



# राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission

केन्द्रिय कार्यालय, Central Office

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## Press Release

January 20, 2014

Fast-unto-death staged by prof. Dr. KC,

### **NHRC urges to respect the citizens' right to enjoy health services**

The attention of the Office of the National Human Rights Commission has been drawn to uncomfortable situation emerged due to the incident of fast-unto-death staged by Prof. Dr. Govinda KC of Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital (TUTH) with his seven points demands put forth.

It can be recalled that, prior to this, the Commission has drawn the attention of the concerned stakeholder parties on January 16, 2013 to sort out the problems through talks.

In this concern, the Commission has been incessantly monitoring the health condition of Prof. Dr. KC and the inconvenience caused to the health service seekers through the activities of the agitating doctors. As per the findings of the monitoring, the health condition of Prof. Dr. KC is deteriorating and common people's right to get medical treatment at government hospitals is being acutely affected due to the protest program organized by the doctors.

In this regard, it is observed that Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights-1948 (UDHR), the rights provisioned through Article 12 of the International Covenant on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) of the people have been discarded due to the ongoing protest program of the doctors. Similarly such activities are downright against the professional dignity as per the 'Consumers Protection Act- 2054 BS' and 'Essential Service Act - 2014 BS.' It is, thus, necessary to internalize the universal norm not to violate the rights of others while enjoying own rights.

Since the present protest program staged by the doctors is against the professional dignity and human sympathy, the Commission urges all the doctors to end such form of protest programs and to diverge them with due adoption of constructive measures.

The Commission, once again, urges the concerned health workers, the Government of Nepal including concerned stakeholders to be alert in time towards the unprecedented consequences due to the activities that tend to cause serious damage on the people's right to health as the basic human rights, to seek the solution to the problem through talks at the soonest, to save the life of KC and to protect the people's right to enjoy health services without any obstruction.

Bed Prasad Bhattarai

Acting Secretary