

# Bulletin

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Working for non-discrimination and equality

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On the auspicious of 14th National Anti-Human Trafficking Day, 2020

## Joint Effort Against Human Trafficking

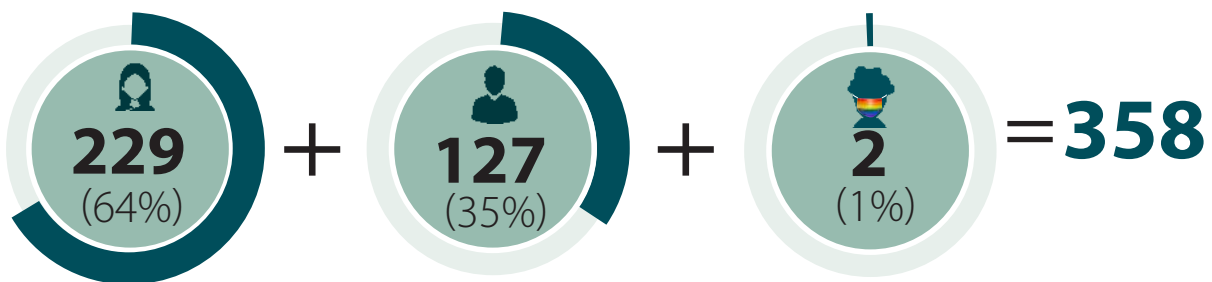
On the occasion of National Day against Human Trafficking, FWLD organized a Zoom Talk event titled 'Joint Effort Against Human Trafficking' where Honorable Parbat Gurung, Minister, Women, Children and Senior Citizen, Honorable Sapana Pradhan Malla, Justice, Supreme Court and Respected Anuradha Koirala, Founder and Ex President of Maiti Nepal were invited as guest speakers. The event was live on FWLD's Facebook and the speakers discussed about the current challenges in dealing with trafficking and the impact of COVID 19, situation of implementation of laws and effort of government in combating the crime.



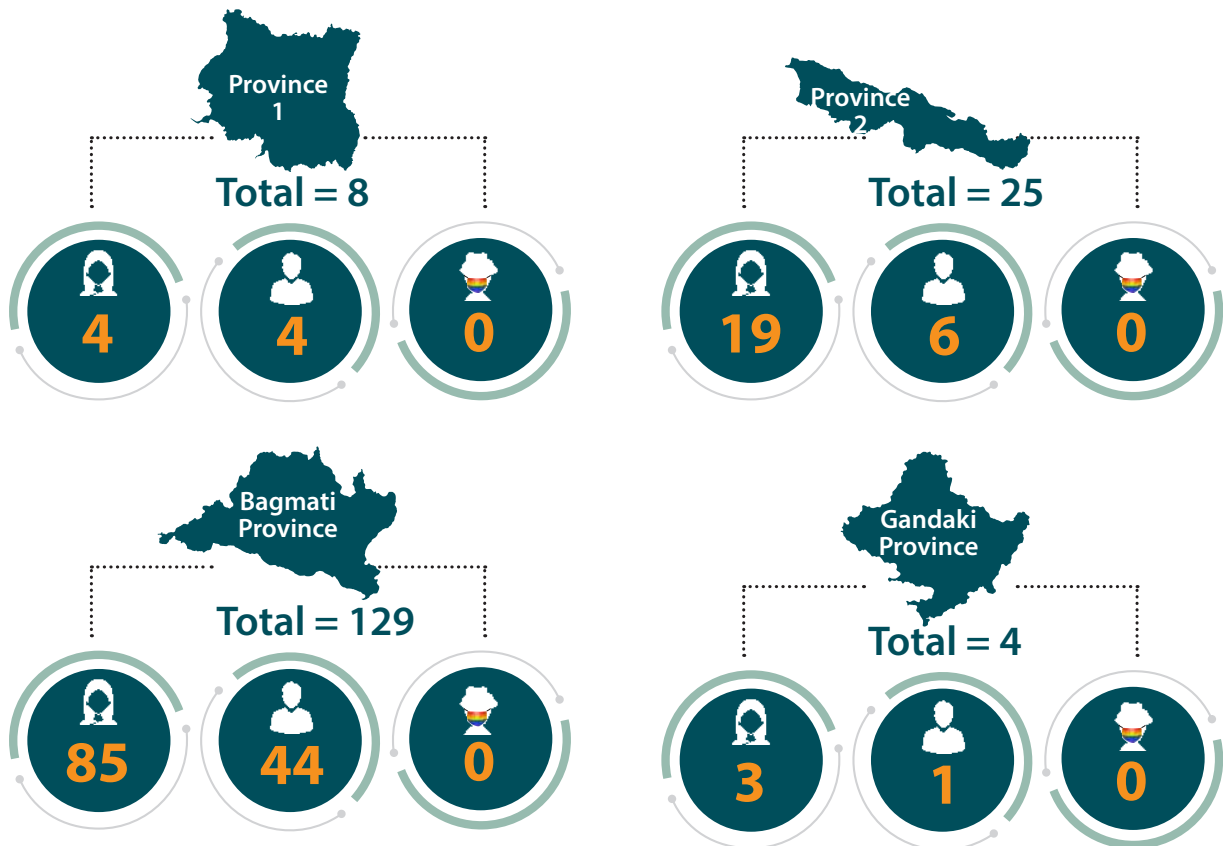
# Legal Helpline Service

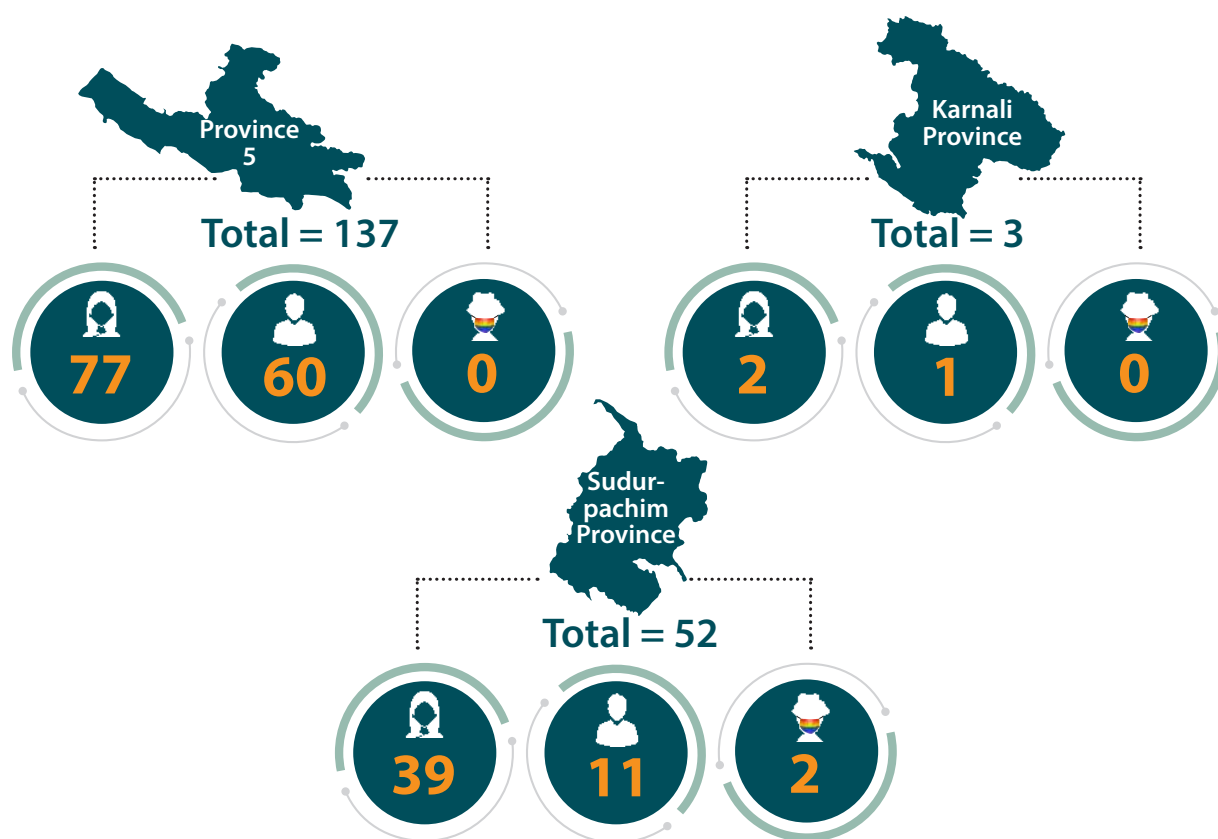
*During the Covid-19 Pandemic and Lock-down (April 3, 2020 to September 30, 2020)*

Amidst of the Lockdown enforced by the Government of Nepal to curb the spread of Covid-19, Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD) started providing a pro bono Legal Helpline Service from lawyers of the organization to provide any necessary legal information, advice and consultation to the people who would not have access to legal information otherwise during the period. The service started from April 3, 2020 via telephone, later on to expand the service, it started to provide legal helpline service through Google Form too in both Nepali and English languages. The below tables present the information on the province-wise cases, sexes of victims and types of cases received through the Legal Helpline Service between the period of April 3, 2020 and September 30, 2020.



## Province and Sex-wise Cases Received





### Province-wise Type of Cases Received

	Province 1	Province 2	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Province 5	Karnali Province	Sudurpachim Province	Total
Domestic Violence	1		28	3	44		15	91
Rape/Incest			6	1	9		12	28
Marital Rape		2	2				1	5
Divorce/Property			33		19	1	9	62
Court Procedures	1	1	1		12		4	19
Relief Package and Access	1		1		10	2		14
Citizenship	2	18	34		3	2		59
Suicide/Abetment		1	1		1		3	6
Murder/Attempt to murder		2	1		3			6
Information on Legal Provision			4		3		1	8
Polygamy			7		5		2	14
Human Trafficking	1				3			4
Cyber crime			1		1			2
Other	2	1	10		24	0	3	40

**Note:** Three calls were received from outside the Country (Hong Kong, India and USA) amongst whom 2 were female and 1 were male and 2 cases where of Domestic Violence whereas one was related to Divorce.



# Citizenship/Legal Identity

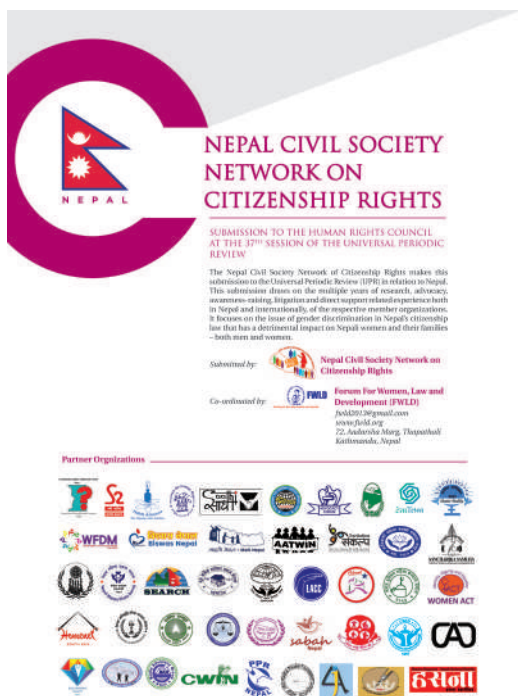


**Memorandum submitted to CDO to provide citizenship certificate**

Group of Lawyers and human right activist including Vice-President of Nepal Bar Association and Provincial Coordinator of FWLD Advocate Sunil Kumar Shrestha, Banke District Coordinator of FWLD Advocate Basanta Gautam, President of the Nepalgunj High Court Bar Association Advocate Bikash Acharya, President of the Nepal Legal Journalist Society Advocate Lok Bahadur Shah, President of Information and Human Right Research Centre Advocate Biswojeet Tiwari,

Advocate Bal Bahadur Chand and Mr. Mohamad Alam Khan of THRD Alliance submitted a Memorandum to Banke Chief District Officer Mr. Ram Bahadur Kurumwang to provide citizenship to 38 persons deprived from citizenship certificate without further delay by implementing fully the decision made by the High Court Tulsipur, Nepalgunj Bench, whereby it has ordered to provide citizenship certificate to them.

## Submission of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)



## NTV interview regarding Nepal Citizenship Act Amendment Bill



Advocate Sabin Shrestha, Executive Director of FWLD, appeared in the Nepal Television Program SANGHARSHA to discuss on the Nepal Citizenship Act Amendment Bill passed by the State Affairs and Good Governance Committee and the Constitutional provisions that need to be reformed from the perspective of gender equality.

## Show Cause Notice Issued on the Writ



Though the Constitution of Nepal promulgated in year 2015 is considered progressive in comparison to the earlier Constitutions in regard to the citizenship right there still remains gender discriminatory provisions and the issue of statelessness has not been addressed in the Constitution. It has been five years after the promulgation of the Constitution but the necessary changes in the Nepal Citizenship Act as per the spirit of the new Constitution have not been made it resulted millions of people in the situation of statelessness. People without citizenship are not being able to exercise their basis rights as the citizenship certificate is considered the foundation document.

In the context, FWLD along with Adv Sabin Shrestha, Adv Binu Lama and Mr. Sushant Bashyal jointly filed a writ petition at the Supreme Court of Nepal to immediately amend the Nepal Citizenship Act to in line with the Constitution. Upon which dated August 10, 2020, the Supreme Court issued a Show Cause Notice in the name of the defendants which include Office of Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, House of Representatives, National Assembly and State Affairs and Good Governance Committee of House of Representatives. Priority hearing is also catered in the case.

### — Coverage in *International Bulletin* —

FWLD along with Advocate Sabin Shrestha, Advocate Binu Lama and Mr. Sushant Bashyal jointly filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court of Nepal to immediately amend the Citizenship Act in line with the Constitution. In this petition, the Supreme Court on August 10, 2020 issued Show Cause notice in the name of defendants which includes Office of Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, House of Representatives and National Assembly, State Affairs and Good Governance Committee, House of Representatives. Priority hearing was also catered in this case. International Institute of Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI) exclusively featured the details of the show cause notice issued by the Supreme Court of Nepal following the petition to Amend Discriminatory Citizenship Act on its monthly bulletin. The link of the feature is below:

<https://mailchi.mp/bee2b7cc6017/monthly-bulletin-september-2020?fbclid=IwAR1ulkf63TtMu304ctVcMZhyhrF6xuUNdJuikM9oL1WHYINH5Wk-ojq-U>

#### Nepalese Supreme Court Issues Show Cause Notice Following Petition to Amend Discriminatory Citizenship Act



Photo: <https://horizonproject.org/female-leadership-in-nepal/>

On 10 August Nepal's Supreme Court issued a Show Cause notice to the co officials, following a writ petition seeking to bring Nepal's Citizenship Act i country's Constitution. The petition comes in the wake of a Nepali parliam committee endorsing a long-awaited Bill to amend Nepal's 2006 Citizensh

# TV interview on Citizenship certificate



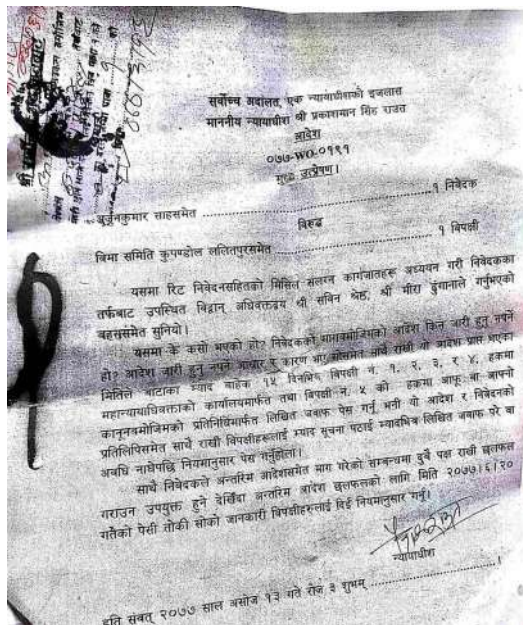
On the occasion of the Constitution Day, Advocate Sabin Shrestha, FWLD participated in the talk show on complications regarding the implementation of the Constitution and citizenship certificate on Mountain TV.



Advocate Sabin Shrestha, Executive Director of FWLD giving interview on Acid Violence Law and Citizenship Certificate on Himalaya TV.



On September 18, 2020 the eve of "5th Constitutional Day", FWLD sent bulk SMS to 275 Hon'ble members including Speaker of the House of Representatives and 59 Hon'ble members including chair of National Assembly.



## Writ petition filed against mandatory requirement of citizenship certificate for COVID-19 health insurance policy and to obtain PAN

With the support of FWLD, the writ was filed by Mr. Arjun Shah and Ms. Ruby Basnet (both of them without citizenship certificate) against Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Insurance Board of Nepal. Advocate Meera Dhungana and Advocate Sabin Shrestha from FWLD pleaded on the behalf of the claimants on September 29, 2020. The Supreme Court has issued a Show Cause Notice to the opponents with priority hearing of the case. The writ petition filed against the mandatory requirement of citizenship certificate for COVID-19 health insurance policy as well as to obtain Permanent Account Number (PAN) for all salaried workers (both government and private firms) and any economic benefits for more than 3,000 economic transactions. Hence, without a citizenship certificate, individuals cannot enroll in the COVID-19 health insurance policy or obtain a permanent account (PAN) card. With the introduction of these policies, it has certainly barred many individuals without citizenship certificate from being involved in any formal and informal economic activities and generating income for their livelihood or being protected by health insurance.

The Supreme Court also asked opponents to be presented at the Court next week for the discussion on whether interim order should be issued or not on this mandatory requirement provision. We will provide you with continuous updates about the case in the future as well.



# Inclusive Transitional Justice

## Radio Series

“Anticipation for Justice” is a radio series produced by All Three Media House in collaboration with FWLD and TPO Nepal. Through this radio magazine, the victims of armed conflict and wartime violence will be brought to the doorstep of justice and will be assisted to promote transitional justice. Through this radio program, the victims of armed conflict and wartime violence will be brought to the doorstep of justice and will be assisted to promote transitional justice.



## District Transitional Justice Network Meeting



A meeting of District Transitional Justice Network, Bardiya was conducted on 24 July, 2020. The meeting discussed about the ongoing and upcoming programs and activities. Discussion was also made about coordinating with the local municipalities for the upcoming programs.



A meeting of District Transitional Justice Network, Banke was conducted in Nepalgunj on 31 July, 2020. Working plan relating to transitional justice in the current situation was discussed in the meeting. Similarly, discussion was done on economic empowerment of conflict victims for their economic problem caused by Covid-19 as well as discussion on sorting out the problem of psychosocial and psychological within conflict victims with the concerned authority was done. The meeting has taken the objective to coordinate with local government and the ward office to address the needs of conflict victims, access on justice and their empowerment.



A District Dialogue Program was successfully conducted on Ghorahi Sub Metropolitan Ward no. 2, Dang on 11 August 2020 by duly following COVID-19 protection guidelines. The program focused on the topic “The Effects and Problems bore by Conflict Victim during COVID-19 pandemic and the Role of Local Government”, emphasizing on transitional justice, mediation and conflict solving. The chief of Ghorahi Sub Metropolitan ward office, representatives from Ward no. 17, conflict victims and other local people took part in the dialogue program and were given necessary masks, gloves and sanitizer for the protection. Mr. Binod K.C, member of TJ Network, Dang facilitated the program.

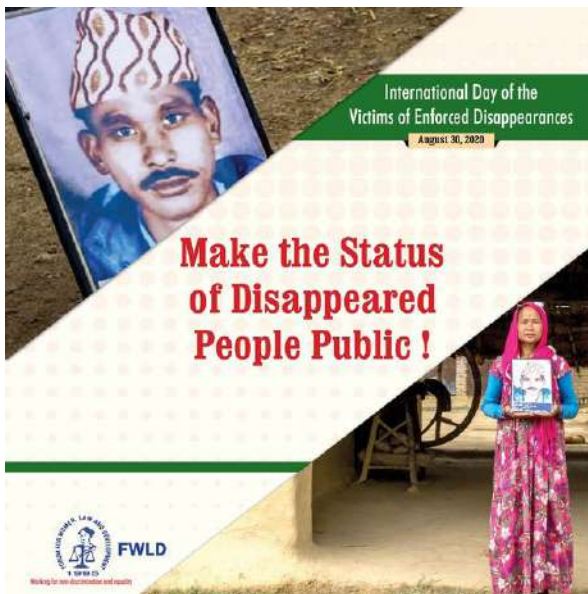


On the auspicious day of Enforced Disappearance Day on 30th August 2020, District TJ Network, Banke held a discussion program on 26 August, 2020 for conducting programs considering inclusive transitional justice, reconciliation and conflict resolution. The discussion concluded on conducting blood donation program; displaying play card/ banners, submitting memorandum to local government bodies.



District Transitional Justice Network Meeting, Kailali was conducted on 23 September 2020. The meeting discussed about possibilities of conducting programs in the district considering the possible measures against the pandemic of Covid-19. The meeting also decided to conduct a district dialogue program on 25 September 2020.

## Programs on On The International Day Of The Victims Of Enforced Disappearances



← Appeal on the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, August 30, 2020.



← An Appeal On The International Day Of The Victims Of Enforced Disappearances  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZHYDKJK3Gc>



## One to One Advocacy Meeting



District Transitional Justice Network, Kailali submitted a memorandum to Mr. Yagya Raj Bohora, chief of District Administration Office and Chief of District Coordination Committee on 30 August, 2020 on the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances to advocate for the justice of enforced disappeared. The memorandum focused on making the information of victims of enforced disappearance public, provision for social security allowance for the family of enforced disappeared, amendment of laws according to the criteria of International Human Rights laws, restrict political interference in the process of transitional justice, bring programs at the local level for collection of information of enforced disappeared and conflict victims, manage relief packages to enforced disappeared and conflict victims, bring initiation to conduct programs that supports skill generation, employment, education, health and living of conflict victims etc.



On the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, a group of organizations along with FWLD conducted a blood donation program in Banke as a national campaign for the remembrance of Enforced disappeared on 30 August, 2020. Various placard were also displayed in the program. Similarly, District Transitional Justice Network, Banke submitted a memorandum to Mr. Ram Bahadur Kurwang, Chief of District Administration Office and Mr. Ajay Srivastav, Chief of District Coordination Committee on 30 August, 2020 on the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances to advocate for the justice of enforced disappeared. The memorandum focused on making the information of victims of enforced disappearance public, provision for social security allowance for the family of enforced disappeared, amendment of laws according to the criteria of International Human Rights laws, restrict political interference in the process of transitional justice, bring programs at the local level for collection of information of enforced disappeared and conflict victims, manage relief packages to enforced disappeared and conflict victims, bring initiation to conduct programs that supports skill generation, employment, education, health and living of conflict victims etc.



District Transitional Justice Network, Bardiya submitted a memorandum to Mr. Liladhar Adhikari, Chief of District Administration Office on 30 August, 2020 on the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances to advocate for the justice of enforced disappeared. The memorandum focused on making the information of victims of enforced disappearance public, provision for social security allowance for the family of enforced disappeared, amendment of laws according to the criteria of International Human Rights laws, restrict political interference in the process of transitional justice, bring programs at the local level for collection of information of enforced disappeared and conflict victims, manage relief packages to enforced disappeared and conflict victims, bring initiation to conduct programs that supports skill generation, employment, education, health and living of conflict victims etc.



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District Transitional Justice Network, Dang submitted a memorandum to Mr. Govinda Rijal, chief of District Administration Office and Mr. Shridhar Sharma Paudel, Chief of District Coordination Committee on 30 August, 2020 on the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances to advocate for the justice of enforced disappeared. The memorandum focused on making the information of victims of enforced disappearance public, provision for social security allowance for the family of enforced disappeared, amendment of laws according to the criteria of International Human Rights laws, restrict political interference in the process of transitional justice, bring programs at the local level for collection of information of enforced disappeared and conflict victims, manage relief packages to enforced disappeared and conflict victims, bring initiation to conduct programs that supports skill generation, employment, education, health and living of conflict victims etc.



A group of organisations including FWLD conducted a lamp lighting program on 30 August 2020 in Gulariya, Bardiya in the remembrance of disappeared people on the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances. Similarly, lamp lighting program in Banke was also conducted in the remembrance of disappeared people on the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances.



A Lamp Lightening Program was conducted on 21 September 2020 at Dhangadi, Kailali on the occasion of 39th International Peace Day. The program was executed by Mr. Ganesh Malla, coordinator of Kailali district network. Ms. Sushila Mishra Bhatt, vice chairman of Dhangadi Sub Metropolitan was the chief guest of the program along with the participation from members of TJ Network, Kailali and FWLD, Single women group for human rights, journalist and representatives of civil society.



Lamp lightening program and District Dialogue program regarding the situation of conflict victims during COVID-19 were conducted in Ghorahi, Dang on 21 September 2020 on the occasion of World Peace Day. Mr. Shreedhar Sharma Paudel, vice chairman of District Coordination Committee was the chief guest of the program along with the participation from Chairman of Ghorahi Sub Metropolitan Ward No. 2 Mr. Ram Mani Pandey, Chairman of Ward no. 17 Mr. Khusiram Chaudhary, Mr. Binod K.C of INSEC, representative of District Bar Mr. Kiran Pokhrel, coordinator of Network of Dang Mr. Prakash Chaudhary, member of FWLD and conflict victims. The program focused on governmental role on fulfilling basic needs of conflict victims.

## District Level Dialogue Program



A district level dialogue program was held in Gulariya, Bardiya on the occasion of World Peace Day which falls every year on 21 September, 2020. Mayor of Gulariya Municipality Mrs. Sushila Giri, being the chief guest, committed to offer budget of this year to hold programs for conflict victims. Rajendra Dhital, the Chairman of Reporters Association, Bishnu Timalisina of Gaisas Association, representative of INSEC and conflict victims participated the program. The program was facilitated by Mr. Bishwa Nath Yadav, member of TJ Network, Bardiya.



A district dialogue program regarding necessity for addressing the questions of conflict victims for the purpose of sustainable peace was conducted at Banke on 21 September, 2020 on the occasion of World Peace Day. The program was comprised with the participation of Banke coordinator FWLD Advocate Basanta Gautam, regional coordinator of FWLD Adv. Sunil Kumar Shrestha, Coordinator of TJ Network Banke Ms. Chandrakala Uprety, vice chairman of Nepalgunj Municipality Ms. Uma Thapa and representative of District Coordination Committee Mr. Chet Bahadur Gharti, Mr. Dwarika Adhikari of National Human Rights Commission, Ms. Saraswati Malla of INSEC, Mr. Surendra Kumar Gautam of Human Right Alliance, Mr. Prabhat Kumar Thakuri ex-chairman of Gaisas Association Banke Branch, Mr. Bishwojit Tiwari of Information and Human rights Investigation Center, Human Right Activists Mr. Rabindra Karna, Mr. Maumuna Sidhika of Fatima Foundation, Mr. Bikash Acharya of Nepalgunj High Court Bar, Mr. Shova Chaudhary of International Alert and conflict victims.



A district level dialogue program was conducted at Kailali on 25 September 2020 with the vice chairperson of District Coordination Committee as a chief guest. The dialogue program focused on the role of local level in question to conflict victims.



## Radio program

A radio discussion program was held between Regional Coordinator of FWLD Adv. Sunil Shrestha, INSEC coordinator of Province no.5 Mr. Bhola Mahat and Program Manager of Advocacy Forum Mr. Bikash Basnet regarding justice to the victim of enforced disappeared, making the status of disappeared public and state's responsibility towards victim justice. The program was facilitated by District Coordinator, Banke of FWLD Adv. Basanta Gautam.



Similarly, A radio program conversation regarding discussions on the status of Enforced disappeared and their access to justice was held between Mr. Murari Kharel from National Human Rights Commission, Ms. Chandrakala Uprety from Conflict Victim Common Platform and Adv. Deepesh Shrestha from FWLD. The program was facilitated by Adv. Basanta Gautam.

## Consultation program on policy briefing paper



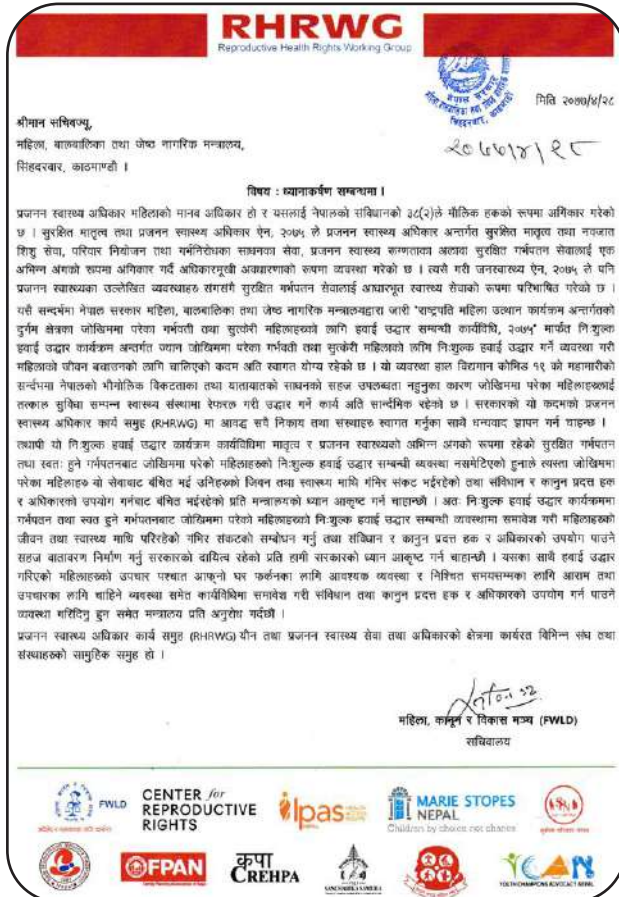
FWLD organized a consultation program on policy briefing paper in Kathmandu on 29 July 2020. Ms. Rukamane Mahajan presented on policy briefing draft and discussions were made with the participants in order to finalize the paper.

## Submission of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)





# Reproductive Health Rights



## RHRWG submitted an attention letter

RHRWG respects and appreciates the work of Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen as they are rescuing the risked pregnant women in the rural areas of Nepal through air medium with free of cost according to the Air Rescue Procedure, 2018. Nonetheless, the air rescue program has not included rescue of women for emergency situation of safe abortion and miscarriage in these areas, however, safe abortion is an important part of Safe motherhood and Reproductive Health. As a result, many women are facing various problem in relation to lack of facility in rescue procedure. That is why; RHRWG submitted an attention letter to Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen on 12 August, 2020 for the inclusion of abortion in the air rescue program.

## RHRWG's gratitude

RHRWG would like to express our gratitude and praise Government of Nepal for announcing the adoption of Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Right Regulations, 2020 and Public Health Regulations, 2020. We are positively hoping for an effective and efficient implementation of Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Right Regulations, 2020 and Public Health Regulations, 2020 respectively.

## Gratitude

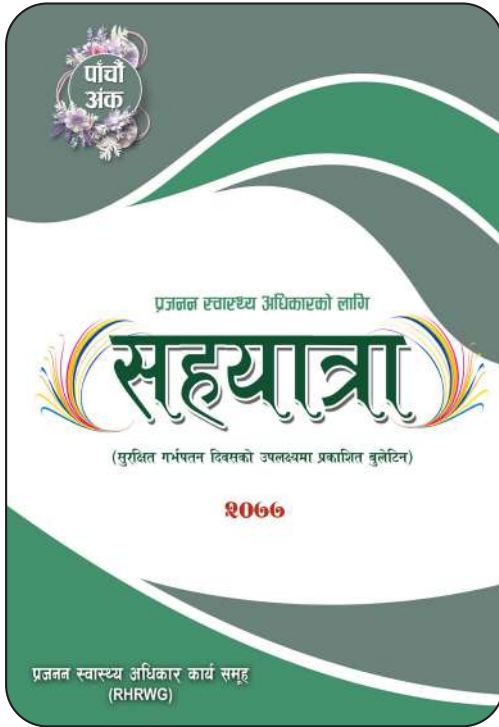
On behalf of the Reproductive Health Right Working Group (RHRWG)  
On the adoption of Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Right Regulation, 2020 by the Council of Ministers

The right to safe motherhood and reproductive health is an integral part of women's human rights. The government has adopted the Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Right Act to fulfill obligations under the Constitution of Nepal and guaranty safe motherhood and reproductive health as fundamental right. Despite the urgency of regulation for implementation of the Act, it was not enacted for a prolonged period. In this context, the writ petition filed by the Secretariat of RHRWG, Forum for Women, Law and Development, in the Supreme Court regarding the need and formulation of Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Regulations, the Court had issued a show cause order in the name of Government of Nepal, the Prime Minister and the Office of the Council of Ministers et al. Recently, the Ministry of Health and Population had submitted the Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Right Regulations, 2020 to the Council of Ministers. The Council's meeting 4th and 14th September, 2020 respectively had adopted the Public health Regulations, 2020 and Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Right Regulation, 2020. RHRWG would like express our gratitude to the government of Nepal for this incredible work.

"The Reproductive Health Rights Working Group which was coordinated by National Women Commission is a group of various organizations working in the field of sexual and reproductive health services and rights."



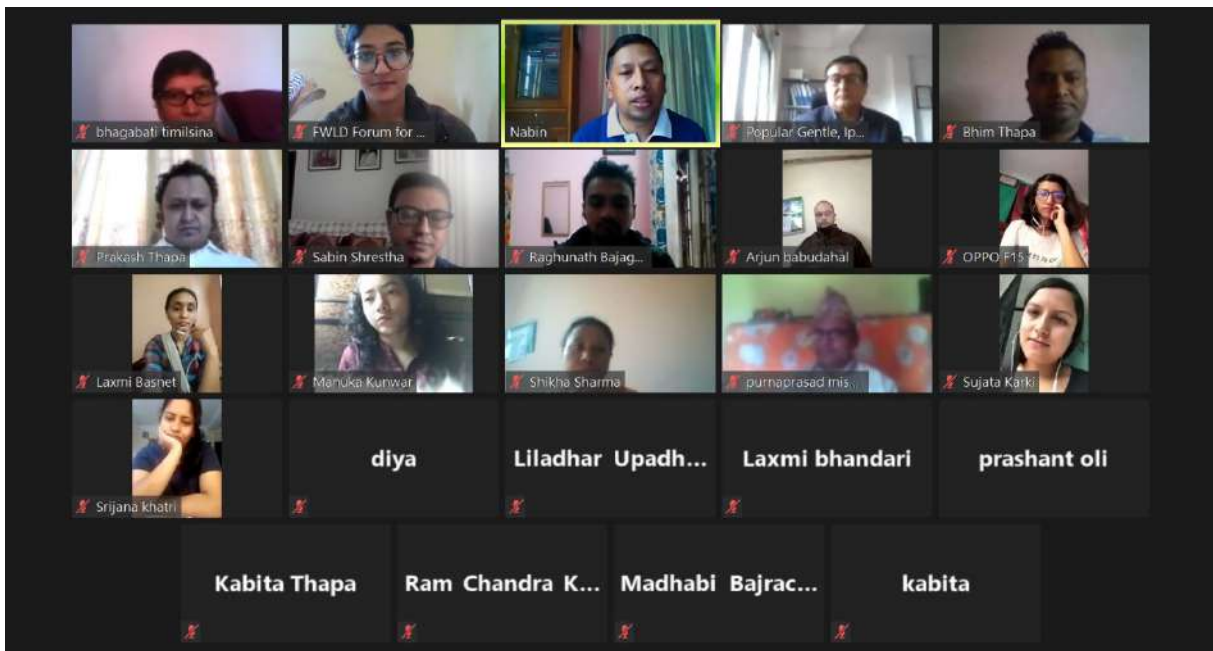
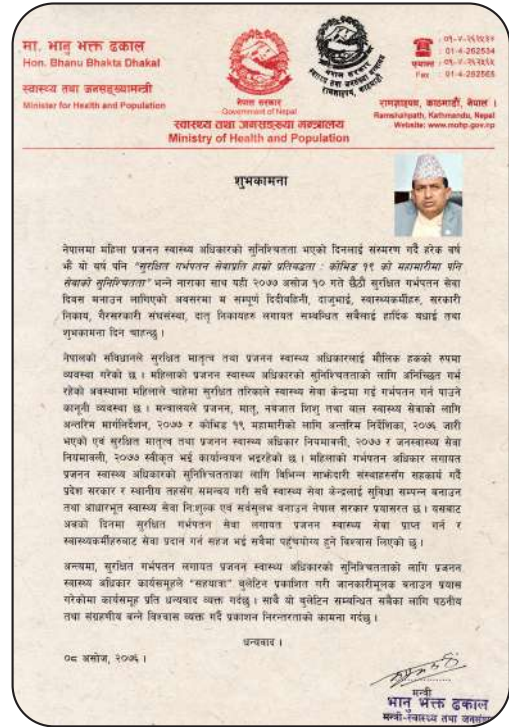
## Safe Abortion Day Celebration



### "Sahayatra" Bulletin

Reproductive Health Right Working Group's annual bulletin "Sahayatra" published on the occasion of 6th National Safe Abortion Day, 2020.

(Please visit <http://fwd.org/publications/sahayatra-bulletin/> for Sahayatra bulletin)



### Online Interaction with national journalists/reporters

An online interaction meeting was held via Zoom by FWLD, on 25th September at the eve of Safe Abortion Day Celebration. This morning interaction program was held just before the FWD conducted Press Meet for SAS Day.

The program witnessed total of 34 attendees, among which 26 were journalists/reporters, 3 from FWLD and 5 from Ipas Nepal.

Adv. Nabin k Shrestha facilitated the program, while the main speakers were Adv. Sabin Shrestha of FWLD and Mr. Popular Gentle from Ipas Nepal who gave is crucial ending remarks. The interaction program with journalists comprised of presentation by Adv. Shrestha on the brief history of laws and policy developments of abortion, along with the recent developments.

It was followed by a discussion session where the floor was opened to the participating journalists. The queries raised by journalists were addressed by Adv. Shrestha. At the end Mr. Popular Gentle gave his valuable remarks on the importance of safe abortion.



### Candle Light Vigil

A candle light vigil organized by RHRWG and coordinated by FWLD, was conducted on the evening of 25th September (SAS Day Eve). It was aired live on FACEBOOK.

The special guest of the event was adorned by the Hon. Jaya Puri Gharti (chairperson of the Health and Education Committee of the House of Representative). All the RHRWG members along with the guests for the event, Dr. Punya Poudel and Shanta Adhikari joined directly through the Zoom Link. This vigil was organized to remember and in solidarity for all the women who have lost their life due to unsafe abortion. It was the 6th SAS day celebration and is celebrated every year on 26th September.



### Online celebration of 6th National Safe Abortion Day

An online celebration of 6th National Safe Abortion Day was celebrated via ZOOM on 26th September. It was organized by FWLD and was also aired live on FACEBOOK. The Zoom link was directly joined only by the guests, facilitator and support members from FWLD.

This year's slogan for the SAS Day was "Our commitment towards Safe Abortion Service: Assurance of Safe Abortion Service in the context of Pandemic of Covid-19". The event was chaired by President of the Family Welfare Division – Dr. Bhim Singh Tinkari. The other special guests of the event were: Ms. Santa Adhikari Bhattarai (Secretary of NWC); Dr. Dipendra Raman (Health Service Department); Kunja Joshi (National Information and Media Center, Teku); Ms. Roshanai laxmi Tuitui (Nursing Service and Social Security Section (mahasakha)); Mr. Maan Bahadur Basnet (Law and Decision Implementation Section of Health and Population Ministry); Mr. Popular Gently (Ipas Nepal); Dr. Punya Poudel (Maternal and New Born Section)



### What, Where, How Many: Public Dialogue with panelists

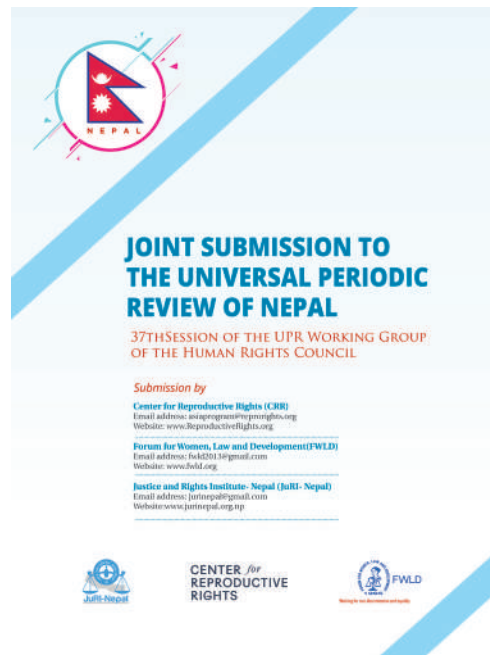
The program was conducted by RHRWG and coordinated by FWLD and Ipas Nepal. It was held via Zoom on 28th September, 2020. It was aired live on FACEBOOK.

There were 5 panelists in this public dialogue and was the facilitator of the event was Ms. Sugarka K.C.

FWLD's Zoom link was used for the event. Also, Technical support was provided by FWLD.

The panelist consisted of: Ms. Santa Adhikari Bhattarai, Ms. Bandana Rana, Ms. Shreejana Bajracharya, Mr. Popular Gentle and Adv. Sabin Shrestha.

## Submission of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)








# Gender Based Violence

## Stakeholder Dialogue on the Study


FWLD, HIDR, UNWOMEN and SDC on 31 July, 2020, jointly organized Stakeholder Dialogue on the “Study on Effective Operational Modality of Funds and Response Mechanism on Gender Equality and Gender based Violence within Federal Governance System in Nepal”. The dialogue was organized with Justice and Security Providers (JSPs) which includes participants representing Supreme Court, High Court, Patan, MWCSC, Office of PM and Council of Ministries, Office of Attorney General, WCSC Service Directoriat of Nepal Police, Ministry of Law, Justice and PA, Nepal Bar Association, SWC, other government and non- government stakeholders in Kathmandu. The program was graced by Hon. Sapana Pradhan Malla, judge, Supreme Court as chief guest. The discussions were made with the participants for validation of the study findings and recommendations.



**Government of Nepal**  
**Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen**

**Honourable Parbat Gurung**  
**Minister**

Ref No.



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**Private Secretariat**  
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu

20 August, 2020


**Foreword**


Gender-based violence is a violation of human rights. The issue of GBV is not only devastating for survivors of violence, but also raises a serious question on the status of women in the society. Decreasing GBV requires a strong commitment with multiple stakeholders.

Nepal has taken multiple approaches through the national and international normative framework to ensure equality and to address the issue GBV. The Constitution of Nepal guarantees equal rights for men and women. The government of Nepal is committed towards eliminated all forms of violence and discrimination against women.

As pointed in this report, GBV and gender equality fund and establishment of their proper operation modality is essential for number of reasons; mainly to guarantee the fundamental rights of victims. This study on "A Study on the Effectiveness of Various National Funding Modalities for Responding to Gender Based Violence and Gender Equality within the Context of Federal Governance" by HIDR and FWLD for Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and UN Women is an important document to address the existing challenges in operationalization of fund and response mechanism. I am hopeful that recommendations of the study for the amendment of existing legislation will also pave the way for formulation of more effective regulation.

I would like to thank everyone involved in this study.





**Parbat Gurung**  
Minister of Women Children and Senior Citizen



## LANDMARK JUDGEMENT ON WOMEN'S RIGHT

### IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19



Supreme Court, Devision Bench  
Justice Hon. Sapana Pradhan Malla  
Justice Hon. Prakash Kumar Dhungana



#### KEY DECISIONS

- ① The directive order has been issued in the name of government in order to ensure, in line with the essence of Constitutional provision on proportional inclusion and the meaningful participation of women in any discussion related to the prevention of COVID-19 in the coming days, in the decision making process including planning, management, and monitoring process and in all the committees to be formed in this regards.
- ② A mandamus has been issued in the name of the Government of Nepal to make suitable arrange, for the people staying at the quarantine centers, of healthy food, safe drinking water, arrangement for eating, sleeping and toilet facilities by maintaining social distancing, along special priority to women, children, pregnant, maternity, persons with disabilities and senior citizens.
- ③ An order has been issued to ensure safe maternity and reproductive health of women, pregnant and maternal women staying at quarantine/isolation, protection and care of newborns, to not allow for any difficulties in accessing medicines and nutritious diet, to carryout heath treatment needed for the pregnant woman and vaccines and injections required for them and to the newborn children, include reproductive health items in the essential package of health care by providing access to sexual and reproductive health services to women in a sensitive manner while distributing relief during COVID-19.
- ④ A mandamus order has been issued in the name of the Government of Nepal to enact the Regulation related to the Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Right Act, 2018.
- ⑤ A directive order has been issued in the name of the Government of Nepal to make proper arrangements for the provision of psychological counseling services at every quarantine site, health service center and at the local level in accordance with world health standards.
- ⑥ In the event of pandemic, a directive order has been issued in the name of the Government of Nepal to take special measures to ensure employment for women and provide special security to the women who have lost their jobs at home or abroad.
- ⑦ A directive order has been issued in the name of Government of Nepal to do or to make arrangement, in accordance to the criteria set by the World Health Organization, for the availability of high quality, adequate amount of free Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) along with other essential equipment needed for persons working in direct contact or in the front row, such as doctors, nurses, health workers, cleaners and people employed in the essential services. The order also requires government to manage the specific needs of women health workers such as PPE of their size, working hours as per facility and ensuring equal access to other facilities as well as ensuring proper mechanism not only for protection against Covid-19 pandemic infection but also for preventive treatment.
- ⑧ A directive order has been issued in the name of Government of Nepal to conduct a research study on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Infectious Diseases Act, 1963 and other related laws as to whether they process the capability to face the existing challenges posed by the pandemic and based on such study report - enact the adequate and required gender friendly law to address Covid 19 context by keeping in top priority the High Risk Group.

- Advocate Roshani Paudyal vs. Office of PM and Council of Ministries - Writ No. 076-WO-0962

Decided on August 5, 2020

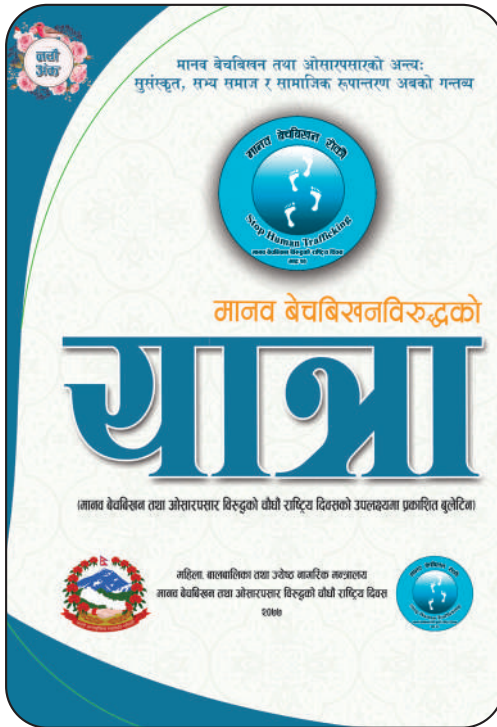
## Meeting on the implementation of the decision of the Supreme Court on Women's Right in the context of COVID-19



*This virtual meeting on the implementation of the decision of the Supreme Court on Women's Right in the context of COVID-19 was organized on 10th September, 2020 jointly by National Women Commission and FWLD. This meeting was graced by secretary of National Women Commission, Shanta Bhattarai.*

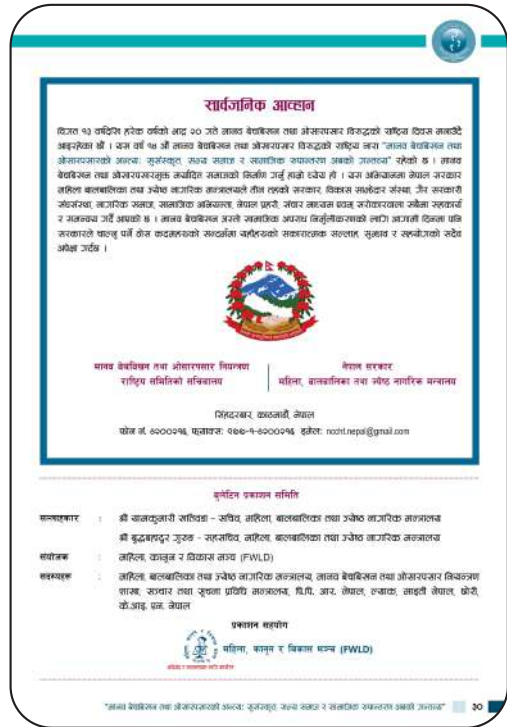


# Human Trafficking



## "Yatra" Bulletin

*Forum for Women, Law and Development provided technical and financial support to the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen (MoWCSC) for the publication of Yatra Bulletin on the auspicious of 14th National Day against Human Trafficking and Transportation. The bulletin consists of efforts of government and non-government stakeholders in combating the crime of human trafficking and transportation.*



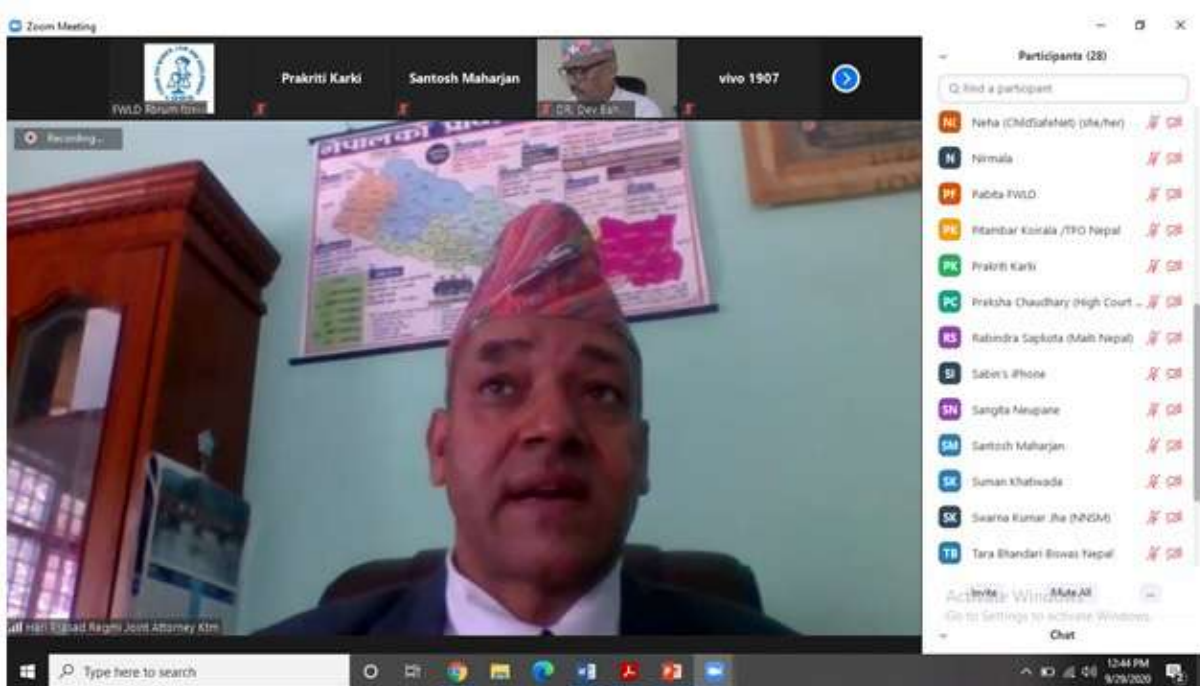
## Event on the 14th National Day Against Human Trafficking and Transportation



Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen (MoWCSC) organized a virtual event on the auspicious of the 14th National Day against Human Trafficking and Transportation. The event had the presence of government, non-government, and other stakeholders who discussed the current efforts

made by them in controlling the crime and providing support to the survivors. Advocate Sabin Shrestha from FWLD made a presentation in the event on the Palermo Protocol and the need for amending the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act.

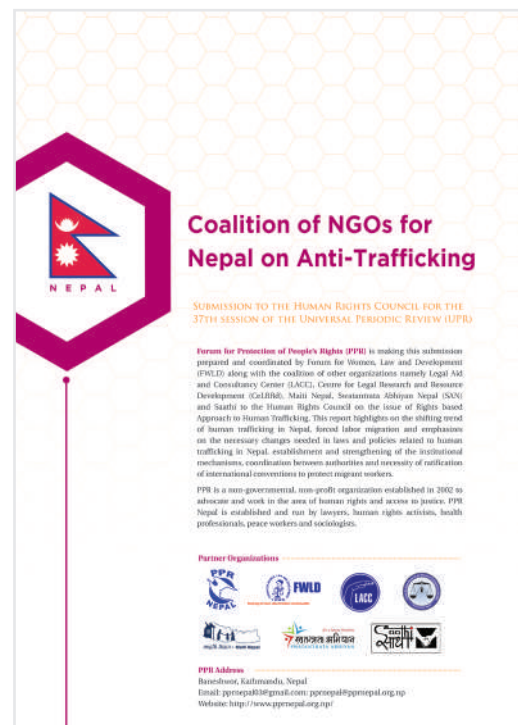
Quarterly Meeting with Stakeholders on Anti-Trafficking



FWLD virtually organized a first quarterly meeting with Stakeholders on Anti-Trafficking on 29 September 2020. The meeting had a presence of the focal person from the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen, Chief of the Anti-Human Trafficking Bureau, representatives from the National Human Rights Commission and National Women

Commission, Joint Attorney of District Attorney Office of Kathmandu and Lalitpur, representatives from Court, along with non-government stakeholders from various organizations and private sector as well. The meeting had a discussion on victim-centric approaches in dealing with the crime of human trafficking.

Submission of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)





# Acid Attacks

## Ordinance to address Acid Attack Effectively



Advocate Sabin Shrestha from FWLD participated in the meeting on issues needed to be incorporated in the proposed ordinance to address acid attack effectively by Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs with the presence of Hon'ble Minister and Secretary of the Ministry on September 15, 2020. Additionally, FWLD along with other five CSOs jointly submitted written memorandum to Hon'ble Law Minister Shivamaya Tumbahangphe on September 16, 2020. While welcoming the government initiative to address the loopholes in the current law, the delegation during the submission of memorandum highlighted that it was importance to ensure that the new law adopts a comprehensive approach to dealing with acid violence, one that focuses on all aspects of the crime and its impact on victims and survivors.



FWLD welcomes Ordinance on Acid Attack

**SuryaKhabar**  
लोकतन्त्र प्रति प्रतिवद्ध

**एसिड आक्रमण विरुद्ध अध्यादेशको महिला, कानून र विकास मन्त्राले गर्‍यो स्वागत**

**महिला, कानून र विकास मन्त्र**

नेपाल राष्ट्र बैंक र बैंक तथा वित्तीय संस्थाहरुबाट प्रवर्द्धित

११ अक्टोबर, काठमाडौं । एसिड आक्रमण विरुद्ध मन्त्रिपरिषदले दुई वटा अध्यादेश जारी गरेकोमा महिला, कानून र विकास मन्त्राले स्वागत गरेको छ । एसिड आक्रमण विरुद्ध कानून निर्माणको माग गर्दै मन्त्राले सर्वोच्च अदालतमा रिट निवेदन दता गरेको थियो ।

रिट निवेदनमाथि फैसला गर्दै सर्वोच्चले कानून बनाउन आदेश जारी गरेको हो । नयाँ कानूनले आफ्नो दायाहालाई पुर्याएको बलात्कार, अश्लीलता, हिंसा लगाई पनि समेटनुपर्ने मन्त्राले कार्यकारी निर्देशक सचिव भएर माग गरेको छ ।

“एसिडजन्य घटना जस्तै अश्लीलता हिंसा पनि अमानवीय र जघन्य अपराध हो । एसिडजन्य घटना जस्तै अश्लीलता हिंसा प्रभावितको जलनको पीडा यसको उपचार पद्धति, उसको आत्मसम्मान तथा आत्मशिक्षणमा पर्ने पीडा सामाजिक निरन्धरता, मानसिक पीडा उस्तै प्रकृतिको हुने भएकाले कानूनले एसिडजन्य घटनासँगै अश्लीलता हिंसासँगै पनि सम्बन्धित गर्नुपर्छ, उनले भने ।

**kathmandupress**

**सरकारले एसिड आक्रमणविरुद्ध ल्याएका अध्यादेशको मन्त्रद्वारा स्वागत**

काठमाडौं, अक्टोबर ११ : एसिड आक्रमणविरुद्ध मन्त्रिपरिषदले जारी गरेको दुई वटा अध्यादेशको महिला, कानून र विकास मन्त्राले स्वागत गरेको छ ।

एसिड आक्रमणविरुद्ध कानून निर्माणको माग गर्दै मन्त्राले सर्वोच्च अदालतमा रिट निवेदन दार्नु गरेको थियो । रिट निवेदनमाथि फैसला गर्दै सर्वोच्चले कानून बनाउन आदेश जारी गरेको हो । नयाँ कानूनले आफ्नो दायाहालाई पुर्याएको बलात्कार, अश्लीलता, हिंसा लगाई पनि समेटनुपर्ने मन्त्राले कार्यकारी निर्देशक सचिव भएर माग गरेको छ ।

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**अन्नपूर्ण**

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**एसिडको पीडा : दिनदिनै मरेजस्तै हुन्छ**

दुखको साथै सुनिश्चित १००,०००/-

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बम्पर प्राइज

दुख जानकारिको लागि विलक गर्नुहोस्

लक्ष्मी बैंक

Nepal | October 02, 2020

**The Himalayan**

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The Himalayan Times > Kathmandu > Civil Society Organisations submit recommendations for new law on acid attack

**Civil Society Organisations submit recommendations for new law on acid attack**

Published: September 17, 2020 7:08 am On: Kathmandu

HIMALAYAN NEWS SERVICE

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Kathmandu, September 16

A delegation of six civil society organisations today submitted a set of recommendations on drafting a new legislation to counter violence related to acid attack to Minister of Law and Justice Minister Shivamaya Tumbahangphe at her office.

The delegation comprised Amnesty International Nepal, Burn Victims Survivors Nepal, Forum for Women, Law and Development, Justice and Rights Institute Nepal, Legal Aid and Consultancy Centre Nepal and Women's Rehabilitation Centre.

On September 10, Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli had directed the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and other concerned officials to draft a new law on violence related to acid attack within 15 days. In subsequent meetings with survivors of acid attack, PM Oli had also pledged that the new legislation to be passed through an ordinance would address their grievances and push for stricter punishment for perpetrators.



# Strengthening Access to Holistic, Gender Responsive, and Accountable Justice in Nepal

## Periodic monitoring on the decision made by district court and local judicial committee

On 4th August, 2020 FWLD conducted virtual meeting with SAMAGRA and Mahuri Home with the presence of representative from International Alert. The meeting was focused on the discussion of status of data collection. There were 20 participants present in the review meeting.

On 20th September, 2020, FWLD conducted virtual meeting with SAMAGRA and on 21st September, 2020 with Mahuri Home about the collection of data of verdict monitoring of district court and local judicial committee of project area in Province 2 and Province 5.

## Preparation and publication of compilation of landmark decision made by Supreme court in the cases of GBV in simplified form along with illustration



## Infographic video on Justice with Compensation





# Generation Equality



## International Youth Day

Young advocate of FWLD Mr. Deepesh Shrestha got featured in the video of Global Campaign on Generation Equality on International Youth Day.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6k6X0tyYF4&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0jHMj-8nyUs9RbDO7cSfV6pMUVY9UMhK0-dHCG9u4v97SrVOPVxTJgFFA>

## Released theme song on the occasion of 25th Anniversary Of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2W25ZedOHZg&feature=youtu.be>





# MEDIA COVERAGE

## THE KATHMANDU POST

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Without Fear or Favour

WHAT'S NEWS: Russian vaccines Repatriate Nepalis from India National ID card DeJhang rape and murder E-comm

**NATIONAL**

### Rights and civil society organisations submit recommendations on new acid violence law

The recommendations were submitted to Law Minister Shivamaya Tumbalaangphe following Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli's September 10 directive to the ministry to draft a new law on acid violence within 15 days.



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सुदूरपश्चिम प्रदेशको विकासको लागि सञ्चालको बैठक

spacekhabar

नागरिकता ऐन संशोधनबारे सर्वोच्चको कारण देखाउ आदेश

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MATRIBHUMI NEWS

सुरक्षित मातृत्व तथा प्रजनन स्वास्थ्य अधिकार नियमावली स्वीकृत

सुरक्षित मातृत्व तथा प्रजनन स्वास्थ्य अधिकार नियमावली स्वीकृत

हिमालखबर

सरकारले पारित गरेका एसिड हिंसासम्बन्धी नयाँ अध्यादेशहरूको गैरसरकारी संस्थाहरूद्वारा स्वागत

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लुम्बिनी पत्र

बेलरानीका ब्याधा – लेखक राजेन्द्र धिताल

बेलरानीका ब्याधा – लेखक राजेन्द्र धिताल

अन्नपूर्ण

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नागरिकता ऐन संशोधनमा सर्वोच्चको कारण देखाउ आदेश

नागरिकता ऐन संशोधनमा सर्वोच्चको कारण देखाउ आदेश

