

Sankalpa Women's Alliance for Peace, Justice and Democracy

December 2012, Issue

December Newsletter

The month of December was a tragic month, where numerous serious cases of gender-based violence were reported just this month alone. Sixteen-year-old Shiwa Hashami from Bardiya was burnt alive on 7 December and Eighteen years old Bindu Thakur from Bara district was found dead on 26 December. Ms Sita Rai was robbed of her hard-earned money by officials at the Tribhuwan International Airport and later raped by a policeman constable, while returning home after working for two years in Saudi Arabia. Other tragic examples include numerous cases of rape, women being burnt alive, murder and abduction were reported daily in the media. As the reports of violence against women are increasing one after another, the state continues to fail to protect victims and give assurance of justice. Sankalpa along with its member organizations have been staging a sit-in-protest with; activists, lawyers, journalists, sportspersons, students,

businessmen, social workers and civil society until culprits are arrested and women's security ensured by justice and support to the victim and her families.

Beside the protest program Sankalpa joined the Samyuta Sangarsha Samiti formed during the meeting at Inter Party Women Alliance (IPWA) on 28 December, to organize various protest programs against increasing women violence. The Samyuta Sangarsha Samiti decided to organize huge rally on 1st January 2013.

According to work plan Sankalpa carried out District Level TOT in various districts, VDC Level Orientation through its Regional Networks. Sankalpa Secretariat and Board Members monitored the program



conducted in different parts of country. One Executive Board meeting and one Management Committee meeting were held in December. Sankalpa Team along with Sankalpa Media Coordinator Sangeeta Lama had a meeting with Mr Binod Bhattarai to develop a new communication strategy for Sankalpa.

Program on 16 Days Activism against Women Violence

Sankalpa organized various programs at district level to mark the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. Programs were organized in twenty districts; Eastern Region – 4 districts, Central Region – 3 district, Western Region – 3 districts, Mid-Western Region – 5 districts, and Far Western Region – 5 districts. 16 Days Activism against Women Violence was celebrated in order to raise awareness about gender based violence as a human rights issue at the local, regional and national levels and to create tools to pressurize governments to implement promises made to eliminate violence against women. The main objective of these programs was to help to strengthen local work around Violence Against Women.



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International Days

Sankalpa Participated in a rally and program organized on International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3rd December and supported Nepal Disabled Women Association (NDWA) to celebrate International Day of Persons

with Disabilities to express solidarity to protect the human right of disabled people.

Similarly, Sankalpa participated and supported a series of programs organized to celebrate International Human Rights Day. Sankalpa also put up put up a stall at National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for Human Rights Magna Meet on 10 December.

December 10, is the anniversary of the adoption and promulgation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the UN General Assembly in 1948, and this anniversary is celebrated every year as Human Rights Day.

The theme of this year's Human Rights Day is 'My Voice Counts'.



Districts level TOT

District Level TOT on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 was organized in six different districts by Sankalpa's Regional Networks. Sankalpa Central Regional Network organized TOT at Hetauda, Makwanpur on 12 -13 December, Western Regional Network organized at Kaski on 14-15 December and Palpa on 28 -29 December, Mid—Western Regional Network at Banke on 1-2 December and Surkhet on 17-18 December, and Far-Western Regional Network organized at Achham on 2-3 December. District Level TOT at Kaski was monitored by Vice-Chair Ms Lily Thapa, similarly TOT at Surkhet was monitored by Member Ms Suni Lama and Finance Assistant Ms Rosy Gurung and TOT at Palpa was monitored by Program Manager Ms Moni Shrestha. Altogether ten districts level TOT (two in each region) were delivered in November and December as planned for this year (2012).

VDC Level Orientation

Nine VDC level orientations took place in the Eastern Region, seven in the central region and six in the farwestern region during this month. VDC Level Orientation was organized to disseminate information on National Plan Action of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 to local stakeholders. Remaining VDC level orientations were planned to be delivered in January 2013. Participants of district level TOT are responsible to provide orientations at VDC level.

