



राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission, Nepal

केन्द्रिय कार्यालय Central Office
हरिहर भवन, पुल्चोक, ललितपुर, HariharBhawan, Pulchowk, Lalitpur, Nepal



Press Note

October 1, 2012

Exploit Skills, Knowledge and Experiences of Senior Citizens: Chairperson

Chairperson Justice Kedar Nath Upadhyay has stressed on the necessity of the arrangement where young generations could use skills, knowledge and experiences handed over by the senior citizens for the development of the country.

Speaking as a chief guest at a workshop entitling "Rights of Senior Citizens," organized in the capital, the Chairperson said provided that the new generations look after the elderly members of the family, they can learn the skills and experiences useful for their life.

The Chairperson also added that the problems faced by the senior citizens are also on the rise with the pace of time. He, however, opined that the government alone cannot solve the problems and thus the support from the side of all is needed for the same.

Speaking on the occasion, Member Ram Nagina Singh said that the need of the hour is that the international provisions and best practices with regard to the rights of senior citizens must be implemented in Nepal. Though there lie various challenges and obstacles, there wouldn't be any problems provided we have the will power to introduce the provisions and best practices being practiced in foreign lands with regard to safeguarding the rights of senior citizens, Member Singh stressed.

He informed that the NHRC has decided to communicate the recommendations to the Government for the amendment to be made in the Senior Citizens Act, 2063 and Senior Citizens Regulations, 2063 from human rights perspectives upon consulting with the concerned stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, Padma Raj Bhatta - Acting Secretary of the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare stated that the special wards have been established at Bharatpur, Patan and Kirtipur keeping in mind the special treatment needed for the senior citizens and this arrangement would be expanded across the country in the days to come.

Stating that NRS four thousand as the financial support for the treatment of the senior citizens is not at all sufficient, he said that the survey program would be launched with the objective to assess the condition of the senior citizens across the country.

Speaking on the occasion, Surya Prasad Shrestha, the Social Security Chief of the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare said that the senior citizen allowance to be disbursed to the senior citizens has often been swindled by the Secretary in some VDCs. The concerned authority is now alert and working towards helping the allowance reach to the targeted group, he said.



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He added that the geriatric homes are operated without meeting the required standard. The Ministry, therefore, was all set to develop the standard.

Dr. Gauri Shanker Lal Das, the newly elected president of the Federation for the Senior Citizens and the former NHRC Member said that the voice has been raised for the welfare of the senior citizens since long, there have been a lot to be done for the satisfactory achievement in this sector, though.

Presenting the concept paper on the stipulated theme, Surya Bahadur Deuja, the Head of the Collective Rights Division (NHRC), elucidated on the NHRC initiatives with regard to the promotion and protection of the rights of senior citizens in line with international human rights instruments.

Prior to the commencement of the workshop, a morning rally was organized from Nepal Academy to the streets of Kathmandu. The rally went to the thoroughfares of the city including Ghantaghar (Time Square), Peace Park and converged into a gathering at Nepal Academy. The participants of the morning rally comprised the Minister Badri Prasad Neupane of the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, NHRC Member Ram Nagina Singh, the NHRC Staff members including the officials of the Federation for the Senior Citizens among others.

The program was jointly organized by the NHRC, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare and National Federation for Senior Citizens.

Bishal Khanal

Secretary