



राष्ट्रिय मानव अधिकार आयोग

National Human Rights Commission, Nepal

केन्द्रिय कार्यालय Central Office

हरिहर भवन, पुलचोक, ललितपुर, HariharBhawan, Pulchowk, Lalitpur, Nepal



Press Note

25 April, 2019

Protect the Independence and Autonomy of the Commission Respect the Human Rights

National Human Rights Commission, Nepal has conducted a consultation program separately with the former Chairperson and the Commissioners of NHRC and the president as well as the members of the Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ) with regard to the provisions of the NHRC Act 2012 forwarded amendment Bill by the government without the consultation of the Commission. The consultation program concluded that the provisions of the amendment bill forwarded by the government curtails the NHRC jurisdiction, its autonomy and independence and is also incompatible with the Paris Principle. The consultation meetings elucidated that this amendment bill should better be taken back by the government and make it again in consultation with the NHRC.

NHRC former Chairperson and former Chief Justice Kedar Nath Uphadhya opined that "human rights accountability vests on the government in the domestic and international forum too but the Attorney General is not the accountable agency on behalf of the government rather it is only the legal advisor of the government so this amendment bill is erroneous." The job to assess the adequacy of the evidences is vested on the Court not on the legal advisor, only one evidence can sometimes be sufficient to establish the fact but this amendment bill has not such a new provision which provides reparation to the victims", he added. Former Commissioner Gauri Pradhan opined that "the commitment towards the Human Rights Paris Principle is not made by the NHRC but by the government, in case it has been ignored it may be futile for the government as well as the general people." Former Commissioner Dr. K. B. Rokaya said that "the inner provisions related to the preamble and the financial remarks are biased and misleading." Former Commissioner Dr. Ram Dayal Rakesh opined that the international community cannot be calm in case of intending to restrict the jurisdiction of the Commission by the government, and this issue can be the international concern and worry." Former Commissioner Prof. Kapil Shrestha stressed that "the Commission established in the context of the civic movement, the issue of independence and autonomy of the Commission is not only the issue of Commission but also the issue of entire Nepali people who loves justice, and since its establishment the Commission for retaining its "A" status and to comply with the Paris Principle, all the human rights defenders are unified and should always be unified."

Similarly, the president of FNJ Govinda Acharya said that NHRC and the FNJ should express the solidarity towards the act of threatening the Commission's autonomy and independence and the ongoing threat, pressure, arrest and re-arrest to the journalists. The program conducted in the chairmanship of the Chairperson of the Commission Anup Raj Sharma, Hon. members Prakash Osti, Sudip Pathak, Mohana Ansari, Govinda Sharma Poudyal as well as the personnel of the Commission were also presented in the meetings.

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Bed Bhattarai

Secretary/Spokesperson

फोन नं. ५०१००१५, फ्याक्स नं. ००९७७-१-५५४७९७३ पो.ब.नं. ९१८२ काठमाण्डौ, नेपाल

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