



Jagaran Nepal E-Bulletin 140th issue

(For Women Rights, Peace and Governance)

(November-December, 2023)

Activities by Jagaran Nepal

1. 22nd Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Jagaran Nepal organized its regular 22nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) aiming to share its 21 years' progress and collect feedback to for the betterment of an organization on 9 Oct, 2023 at Jagaran Nepal's office, Kathmandu.

Jagaran Nepal conducted an Annual General Meeting under the chairmanship of chairman Mrs. Samjana Pokharel along with the presence of board members and technical advisors of an organization. Board member, Manisha Subedi delivered the welcome speech and secretary Shushila Shrestha moderated the meeting. In the AGM, the progress report and financial report of Fiscal Year 2022/23 were presented by secretary Shushila Shrestha and treasurer Leela Sharma respectively. These reports were passed after providing some corrective feedbacks from extensive discus-



Pictures showing board members discussing different issues in 22nd AGM



Pictures showing board members discussing different issues in 22nd AGM Image287.JPG

sions. Speak-

ing in welcome speech, welcoming all the participants, chairperson Pokharel expressed that organization has completed its 21 years of journey with great struggle in its initial days of establishment and now it has become one of the prominent organization working in the field of women's right, their equal participation in decision making, politics and governance system. The major topics that were discussed during the meeting were: major achievements made by organization, challenges faced and lessons learnt and ways forward to make organization sustainable and keep working for social welfare. The AGM also decided to appoint new auditor Mr. Man Bahadur Lamichhane for the fiscal year 2080/81. As every year, this year's AGM also ratified the decision of membership extension. The people especially youth working in the various fields who were serving as a

volunteer in an organization since some years are given a new membership. The Annual General Meeting ended with the commitment to achieve its goals and objectives and fulfill its promises in coming years too.

2. National Civil Society Consultation on Climate Justice For the preparation of COP-28

Kathmandu, Nov 20: Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN) in partnership with South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE), LDC Watch, Asian People's Movement on Debt and Development conducted a consultation preparedness of government of COP- 28 which is to be held in Dubai from November 30 to December 12 and civil society's concern in climate justice. Jagaran Nepal's Chairperson Samjhana Pokharel, board member Manisha Subedi and staff Pratistha Subedi participated in that consultation.

Distinguished people from diverse background ranging from Government representatives, climate experts, members of CSOs put forward their opinions regarding climate change and also highlighted some issues that Nepal should present in coming COP-28.

Some of the major issues highlighted by the panelists were: Women who have a significant role in agriculture from production to consumption are at the receiving end of climate crisis. But the issues of women farmer's are not even taken as issue and are neglected. So, the women's agenda also needs to be taken into consideration. Nepal contributes 0.027% to greenhouse gas emissions but still is in the 4th place in terms of impacts caused by the climate change. Nepal being the least responsible but the most vulnerable country from climate change needs to raise its voice strongly in the world stage in matter of loss and damage

fund and climate finance. Nepal must be compensated for its low emission yet high impact and the compensation must reach to the actual vulnerable groups of Nepal. Community should get direct access to the fund as they have significant role in alleviating climate change impacts. The impact of climate change is slightly higher in mountainous country (Elevation dependent warming). 1.5 degree centigrade temperature rise in other country means rise of 1.8 degree in mountainous country. Nepal being the mountainous country should also raise the concern regarding mountains. The melting of snow is slowly converting mountains into black hills which will seriously pose negative impact on the sectors like tourism, wildlife, agriculture and overall to the existence of human civilization. Also, we should be able to show that Nepal is the most vulnerable country in terms of climate crisis in the global forum with all the essential data, facts, figures and statistics to claim loss and damage fund. Clean Energy is the most important resource that Nepal

could offer. So, clean energy is the most important sector that Nepal can advocate for. The essence of the discussion was to focus on loss and damage fund and timely compensation for the adaptation, mitigation and resilience.



JN's Secretary- Ms. Shushila Shrestha, Board member- Ms. Manisha Subedi and staff Ms. Pratistha Subedi participating in consultation

3. Panel discussion on Women at the Forefront of climate crisis in Nepal: From grass-roots to policy



Ms. Bimala Rai Paudyal- former foreign minister, Ms. Tara Pudasaini, HIMAWANTI, Ms. Parbata Gautam, Fecofun, Ms. Deepa Oli-Forest Officer, Ms. Anjali Chalise-NYCA expressing their views.

On Nov 22, our staff Ms. Pratistha Subedi participated on a panel discussion on 'Women at the forefront of climate crisis in Nepal' organized by Digo Bikash Institute. There was a presence of diverse panelists from government representative, member of CSO to the young climate activist. The discussion highlighted the issues of women especially caused due to the climate change, the responsiveness of such issues from government side and ways forward in creating gender-just climate solutions from grassroots to the policy level. The representative from government also shared about the government's preparation of COP-28. The panelists had the common opinion that women who has a significant contribution in agriculture yet are the most vulnerable from climate change should be brought into center while making the climate policies and also should often be brought into dialogues and discussions.

4. Training on Conceptual Clarity Against Human Trafficking

Our admin and finance manager, Sabita Mahat participated in 3 days training on "Conceptual clarity against Human Trafficking" organized by AATWIN on 20-23 November 2023 at Lalitpur. The trainers were from the diverse field: representatives from government agency, lawyer, and representatives from AATWIN. In that training, she got to learn about the existing mechanism against human trafficking and its effective implementation, legal provision against human trafficking, situation, challenges and expectations of people affected from human trafficking, major provision done against human trafficking from the government side and also challenges faced in mitigation of human trafficking. She opines that government has made very beautiful laws like Human trafficking and transportation (control) act, 2064 and regulation 2065 against human trafficking but fails to implement practically. She further shares that control of human trafficking is not sole responsibility of government only, we as an individual also needs to contribute to control it from our individual side and for this government needs to protect the whistle blower. From the documentary shared in that training, she learnt that the situation of affected people is really pathetic and government needs to work on improving their life and help to rehabilitate back in their community. Since, human trafficking is a boarder less and organized crime, collaboration from global and international forum is required in order to control this.



A group photo taken after the completion of training

5. "ART COMPETITION IN THE CONTEXT OF 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN"

Jagaran Nepal successfully organized Art Competition on the occasion of 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence (GBV) among the students of class 8 of Central Deaf Higher Secondary School located at Naxal, Kathmandu on Dec 7, 2023. The competition was organized under the theme of slogan of 16 Days Activism i.e. 'UNITE! INVEST TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS' in which 22 students of grade 8 took part with lots of enthusiasm. The program was conducted under the chairpersonship of JN's president Ms. Samjhana Pokharel and in the presence of Mr. Krishna Thapa-President of SMC Federation of Nepal, Mr. Indra Dahal-Education officer of KTM Metropolitan city, Mr. Upendra Parajuli- Principal of Central Deaf School, and board members and staffs of JN.

Participants stood out for their ability to convey a strong message, provoke thought and exhibit exceptional artistic skill. They successfully translated the theme into the impactful visual representation that resonated with both judges and viewers. Beyond the competition, the program served as a platform for empowerment and advocacy among deaf students. It demonstrated the potential of art as a tool for their self-expression. The absence of spoken language among the participants was compensated by innovative use of colour and symbolism creating a visual narrative.



Picture: JN's president sharing information on Gender Based Violence

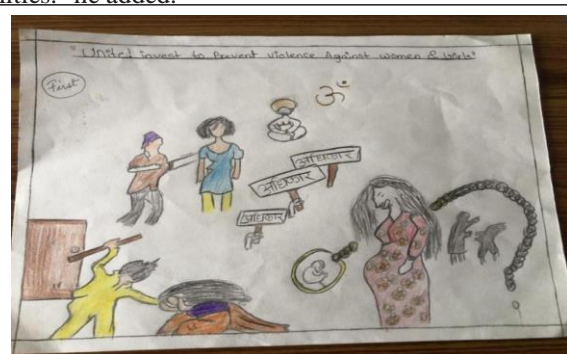
Ms. Samjhana Pokharel on welcoming remarks extended her best wishes to the participants for the competition and for their future endeavour. She shared the reason behind the celebration of 16 Days of Activism, gave some insight on GBV, its various forms and its impact on individual and society and suggested the students to strongly raise their voices against the violence if they ever have to face it. She also reminded students to use this competition as a chance to convey their thoughts, emotions, and unique perspective through their artwork.

Mr. Krishna Thapa shared some information regarding GBV and encouraged the students to reveal their creativity. "Participating in this art competition is not just about winning; it's an opportunity to learn, grow, and discover new aspects of your artistic abilities," he added.

Mr. Indra Dahal acknowledging the effort of JN team conveyed a positive and an encouraging message among the students. He expressed appreciation for the creativity demonstrated by the students. He further showed his interest in providing opportunities for students to engage in art-related activities, workshops or programs organized by the KTM metropolitan city.

Mr. Upendra Parajuli extended his sincere gratitude to JN team for providing platform for their differently abled students to showcase their talents and explore their creativity. He also looks forward to the possibility of future collaborations and events with our organization.

Ms. Urmila Pyakurel, a health subject teacher of the same school played a significant role by acting as a mediator between the deaf students and other people present in the program. Her invaluable assistance in translating sign language throughout the program made a significant impact bridging the communication gap and ensuring that everyone felt understood and included.



Picture of 1st position holder in art competition



Picture: Student engaging in making picture during the competition

On the behalf of participants, one of the student gave a vote of thanks to JN team for providing them an opportunity to unleash their creativity through this art competition. She also left a special note of gratitude to our team for the resources (Stationery items) provided during the competition.

The judging panel (Ms. Samjhana Pokharel, Mr. Indra Dahal and Mr. Upendra Parajuli) assessed entries based on creativity, use of colour, layout and alignment with the theme.

All the participants were certified and the winners i.e. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th position holders were awarded with cash prize Rs.2000, Rs.1500, Rs.1000, Rs. 500 and Rs. 500 respectively along with the certificates.

The main objective of this competition was to increase awareness among students about the prevalence, impact, and various forms of gender-based violence, fostering a deeper understanding of the issue about and also to make them aware regarding how can they be safe from violence. So, The art competition among students addressing the theme resulted in a powerful showcase of creativity and awareness. Students effectively conveyed impactful narratives, exploring various facets of gender-based violence and contributing to a nuanced understanding of the subject. The diverse expressions in

the art reflected the complexity of the theme, with each piece conveying a unique perspective on gender-based violence. Some artworks represented the inappropriate physical touch in the public bus, some represented that girl child face violence from the womb, and some pictures also presented the message to raise the voice against such violence.

The Art Competition among deaf students was a resounding success showcasing the power of visual communication to transcend linguistic boundaries. We believe that this program was able to reveal the hidden talent of students along with increasing the awareness, understanding, knowledge and sense of responsibility through the powerful medium of art.

Pictures taken during the event:



6. Participation in the 75th International Human Rights Day Rally

Jagaran Nepal's staff Ms. Sabita Mahat and Ms. Pratistha Subedi participated in the rally on International Human Rights Rally organized by the NGO Federation of Nepal on the occasion of 75th International Human Rights Day with the theme 'Freedom, Equality and Justice for All' on Dec 10. The rally aimed to commemorate Human Rights Day and advocate for the principles of equality, justice and dignity for all.

The rally commenced with the arrival of Honorable Top Bahadur Rayamajhi- the Chairperson of National Human Rights Commission around 8 am. Participants from several organizations grouped together and marched from Bhrikutimandap to Shantibatika Ratnapark, carrying the banners, chanting the slogan and engaging with other participants to raise the awareness about human rights issues. Participants engaged in a peaceful march from Bhrikutimandap to Shantibatika, Ratnapark. The march provided an opportunity



for us to express our solidarity with the global human rights movement. Banners and placards carried by participants conveyed powerful messages. Several speakers like Krishna Kumari Waiba- chairperson of Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC), Mr. Naren Khatriwada- President at Youth Advocacy Nepal and many more delivered an inspiring speech highlighting the significance of Human Rights Day and the collective responsibility to protect and promote human rights. The highlight of the program was the Manisha Shah and her family demanding the justice for her sister Arati Shah's murder. "The celebration of Human Rights Day has no significance until the innocent people like them get justice", she added. The event received coverage from media to amplify the message of human rights. The rally served as a reminder of ongoing human rights challenges, emphasizing the continued importance of raising awareness and promoting accountability.

**Please visit: www.jagarannepal.org.np for other details
and we appreciate
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