program. The Constituent Assembly member Mr. Jagi Lal Raya, district judge of Sarlahi Mr. Dal Bahadur KC, Mr. Murari Shrestha, Mr. Shankar Raj Baral, chief district officer of Sarlahi Mr. Dinesh Ghimire and Mr. Mohan Raya were the guests of the program.

Seventy participants comprising the representatives from political parties, human rights officers, legal professionals, civil societies representatives and media persons participated in the program.

Although human rights situation has improved in the past few years, the role of law enforcing agencies in the district was not satisfactory, it is learnt during the program. The participants urged the effective role of the district administrative office including district police office in the protection of human rights in the district.

The representative of district police office and the chief district officer claimed that it is necessary to change the conviction of government workers and civil society members on sustaining the collaboration for

the promotion and protection of the human rights in adequate manner.

They urged not to give any space for the violation of human rights of others while enjoying the rights of own. Hon. Judge of the district court said that as court is also one of the sources for the protection of human rights, justice provided will be human rights oriented.

According to former NHRC member Ram Nagina Singh, the state has both national and international commitment to protect and promote human rights. As per the principle of human rights, it has 3 roles and responsibilities and they are respect, protection and fulfillment of human rights.

'Thus it is necessary to implement these responsibilities and government should be serious about its role; it should provide human rights oriented service and should play positive roles in welfare activities conducted by the human rights community and civil societies,' he said.

He further added that rights and duties are the wheels of the same chariot. So those who ask for the rights should also think about their duties. This indisputably helps create the human rights friendly environment, he stressed.

Lauding the comments and suggestions shared by the participants, Buddha Narayan Sahani, chair of the program, also mentioned the general wish that the Constituent Assembly formed from the recently held CA election will frame human rights friendly constitution.

Inculcate Collective Effort to end Gender based Violence: Ram Nagina Singh

SIRAHA: Similarly, an interaction program was organized by the NHRC Regional Office Janakpur in collaboration with Center for Human Rights at Lahan (Siraha) on "The Situation of Violence against Women"

Program was chaired by former NHRC member Ram Nagina Singh and other guests were Chief District Officer Anil Thakur, District Police Inspector Purnachandra Joshi, Local Development Officer Bijayraj Subedi.

70 participants including human rights defenders, media persons, representatives of the political parties and civil society members participated in the participants. During the program women human rights defenders shared the objective of the program and presented a paper on the situation of violence against women in Siraha District.

Most of the participants raised their concerns about the undue social pressures and threats

preventing women to file their lawsuit against the perpetrators. Participants also mentioned that police demand complaints to be in written form whereas many victims are not willing to file the complaint in written form.

At the program, the Chief District Officer and District Police Officer made commitment that on the basis of report / information, administration the police would entertain the cases leading to justice delivery to the victims. They also committed to intervening immediately in the event of rights violation perpetuated on women for the protection of the victims' rights.

During the program, the former NHRC



Participants at an interaction organized by NHRC Janakpur office in Siraha district

member Ram Nagina Singh, as the chief guest of the program, urged to duly inculcate collective efforts required to address the challenges and stressed on the need of legal reform in Nepal so as to stop the gender based violence.

The Chair of the program Buddha Narayan Sahani said that NHRC is playing a vital role to prevent gender based violence.

Rally and Interaction Program



Human Rights Officer Hari Gyawali addressing an interaction organized on the occasion of 65th International Human Rights Day, 2013 in Banke district

BANKE: On December 9, an interaction program was organized entitled 'Status of Human Rights and Security of Human Rights Defenders'.

Speaking on the occasion, Keshav Prasad Mainali, Hon. Judge of Appellate Court, pointed out the need for joint efforts for the protection and promotion of human rights in the country.

Participants Vishwajit Tiwari, Bhola Mahat, Narharinath Yogi, Chetraj Bhattarai, Sobha BC, Prakash Upadhaya, Ravindra Karna, Niraj Gautam, Sukrarishi Chaulagain,

Bhupal Singh Bhandari, Saritadevi Sharma shed light on retrospect and prospects of human rights issues.

Similarly, separate interaction programs entitled 'Role of Stakeholders in Human Rights Friendly Constitution Building' and 'Participation of Victims in Justice System and Legal Status' were held.

Likewise, a rally was organized by the NHRC Regional Office, Nepalgunj to mark the 65th International Human Rights Day.

After the rally turned into a mass meeting, human rights related dramas were performed and the book related to violence against women and children was released.

The rally was participated by security forces, human rights defenders, and government officials, members of CSOs among others.

Murari Kharel, head of NHRC Regional Office Nepalgunj, presided over all of the functions.



Participants at a rally organized against VAW on the occasion of 65th International Human Rights Day, 2013



NHRC Deputy Director Murari Prasad Kharel addressing the rally organized against VAW on the occasion of 65th International Human Rights Day, 2013

Glimpses of the Special Program held on the occasion of International Human Rights Day-2013



Images of the Blood Donation Campaign held on the occasion of the Int'l Human Rights Day-2013





Speech delivered by NHRC Acting Secretary Bed Prasad Bhattarai on the occasion of the 65th Int'l Human Rights Day- 2013

Today, we all have gathered here to mark the International Human Rights Day, 2013. The virtuous Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) has completed its 65th year just this past week since its adoption. In this context, having Nepal been an active UN member state and a nation-sensitive towards human rights, the National Human Rights Commission together with GoN, civil society and entire international community in Nepal commemorate this occasion with much fanfare throughout the country. Also, I would like to share my deep sorrow with the entire human rights and peace loving world community over the sad demise of South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela and pay heartfelt homage to the departed soul.

Since human rights is indispensable component to person's life, dignity, equality and freedom, it bears special significance in a civilized society. This indeed is the matter of common concern for all. In this regard, we all know that the NHRC was incepted some 13 years ago bestowed with the duty to ensure respect, protection and promotion and effective implementation of human rights in Nepal. It came into existence amid dispirited outlook of the Government about institutionalizing the Commission and vibrant human rights movement then, but now all sensible Nepalese are eager to experience the situation different from that of the past. Recently, the international community was apprised to the perspective of GoN towards the Commission and human rights by the present government during the term of the Hon. Chair which indeed is worth speculating. Since its inception, NHRC has been receiving ample cooperation from human rights community and it has been able to maintain its 'A' category status. Even so, some unnecessary efforts have been underway to degrade the NHRC's present status without having due consultation at the national level. It is, therefore, necessary to maintain its 'A'

category status for the image of Nepal Government, Nepali people and NHRC itself.

The Commission is now functioning without the office bearers though, it has submitted the report to the GoN bearing the implementation status of complaints investigated over 13 years of period. In reference to the report, therefore, I would like to mention here that, of the total 735 complaints, 14% has been implemented in full, 48% has been implemented partially and 38% remains under consideration.

General people now expect that the recent successful accomplishment of the Constituent Assembly election-2070 would work as a breakthrough for the country to end the prolonged transitional phase. Also, I firmly believe that new elected government would duly revive the components of transitional justice to mitigate the scars of the conflict. Since the election is vital basis of democracy and human rights and that alternative of election is nothing but election, the Commission has accomplished CA election monitoring from human rights perspective in all 75 districts despite existing critical situation. With timely publication of the report based on the facts discovered during the CA election monitoring, therefore, the Commission has drawn the attention of the Election Commission, Government, both parties supporting and opposing the CA election and other concerned stakeholders. The Commission has also been appealing to all to duly comply with humanitarian norms and values including the people's mandates. During the course of monitoring, where appropriate, the Commission played an intervening role with the objective to protect the rights of the general people. All of these activities have been made public through various NHRC publications.

Similarly, during this year, 219 complaints have been registered at the Commission. The number of complaints has, however, declined as compared to those of the last year. 165 monitoring missions have been deployed to monitor overall human rights, women's rights, senior citizens' rights, child rights, rights against racial discrimination, and the protest programs. The complaints are related to killing, abduction, torture, systematic abuse, extra judicial detention, threat, administration

of justice, property seizure including the violation of economic, social and cultural rights. Similarly, 1,346 investigations upon complaints have been conducted. Following these, 504 complaints have been finalized while 307 activities including interaction, training, meetings and workshops have been accomplished this year. Similarly 13 publications including the human rights related guidelines, National Report on the Implementation Status of Child Rights in Nepal and the National Report on the Status of the Human Trafficking have been published. In addition, four NHRC reports have been released today.

We are observing the International Human Rights Day today coinciding the Rights of Minority Day and the Migrant Workers Rights Day which is observed worldwide every year on 18th December. In this regard, an international conference among the NHRIs of Asia Pacific region on the protection of the rights of migrant workers was held in Nepal last year. On this occasion, the Conference adopted the 'Kathmandu Resolution' as a landmark outcome document which has been commended in international level.

Likewise, National Human Rights Committee of Qatar and the Chairs of the NHRIs of the Asia Pacific Region have been formally requested in Doha last October for the effective monitoring on the rights of Nepalese migrant workers stationed in Qatar. Not to mention, the Government of Nepal has been apprised to the de-facto situation of the rights of Nepalese migrant workers together with the recommendations submitted to the GoN accordingly on the basis of the facts found via observation and monitoring carried out on the rights situation of Nepalese migrant workers during the high level visit to South Korea and Malaysia last August – September.

Despite the fact that aforementioned concerted efforts were made, de-facto situation of human rights in Nepal is not satisfactory. The pervasive situation such as serious challenge in peace and security, widespread illegal use of small arms, bomb explosion, arson, killing, abduction, torture, violence against women, socially discriminatory practice, child labor, perennial problems related to education, health and unemployment, pitiful situation of migrant workers (which, of course, is not unmanageable), discarded rights of consumers, widespread corruption, unaccountable public service, obliviousness in administration of justice has made the citizens' dignified life as a subject of mockery. Similarly, the inter party void following the disagreement emerged among the political parties from time to time and pervasive impunity altogether have been the matter of acute worries and concern for all.

To give an end to the crisis ridden situation amid a number of hostile backgrounds, I hereby extend my wishes that all of us embark upon having self realization to begin self-assessment to materialize 'My human rights is her/his human rights as well.' I also wish that let the 'Three Year National Human Rights Action Plan' of the GoN help reach the spirit of human rights to the grassroots level of people in rural sector. In this concern, I would like to confide you all that the NHRC is ready to collaborate with the national and international organizations, GoN and civil society with great deal of determination and persistence, as always.

Last but not the least, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Rt. Hon Chair of Council of Ministers and all the guests for your solidarity and for accepting our invitation to be the part of celebration despite your busy schedule. I would also like to extend my special thanks to entire member staff of the Commission for their wholehearted participation to make this program a success including all those who participated in the blood donation campaign organized on the occasion.

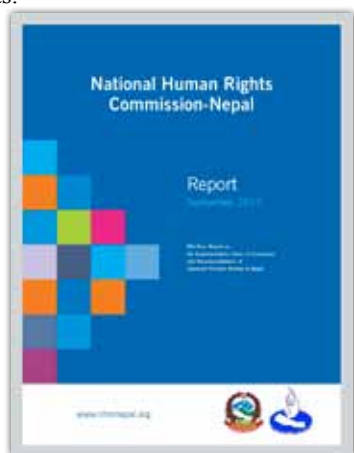
Thank you!

December 18, 2013

Reports and Manuals made Public

LALITPUR: The National Human Rights Commission has made four publications public amid a special program held on the occasion of the 65th International Human Rights Day-2013 on 18th January, 2013.

Released by Hon. Chair of the Council of Ministers Khila Raj Regmi, all the reports and books are the documents related to the NHRC endeavours and accomplishments of the fiscal year 2013 in the field of human rights.



The books and reports are the **Implementation Status of the UPR Conclusions and Recommendations, Human Rights situation of Nepalese Migrant Worker Report (Observation and Monitoring Report, South Korea and Malaysia) -2013, Human Rights Manual for School Teacher, 2013 and Human Rights Manual for Security, 2013.**

Upon having the comprehensive consultation among the Government bodies, NGOs, civil society and other cornered stakeholders the report on the Implementation Status of the UPR Conclusions and Recommendations has been made public.

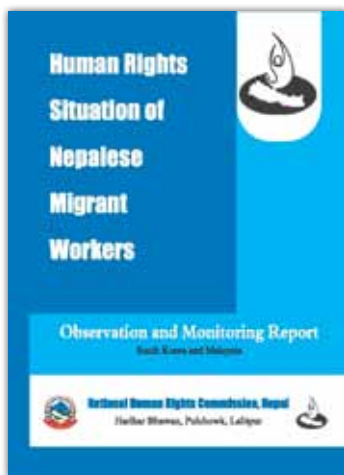
In this regard, the first Universal Periodic Review of the human rights situation in Nepal was held on 25 January 2011, during tenth Universal Periodic Review (UPR) session of the United Nations, Human Rights Council. Prior to the meeting, on December 2010, Government of Nepal (GoN) had submitted the national report on human rights situation of Nepal. On behalf of the Human Rights Institutions in the nation, the National Human Rights Commission, the National Women's Commission and the National Dalit Commission had submitted a joint UPR report. In addition to this, various Human Rights Organizations had submitted their reports to the Council.

After the comprehensive discussion on the Human Rights Situation Report of Nepal, fifty-five states had provided a range of (137) recommendations to Nepal. The GoN accepted 56 of these recommendations with a commitment to implement them accordingly. The GoN mentioned that 28 recommendations

had already been implemented or were in the process of implementation; 15 recommendations were rejected by the Government. Furthermore, the Government was learned to have provided its view on 36 recommendations during 17th meeting of Human Rights Council on 6th June 2011.

Second Periodic Review of Nepal will be held on twenty-third Assembly of the UN Human Rights Council. There will be extensive discussion on the implementation of the commitments expressed by Nepal during the meeting.

Second report entitling **Human Rights situation of Nepalese Migrant Worker Report (Observation and Monitoring Report, South Korea and Malaysia) -2013** vividly elucidates the human rights situation of the Nepalese migrant workers overseas.



Migration is a global phenomenon. In Nepal, migration for foreign employment is turning into reality of many Nepali families. However, the violation and abuse of the rights of Nepali migrant workers has been a critical issue and a number of labour destination countries are not the exceptions in this regard. Considering the vulnerability of migrant workers, NHRC-Nepal has embarked upon making a number of initiatives for the protection of the rights of Migrant workers overseas. In this concern, NHRC-Nepal formed a high-level delegation and carried out on-the-spot observation and monitoring of the de-facto situation of the rights of migrant workers working in South Korea and Malaysia.

The report is made public with the thorough study carried out on the human rights situation of Nepalese Migrant Workers based on the observation and monitoring. Following the visit, the NHRC Nepal has made recommendations to the Government of Nepal for the implementation with due priority.

It is hoped that this report would be a helpful tool for all the concerned to enhance advocacy initiatives and also to the Government of Nepal for the implementation of the rights of migrant workers.



Next publication entitling **Human Rights Resource book for school teachers** deals with the all spectrums of fundamental knowledge and skills on human rights. The book is published with the objective to inculcate values of human rights among students and the people of all walks of life.

The 130 pages long resource book has shed light on different aspects of human rights including definition of human rights, international instruments related to human rights, international laws, human rights in school curricula, human rights education in Nepal, role played by NHRC for the promotion of human rights.

This resource book deemed to be useful for teachers, human rights activist, general public and everyone who is interested in human rights.

Yet another publication the NHRC has brought about is **Human Rights Manual for Security, 2013**. Aiming at facilitating security personnel towards the respect, protection and promotion of human rights, the manual works as the vital resource book for security personnel.



This resource book intensively discusses on different areas of human right friendly behaviours to be maintained while discharging duties by the security personnel. In addition, the resource book speaks about different national and international laws relating to detention, search, investigation, use of force, and so on, so forth.

The resource book is expected to be widely useful for security personnel, human rights activists, general public and the people of all walks of life.

NHRC holds Mid-Term Review on Strategic Plan, 2011-14

KATHMANDU: The Office of the National Human Rights Commission has reviewed its Strategic Plan (2011 - 2014) beginning with the Constituent Assembly Election monitoring experience with Regional and Sub-regional offices. The midterm review comprehensively discussed on the NHRC's achievements so far and the possible interventions due for the remaining period.

Addressing the meeting, Acting Secretary Mr. Bed Prasad Bhattarai stressed on the importance of review of Strategic Plan including the importance of next year plan for human rights protection and promotional work.

‘The Commission has always been proactive since the inception period and now the responsibilities of the Commission has vastly increased at a time when NHRC remains without top officials.’ said Acting Secretary Bhattarai.

At the program, the proceeding of the meeting was followed by the analytical review of Constituent Assembly Election Monitoring. Similarly, the department heads and the Chiefs of the NHRC Regional and Sub-Regional Offices shared the experience of constituent assembly election monitoring of their respective region.

Jointly facilitated by NPM Sadhana Ghimire and Regional Director Yagya Prasad Adhikari a session on identified key indicators from NHRC's experiences from 2011-13. Elucidating briefly on the methodology as to how to identify the indicators, NPM Ghimire made the participants clear about the linkage between activities, indicator and outcomes and achievements.



NHRC staff members participating in the round table discussion held during the Mid Term Review on Strategic Plan, 2011-14

Meanwhile, to consolidate the revision of strategic plan and next year priorities, Director Subarna Kummer Karmachaya briefly presented on the theory of change.

Chiefs of various regional offices comprising Kosh Raj Neupane, Murari Prasad Kharel, Dr. Tika Ram Pokharel, Deepak Jung Dhewaj Karki made their presentations on the activities accomplished in the current fiscal year and also shared the experiences on CA election monitoring in their respective regions. Similarly, Human Rights Officer Shyam Babu Kafle presented the updates on the nationwide CA election monitoring.

Facilitating the program, Jaya Shor Chapagain, Head of the NHRC Policy, Research and Planning Division made the analytical presentation on the second day based on the Strategic Plan (2011 – 2014)

and its major objectives, priorities and expected outcomes together with the laid out indicators.

Identified key indicators based on the past experience of the activities carried out in the past and then set up new internal objectives for the year 2014. Focus of the day second, therefore, was on the setting up of the plan for 2014. The comprehensive discussion followed with what are being achieved as envisaged in the past and how would the Commission endeavor to achieve in the forthcoming year.

The program was designed for three days with the technical support provided by the SCNHRC/UNDP in which the participants from central, regional and sub regional offices participated.

Obituary

The National Human Rights Commission of Nepal extends its deepest and sincere condolences to the family and friends of Ms. Jennifer Lynch, Former ICC Chairperson and the whole family of Canadian Human Rights Commission. This is the loss to all of us who have worked closely with Lynch and have seen the support and dedicated work towards enhancing the human rights culture in the world through the NHRIs as the ICC Chair. The National Human Rights Commission of Nepal at this moment highly appreciates Lynch's efforts for the promotion and protection of human rights in the world.

We extend our sincere condolences to her.

National Human Rights Commission, Nepal



Rt. Hon. Khila Raj Regmi, Chair of Council of Ministers releasing the NHRC publications at a special program organized to mark the 65th International Human Rights Day, 2013

NHRC Staff Trained on Gender Equality Mainstreaming

COPENHAGEN: The NHRC Team including Director Mr Subarna Kumar Karmacharya, Officers Ms Manju Khatiwada, Ms Maya Devi Sharma, Ms Uma Joshi and Ms Yeshodha Banjade attended the training entitling Gender Equality Mainstreaming held in Copenhagen, Denmark from October 21- November 8, 2013.

It was assumed that this course shall assist partners in developing countries to address gender equality more effectively in the development collaboration. Having attended the course, therefore, the participants improved their capacity to deal with special interventions in gender equality and mainstreaming of gender equality when designing, implementing and monitoring development cooperation interventions.

The participants gained knowledge on the core concepts, strategies and tools in relation to gender equality applied by Danish and international actors in development cooperation and also by their home country governments. This course addresses these development trends and the need for a renewed common understanding of emerging opportunities and constraints including the methodology to address these in the coming years.



NHRC-Nepal staff members along with the representatives of NHRIs from various countries during a training session on Gender Equality Mainstreaming organized in Copenhagen, Denmark

The participants comprising the representatives from Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal, Tanzania and Zambia underwent the training organized by the Danida Fellowship Centre (DFC), Copenhagen, Denmark .

During the courses there was an exposure visits to the UN women, Red Cross and other NGOs, and Government agencies.

During the courses the participants

were also able to design the Gender Equality Mainstreaming Action Plan within their Institution. Similarly, they obtained opportunity to interact with the Parliamentarians of Denmark. The participants received thorough insights from political intra country experiences sharing.

The fellowship program has paved ways to build up sound and knowledgeable expert team on Gender Equality Mainstreaming within the Institution.

News in Brief

Stakeholder representatives trained on HR

MYAGDI: The stakeholder representatives of West underwent training on human rights organized by the National Human Rights Commission Regional Office, Pokhara.

The objective of the training was to enhance collaboration between the NHRC and the human rights workers in the district, to bring about awareness on human rights and human rights education, to enhance the capacity of the human rights defenders and to help reach human rights activities to the grass roots level people in the village.



Resource person and participants at a training on Human Rights held in Myagdi district

At the training-cum-workshop program, the participants were imparted with the knowledge on the concept and development of human rights, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)-1948, principles of human rights monitoring, good governance and human rights, right to fair trial including rights against torture and detention management.

On the occasion, the resource persons also made the presentations on the guidelines on human rights defenders and guidelines on the human rights collaboration and coordination.

At the conclusion of the program, the participants put forward their comments and suggestions with regard to the training. Having realized the due significance of the program, the participants also urged to the NHRC to take the prototype programs to various VDCs, districts and regions of the country.

Participants of the program comprised the representatives from the government bodies including the security agencies, local level NGOs working in the field of human rights, teachers and media persons among others.

Rights Situation in the Path of Improvement in East



Participants at a program held on the role of stakeholders for the protection of HRs in Udaypur

UDAYPUR: NHRC Regional Office, Janakpur organized a workshop on "role of stakeholders in the protection of human rights in Udayapur. Former NHRC member Ram Nagina Singh, CDO Raj kumar Shrestha and District Judge Bhojraj Sharma were the guests at the program.

During the program, President of the Nepal Bar Association Shaymanand Chaudhary presented a paper on the human rights situation of Udayapur district. Lawyers, human rights defenders, government officials and women human rights defenders attended the program. Most of the participants claimed that the human rights situation in Udayapur was much better in comparison to that of other districts.

Discussion taps Impetus on the Rights of Disabled Women



Participant and resource persons at a program jointly organized by the NHRC and NDWA

KATHMANDU: NHRC and Nepal Disabled Women Association (NDWA) jointly organized an interaction program entitling Human Rights and Disabled Women's Human Rights.

At the outset of the program, Head of Gender and Social Inclusion Sarita Gyawali highlighted the objectives of the program. At the program, two presentations were made

Contemplate Challenges to abate Rights Violations

SAPTARI: NHRC Regional Officer Janakpur organized an interaction program on our role for the protection of human rights in Saptari district.

The participants of the program mentioned that human rights situation in Sapatari was bleak. They stated in unison that major human rights violations were the consequences of ill culture prevalent in society such as dowry, Tilak, witchcraft and sexual abuse and rape.



Former NHRC member Ram Nagina Singh along with the participants in Saptari district

Participants also stressed to expand the access of the Commission in district level. The chief guest of the program said that human rights situation of the Saptari district is challenging and therefore there must be collaboration between human rights defenders, civil society and law enforcement agency in order to contemplate the challenge to abate rights violations in the district.

by NDWA the president Rama and Head of Promotion and Advocacy division Surya B. Deuja respectively. Rama elucidated the human rights situation of disabled women in Nepal, the national legal policies including the international human rights instruments to which Nepal is a party. Surya B Deuja presented on human rights and the efforts made by National Human Rights Commission Nepal's for the protection and promotion of the rights of disabled women in Nepal.

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