



राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय, Central Office

हरिहर भवन, पुल्चोक, ललितपुर, Harihar Bhawan, Pulchowk, Lalitpur, Nepal



Press Release

August 6, 2015

Malik Family of Sihara delivered with Justice

Pramila Malik and her family members of Dhangadhi VDC, Nayanpur Ward 3 of Siraha, who were facing the deprivation of using water from public well, have been able to use water easily from well now.

Having learnt from various media reports about the deprivation faced by the Malik family to use water from well situated in front of Ram Avatar of the same village, Mid-Regional Office of the Commission, Janakpur had stepped up the situation monitoring. The monitoring team met with the members of the Mailk family, Local Police and Local Administration and held discussion about the truth with regard to the Malik family being debarred from using water from well since ages. The Commission urged to allow the Mailk family to use water from well in unhindered manner. The Commission has also urged that the villagers can't protest against the use of water.

Upon the Commission urged not to debar the Malik family from using well water, they have been allowed to use water at the presence of the Local Development Officer, Police Administration, Local Dalit Human Rights Defenders.

The Malik family was debarred by the so-called upper caste people from filling water from the public well all by themselves since 2007 BS. The practice was such that the others would fill water in aluminum utensils of the Malik family. They would, in turn, provide bamboo made baskets, trays and fans to those helping filling up water for them. Similarly, they were compelled to go to the bricks factory 3 KM far from their habitual residence for bathing.

It is clear that discriminatory practice such as untouchability still pervasive in a few districts of Nepal specially debarring Dalits from using water from source.

The Commission, therefore, has cautioned the concerned authorities to oversee the deprivation of the use of water by the Mailk family including Dalits, to allow to use water from the public well built in the private property and not to let loose the discriminatory practices on the basis of caste.

It is obligatory on everybody's part to eradicate the age-old social discrimination including untouchability from society. Such a practice is unlawful as per the Interim Constitution of Nepal – 2007, international law and principles.

The Commission, therefore, issues the directives to all the concerned authorities to implement or cause to implement the Racial Discrimination (Crime and Punishment Act 2068).

Mohna Ansari
Commissioner/ Spokesperson