

## **National Women Coalition' Submission to the UPR mechanism for the second review of Nepal in November 2015**

### **Introduction**

This submission is an integral part of the joint submission of Nepal UPR NGO Coalition. This submission was prepared in joint collaboration of 31 women organizations<sup>1</sup> and was coordinated by Women Rehabilitation Center (WOREC). Five regional consultations and one national consultation were organized for preparing this submission consulting 233 persons working on diverse issues of women's rights.

### **I. Background and framework**

#### **B. Constitutional and legislative framework**

1. Constitution making process is taking long. Failure of bringing out the constitution within given timeframe, even after election and formation of CA for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time, has been one of the reasons for impunity, increasing market prices, failure of creating and implementing development programs. This has affected women more intensively.
2. **Women participation in Constitution making process:** Women participation in the Constituent Assembly (CA) was very encouraging in first CA (2008 – 2012) with 197 (32.78%) women CA members. In the second CA election women participation decreased to 172 (29.91%) women CA members. Women CA members' role in political negotiations and decision making is limited as all major political negotiations and decisions are made by top leaders of key political parties.
3. **Citizenship issue in the Constitution drafts:** Number of recommendations on gender equality were accepted during the first review.<sup>2</sup>The advance drafts of constitution include some fundamental rights for women, however a critical issue of right to acquire citizenship<sup>3</sup> needs to be revised. Draft provision is more restrictive than Interim Constitution, Citizenship Act, and contradicts Nepal's international commitments<sup>4</sup> as they allow either parents to independently confer citizenship to their children.
4. **New Constitution should guarantee equal and full citizenship rights for women to acquire and transfer, citizenship; citizenship by descent to children equally and independently through either the mother or the father.**

#### **Legislative frameworks:**

5. To ensure that violence against women are adequately addressed

#### **Government should:**

- Enact consolidated law addressing all types of sexual violence effectively, including provisions of no statutory limitation for rape and other sexual violence; increased punishment for rape; marital rape and other sexual violence; adequate victim and witness protection mechanisms; compensation from state; and measure to address special need of girls below 16
- Amend Domestic Violence Act as per Supreme Court decision 2009
- Amend Human trafficking Act addressing emerging trend of trafficking
- Enact legislation for recognition and protection of WHRDs
- Enact laws and formulate policies to address socio-economic rights of women affected by sexual violence during the conflict and to ensure right to justice and effective remedy for survivors of sexual violence during the conflict.

### **C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure and policy measures**

- 6. The NWC legislation has not been reviewed, neither NWC resources are adequate.<sup>5</sup> NWC also lacks outreach without presence outside Kathmandu. NWC should be made an independent institution ensuring independence as per Paris principles and equipped with authority and adequate resources including for outreach in most remote places.**

### **III. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law**

#### **1. Equality and non-discrimination.**

- 7. Discrimination against women, gender equality:** In recognition of various persistent challenges faced by women a series of recommendations were provided on promotion and protection of the rights of women and prevention of their violations.<sup>6</sup> There are several legal and policy framework aiming at ending gender disparity and ensuring equality for women, nevertheless in reality situation of Nepali women have not changed much. Dalit, indigenous, Muslim, sexual minority, women with disabilities and women from other minority groups continue to face gender based discrimination as well as identity based discrimination.
- 8. Citizenship issue in the Interim Constitution, prevailing law and practice:** Interim Constitution provided<sup>7</sup> that children born to Nepali parents are eligible to attain citizenship by descent recognizing equal rights of men and women to transfer citizenship to children. In reality women are unable to transfer citizenship. Even after Supreme Court decision<sup>8</sup> to grant citizenship based on the mother's citizenship, government officials have been stating lack of clear guidelines for not issuing citizenship on mother's name. Single women, single mothers, trafficked victims, victims of sexual exploitation during conflict, and women migrant workers continue to face problems in transferring citizenship to children.
- 9. Inheritance:** Under prevailing law daughters also get entitlement to their inheritance however only if the partition happens before they get married, this provision is perpetuating discrimination at family level.
- 10. New constitution should guarantee equality between women and men, and prohibition of all kinds of discrimination against women in both public and private domain.**
- 11. Government should ensure effective implementation of prevailing non-discriminatory laws and policies on gender equality, including by allocating sufficient resources, raising awareness and building capacity of authorities.**

#### **2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person**

- 12. Violence Against Women (VAW):** VAW still remains major challenge with number of cases significantly being increased. Documentation from 2011 to 2014 reveals increasing trend of VAW with 1569, 1581, 1703 and 2225 cases documented respectively.<sup>9</sup> In February 2015 at least two cases of young girls being raped and case of acid attack against school girls were reported. In March 2015 a six years' old girl, rape victim, died due to sexual and physical violence suffered two weeks earlier.
- 13. Domestic violence (DV):** DV is the biggest category of VAW and is increasing every year.<sup>10</sup> Supreme Court in August 2009 had issued a directive order to revise the DV Act 2006<sup>11</sup> but yet to be amended.
- 14. Violence in allegation of witchcraft<sup>12</sup>:** There has been increasing trend of violence against women in allegation of witchcraft.<sup>13</sup> Government has tabled anti-witchcraft bill to the parliament, however has not yet been enacted. Anti-witchcraft law with stringent enforcement mechanisms should be enacted without further delay.

15. **Dowry related violence:** Dowry related violence is widely present, mostly in the Terai. In 2014 nine cases of death due to dowry related violence were reported<sup>14</sup>.
16. **Sexual and Gender Based Violence:** number of sexual violence on women is increasing, despite the attention gathered by the issue.<sup>15</sup>This violence has seen no age bar, girls from age of three to elderly women have been victims of sexual violence. In February and March 2015 at least four young girls were raped, one of the victim 6 years' old girl succumbed to injury on 8 March when world was celebrating international women's day.
17. **Girl child labor:** Family-based and informal sector works (including small hotels) is not covered by current child or labor legislation. *Kamlaris* (former bonded labor girls from *Tharu* Indigenous group) still found to be working as domestic maid, even though it is prohibited by law. Estimated 12,000 girls and women work in the night entertainment industry in Kathmandu, with majority of children<sup>16</sup> facing worst form of labor.
18. **Harmful traditional practices:** *Chaupadi*, the traditional practice mostly in mid and far western regions forcing women and girls to stay in cowshed during menstruation and after child birth, still prevent despite some claims and some *chaupadi* huts being demolished. Deaths, rape and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls linked to the practice are reported.
19. *Kanyadan*: There is a tradition of giving away (*kanyadan*) daughters during marriage. The terminology and cultural norms associated with it is very derogatory whereby parents are giving their daughter as donation (*dan*) to the bride and his family, denying equal and individual personal integrity of the daughter. This term as well as the tradition should end, however there has not been much voice against it.
20. **Suicides:** An increasing trend of suicide by women has been noticed.<sup>17</sup>The suicide victims often have been victims of other forms of violence. The violence they suffer coerced to commit suicide. Current legal provisions do not provide any safeguard from such coercion.
21. **Trafficking:** An emerging trend of trafficking in migration cycle has been overlooked. The government policy of restricting women under 30 years for foreign labor migration, is perpetuating trafficking as women resort to illegal and informal channels. A form of internal trafficking is taking place with women and girls being trafficked into entertainment sectors. Current legal and policy framework do not sufficiently addressed the emerging trend of trafficking in migration cycle or internal trafficking.
22. Supreme Court in July 2013 issued mandamus order to ensure speedy trials and decision making on serious crimes including rape and human trafficking through continuous hearing process.<sup>18</sup> Continuous hearing in such cases are followed in some courts, however is not practiced in all district courts.

**Government should:**

23. Implement Supreme Court Verdicts from August 2009 and July 2013 for amendments in DV Act and provision of fast tract case hearing in VAW cases – including through allocation of adequate resources, provision of training of Law enforcement Officials.
24. Establish safe houses in all districts with improved and professional operational modality including by developing and implementing SOP for the safe houses.
25. Ensure legal protection against provocation and coercion for suicide, criminalizing provocation and coercion for suicide, bringing people who coerce and provoke for suicide under the law.
26. **Women Human Rights Defenders:** Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) share equal responsibility but face higher level of risk. Female (community) health workers play a major

role in providing care and information on sexual and reproductive health and rights. As these rights are considered a taboo, these women as well as other WHRDS advocating for these rights and against sexual and domestic violence get constantly threatened for their work alleging that they are interfering at personal matter, harassed and abused.

**27. Government should ensure recognition, support and security to WHRDS including with legislative, policy and programmatic interventions.**

**3. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law**

**28. Access to justice for women:** Number of positive commitments were made to ensure access to justice for women,<sup>19</sup> however accessing formal justice is still a challenge for many women. Although there are programs providing legal aid to women, the program do not reach out to women at community level where there is a real need and not free from patriarchal mindset. Women victims of violence, often sexual violence are coerced to opt for mediation rather than pursuing legal remedy. Political interferences also hinder women to seek justice.

**29.** Survivors of Rape and other sexual violence could not pursue the legal remedy due to 35 days statutory of limitation in prevailing laws. Although, Criminal Code Bill increases it with one year, it is still insufficient. There should not be any time limitation to report the sexual violence cases given the nature of the violence and trauma the victims face.

**30. Transitional justice and effective remedy:** Conflict victims mainly women have been left behind in the transitional justice process. They feel government is focusing on physical reconstruction and establishment of the TJ mechanisms only, ignoring economic, social, cultural and physiological effect of the conflict. Survivors of conflict related sexual violence have not been acknowledged as conflict victims and current guidelines linked to the Interim Relief Programs (IRP) do not recognize survivors of sexual violence as Conflict Affected Persons. The official data concerning conflict related sexual violence survivors is also lacking. Cases of sexual violence during the conflict are yet to be investigated.

**31.** A civic Tribunal hearing this issue publically<sup>20</sup> revealed that majority of survivors of sexual violence during conflict did not make formal complaints because of factors including fear of social stigma and the lack of an enabling environment. Where complaints were made no action had been taken by the relevant authorities. The Tribunal also found that, in most cases, the significant physical and psychological trauma experienced by the women was compounded by their subsequent forced eviction from their marital home, stigmatization, and discriminatory treatment by their families and communities. This left most women in a deeply impoverished state, without access to necessary medical and psycho-social support services.

**Government should:**

**32.** Recognize survivors of sexual violence during conflict as conflict victim and conflict affected people include them in all support program, including IRP – revising the IRP guidelines and procedures.

**33.** Immediately make available appropriate support services to the survivors and their families, including medical, psycho-social, legal and livelihood support

**34.** Ensure protection for survivors and witnesses who come forward to transitional justice mechanisms.

**35.** Undertake analysis of the differing needs of sexual violence survivors in relation to transitional justice, from reparations to unofficial truth telling processes.

**4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life**

**36. Child marriage:** Child marriage, a crime, is still widely practiced. Lack of implementation of existing legal provisions remains an issue. A national survey in 2011 shows 29% girls are married between 15-19 years<sup>21</sup>. Child marriage leads to a high adolescent pregnancy rate, which carries a higher risk of maternal death and morbidity. Child marriage is also leading to

uterine prolapsed. In one fourth of uterine prolapsed cases the patients were married at young age.

37. **Government should** ensure effective enforcement of legal minimum age of marriage and protect girls from subsequent sexual abuse/violence and reproductive health harms /violations.

5. **Participation of women in public and political life**

38. **Women's participation:** There has been limited progress in women's participation in public and decision making roles despite number of accepted recommendation to increase women participation and ensure gender equality<sup>22</sup>. In the Constituent Assembly women participation decreased from first to second election. There are still only 3.36% women in judiciary.<sup>23</sup> Women's representation in civil service gazetted position has increased from 2.1% in 2001 to 16.9% in 2013. A 20% quota has been allocated for women and socially excluded groups for the appointment of police, armed police and army, but women's participation in leadership roles are limited.

6. **Right to work and to just and favorable conditions of work**

39. There are approximately 40 to 50,000 women working in entertainment sectors.<sup>24</sup> However, there is no recognition of women's work and contribution from entertainment sector. Neither this sector is governed by labor laws. The non-recognition has resulted in abuse and stigmatization including unequal and low salaries, uncertain duty hours, job insecurity, harassment and violence at workplace and arbitrary arrests and harassment from police.

**Government should:**

40. Recognize the value of women's contribution from informal sector and bring the women's work in restaurants, bars and other entertainment sectors under labor laws, creating environment conducive for work

41. Protect women working in entertainment sectors, improve working conditions and ensure job security and establish complain mechanism

7. **Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living**

42. **Right to Food:** Women are deprived of nutritious food, even during pregnancy and after child birth. There is prevailing discrimination against daughter for nutritious food. Economically, women do not have access and control over resources and culturally women are the one who has to eat last in the family. Health impact due to insufficient food intake in women have been noticed.

43. **Social security:** As part of social security government has been providing allowances for widows. Social security program should include measures other than allowances. **Single and household head women below poverty line, and victim of violence should be included in social security program.**

44. **Right to housing:** There is no safeguard for housing rights for women who have been expelled by family following domestic violence and women with HIV positive status. International standards on eviction procedure are not followed by government, eviction are mostly forceful putting women, including pregnant and lactating in most vulnerable situations. In May 2012 government carried out large scale forced eviction in Kathmandu without following the due process and international guidelines on development based eviction and displacement. The evction started without prior information to the affected population. The community were not consulted nor provided with any alternative housing and livelihood plans. Government used excessive force destroying 248 houses and a school which left nearly 1000 people homeless. The authorities did not follow any measures to protect pregnant and lactating women leaving these women injured. **Government should abide by UN Basic Principles and Guidelines on Development-based eviction and displacement.**

## 8. Right to health

**45. Sexual and reproductive health:** Ten percent of Nepali Women continue to suffer with uterine prolapsed. They are also being subjected to further discrimination and increased violence because of this condition<sup>25</sup>. Obstetric Fistula is an injury affecting childbearing women that has been relatively neglected, despite its devastating impact. This is one of the little known and acted upon health condition that Nepali women are suffering from. There is no morbidity survey done so far to have even estimated cases. That restricted proper planning and budget allocation to address this problem.

**46.** Girls in the age group 15-19 lack access to critical information on sexual and reproductive health and related services. Unmet need for contraceptive information and services for girls in the age group 15-19 is 42% and for women of 20-24 age group is 37%.<sup>5</sup> In lack of services and information 25% of women of reproductive age experience unplanned, teen age pregnancies.

**47. Access to safe abortion:** Access to safe abortion still remains a challenge. Only one in three women know that abortion is legal and only one in two women know the services are available. This limited awareness is resulting in unsafe abortion. Approximately 5% of maternal death are caused by abortion complications. One of the main reasons behind continuation of unsafe abortion is inaccessibility of safe abortion services. Supreme Court in 2009, issued a directive to enact a comprehensive law on abortion, however not yet implemented.

### **Government should:**

48. Ensure accessibility, availability, affordability, adequacy and quality of sexual and reproductive health services and create conducive environment for accessing these services, including for safe abortion.

49. Ensure universal access to reproductive health care information and services, including of maternal health care, contraception and safe abortion, especially for socio-economically marginalized women and adolescent girls.

50. Address disparities in maternal mortality by ensuring that high quality basic and essential maternal health services are available to all women.

51. Enact a separate comprehensive law on safe abortion services in line with Supreme Court's 2009 decision.<sup>26</sup>

## 9. Women with disabilities

52. Disable friendly infrastructure are still lacking. Existing hospitals and health care facilities do not accommodate special reproductive health needs of women with disabilities. Neither any specialized facilities exist for sexual and reproductive health for these women. The social security provided for PWDs is nominal and there is no support system for family or care giver. Women with disability who suffer rape and sexual violence do not have means to pursue legal justice in absence of prerequisite services including sign language during legal redress process.

53. Women with disabilities face discrimination within family. A survey revealed 37% women are facing discrimination within family. The ratio of discrimination experienced by women is significantly higher than men with disabilities.<sup>27</sup> Protection of inheritance rights of women with disabilities is a big challenge.

### **Government should:**

54. Ensure formal justice system provides prerequisite services for PWDs, including provision of physical infrastructures and appropriate language, essential for access to justice

- 55. Ensure that PWDs right to inheritance is secured with effective monitoring mechanism and legal aid provisions.
- 56. Allocate resources, formulate special programs to ensure access to sexual and reproductive health including provisions of appropriate service mechanisms to meet special sexual and reproductive health and rights of women with disability

#### 10. Women migrant workers

- 57. There has been increased number of women migrating for employment. Women are contributing 11% of remittances coming into the country. Despite the local and national economic value of remittances provided by women migrant workers, their migration for employment is still an issue of public scrutiny. Once and when fail to bring back money and support family women migrant workers get stigmatized by family and society, criticized for failing to adhere to traditional values. Wives of the migrant workers face various domestic violence and social stigmatization in absence of their husbands.
- <sup>58.</sup> 59. Labor migration legal and policy framework are yet to be gender sensitive. Government policy to restrict labor migration of women under 30 years has not only obstructed women's right to mobility but also elevated risk of trafficking as well abuse. Increasing incidences of women returning following abuse, exploitation and torture, has been reported. Most of the services for foreign labor migrants are not available outside Kathmandu leaving the women without enabling environment to make safe or informed choices.
- 60. As committed in the UPR first review<sup>28</sup> there should be more employment opportunities for women especially in rural setting. Government should ensure protection of women migrating for employment including lifting the ban as well as through bilateral agreements with the destination countries to protect migrant women including in informal and domestic labor sector.

#### Government should:

- 61. Ensure foreign labor migration services and information reach women in the rural settings too
- 62. Lift the age bar for women for labor migration
- 63. Conclude bilateral agreements with destination countries to protect women in informal and domestic labor sectors.
- 64. Create and implement appropriate mechanism to monitor and provide support to women in need in destination countries.

#### 11. Right to education

- 65. While there has been progress in access to school education gender disparity still continues. Provision of separate girls' toilets, aiming to support retention of female students, is becoming less effective without water availability. **Government should eliminate gender disparity at all levels of education ensuring equal access and retention for girls.**

#### 12. Effects of climate change

- 66. Nepal is placed among the most climate vulnerable countries. The climate change impact on women is direct since they are more dependent on natural resources. Women in the remote areas are seriously disadvantaged because of low literacy rates and lack of access to information. Climate change effects on women's health is also being noticed. However, there has been little focus on the gender component and recognition of women as victims of climate change.
- 67. A study in 2015<sup>29</sup> revealed following climate change women and girls are facing challenges with increased workload, decreased crop productivity, deteriorating health conditions. Increased workloads has resulted withdrawing daughters from schools. Decreased productivity is resulting in increasing use of intensive chemical fertilizers and pesticides exposing women to these chemicals. Which resulted in disturbance in menstrual cycles, white discharge, uterus cancer, miscarriage and infertility.

## **List of women coalition for UPR**

1. Akhil Nepal Women's Association (ANWA)
2. Alliance Against Trafficking in Women and Children (AATWIN)
3. Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC)
4. Community Action Center (CAC Nepal)
5. CSGS (Centre for Studies on Gender, Society and Development Study)
6. Dalit NGO Federation (DNF)
7. Feminist Dalit Organisation (FEDO)
8. Forum for Women Law and Development (FWLD)
9. Him Rights
10. Institute of Human Rights Communication Nepal (IHRICON)
11. Loom Nepal
12. Luzza Nepal
13. Mitini-Nepal
14. Nagarik Aawaz
15. National Alliance for Women Human Rights Defenders (NAWHRD)
16. Nepal Disabled Women Association (NDWA)
17. Nepal Mahila Ekata Samaj (NMES)
18. Nepal Muslim Welfare Society (NMWWS)
19. POURAKHI-Nepal
20. Public Health Concern Trust (Phect) Nepal
21. Resource Center for Primary Health Care (RECPHEC)
22. SAATHI Women Shelter
23. Shakti Samuha
24. SOLID Nepal
25. Women Forum for Women in Nepal (WoFoWon)
26. Women Human Rights Defenders Network Kathmandu
27. Women Human Rights Defenders Network Lalitpur
28. Women Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC)
29. Women Security Pressure Group (WSPG)
30. Women's Reproductive Rights Program-Center for.Agro-Ecology and Development (WRRP)
31. Youth Action Nepal

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- 1 SAATHI Women Shelter, Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC), Him Rights, POURAKHI, SOLID Nepal, Youth Action Nepal, Institute of Human Rights Communication Nepal (IHRICON), Community Action Center (CAC Nepal), Women Forum for Women in Nepal (WoFoWon, Forum for Women Law and Development (FWLD), Public Health Concern Trust (Phect) Nepal, Nepal Mahila Ekata Samaj (NMES), Resource Center for Primary Health Care (RECPHEC), Luzza Nepal, Mitini-Nepal, Nagarik Aawaz, Dalit NGO Federation (DNF), Women Security Pressure Group (WSPG), Women Human Rights Defenders Network Kathmandu, Women Human Rights Defenders Network Lalitpur, Women's Reproductive Rights Program-Center for Agro-Ecology and Development(WRRP/CAED), Nepal Disabled Women Association (NDWA), Feminist Dalit Organisation (FEDO), National Alliance for Women Human Rights Defenders (NAWHRD), Nepal Muslim Welfare Society (NMWWS), CSGS (Centre for Studies on Gender, Society and Development Study), Akhil Nepal Women's Association (ANWA), Alliance Against Trafficking in Women and Children (AATWIN), Loom Nepal, Shakti Samuha and Women Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC)
  - 2 Recommendation number 106.2, 4, 5, 10, 13, 14, 21-23, 28, 31, 46
  - 3 The draft provision states that citizenship can be acquired only if both parents are Nepali citizens
  - 4 Article 24 (1) of the ICCPR, Article 9 (2) of CEDAW and Article 7 of the CRC
  - 5 Recommendations no. 106.8, 107.6 and 108.11
  - 6 Recommendations no. 106.2, 4,5,10,13,14,21,22,23, 28, 29, 31, 46; 107.11,12,22,23
  - 7 Article 8, Clause 2 (b)
  - 8 Sabina Damai's case- Sabina Damai was not able to trace her father, approached the Dolakha Village Development Committee (VDC) twice to obtain citizenship certificate in her mother's name, who is a Nepali citizen. However, after repeated refusal from the District Administration Office (DAO), Sabina turned to the Supreme Court for justice. In 2011 the Supreme Court made a landmark decision of granting citizenship by descent to children if either the mother or the father has citizenship by descent.
  - 9 WOREC documentation
  - 10 The number of DV cases reported to WOREC in 2011 is 1002 (64% of total cases documented), 2012 is 1019 (64% of total cases documented) and 2013 is 1040 (61%) and in 2014 1503 (67.6%).
  - 11 The Supreme Court order was to broaden the definition of domestic violence as the current law does not sufficiently cover serious cases including mutilation by acid attack. The Supreme Court in this directive order had also instructed the government to make the domestic violence cases state case; to make provision as far as possible that a trained female police investigator would investigate such case; free legal aid is provided to the victim and a provision if fast tract court is made.
  - 12 Allegation of witchcraft is one form of VAW, inflicting the alleged women with severe injury even brutally mutilating them, humiliating and forcing them to eat human excreta, and in some instances killing. The victims are often single, old dalit women.
  - 13 WOREC documentation records from 2011 to 2014 at least 200 cases of different forms of violence to women in allegation of witchcraft are documented
  - 14 INSEC Year book 201
  - 15 The number of cases of sexual violence registered at WOREC in 2011 was 279, in 2012 BS it increased to 353 and in 2013 it has drastically increased to 648.
  - 16 Terre des Hommes 2010
  - 17 WOREC documented 27 such cases of suicide in 2014.
  - 18 The legal provision provides (in District Court regulation) of continuous hearing process however courts and prosecutors office have been interpreting it as optional provision. The Supreme Court in this mandamus order stated that the legal provision of continuous hearing is not an optional provision and should be implemented in serious cases such as rape and human trafficking.
  - 19 Recommendation no. 106.28, 39; 107.8, 11, 22, 23
  - 20 A Tribunal hosted by the National Human Rights Commission and convened by Nepalese organisations WOREC, National Alliance for Women Human Rights Defenders, NagarikAwaj, and Advocacy Forum on 8 December 2014
  - 21 NDHS 2011
  - 22 Recommendation no. 106.2,4,5,10,13,14,21,22,23,29,31; 107.11, 12
  - 23 Secretariat of Constituent Assembly Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers Judicial Council Secretariat, cited in National Review-Beijing Report, p. 34.
  - 24 Ministry of women, Children and Social Welfare data states 40000 and NGO (Women Forum for Women in Nepal) data shows 500000 in Kathmandu only.
  - 25 Nepal National Medical Standard for Reproductive Health, Volume II: Other Reproductive Health Issues, Family Health

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- Division, 2003, part 6 on genital prolapse. In addition, women suffering from uterine prolapse are often unable to carry out their work in the same way they had before they experienced the condition. Women told Amnesty International that family members. Amnesty International (AI Index: ASA 31/006/2014) and National Alliance for Pelvic Organ Prolapse Management – Nepal, October 2014.
- 26 Lakshmi and Others v. Government of Nepal.
- 27 Monitoring the rights of persons with disabilities in Nepal, National Federation of the Disabled-Nepal In collaboration of Disability Rights Promotion International and York University, Canada 2013  
<https://ia902600.us.archive.org/4/items/nfdnepal/Nepal-CMP-Disability-Rights-Holistic-Report-Final%28PrintingVersion%29.pdf>
- 28 Recommendations 106.41, 45, 46; 108.31, 32
- 29 A research report on climate change, agriculture, food security and sexual and reproductive health. WOREC February 2015