



तराई मानव अधिकार रक्षक सञ्जाल

TERAI HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ALLIANCE

Ref.No:

Dispatch No:

Date: 21/02/2017

Press Release

We express our serious concern on the 18th February incident at Marchawar area of Rupandehi district. On 18th February 2017 there was a mass meeting in Majagawa of Marchawar, Rupandehi. Rajesh Barai, a student of grade 12 of Janta Higher Secondary School, Udawaliya was arrested by the police while he was going to observe the mass meeting. To protest the arrest of their schoolmate, around 500 students gathered in front of the Bagauli police post on 19 February and shouted slogans in protest of the arrest of Rajesh Barai. While the protesters were returning home after the protest, around 100 police personnel who were following the students suddenly started beating and thrashing the students from behind. The students who were marching in the front rows pelted stones at the police in retaliation.

During the clash, around 5-7 Police personnel also sustained injury. Police baton charged the protesters. Students namely Nirmala Singh, Sambhawati Yadav, Seshelta Gosai, Rahul Yadav, Krishna Harijan, Poonam Maurya, Sarswoti Maurya and Laxmi Maurya were injured in the incident. A grade 6 student, Harijan lal is missing. The Nepal Police arrested a local shopkeeper Ramniwas Jaiswal, barber Jogindra Thakur and a chemist Shyam Prasad Gupta for selling medicine and providing medical service to the injured.

Shivdhani Pasi, Indresh Ansari, Makbul Ansari and Chiri Yadav were arrested by Nepal Police and subjected to physical torture. In addition Bikash Prasad Lodh, Ram Kumar Kewat, Shailendra Baniya, Jitendra Yadav and Rajesh Barai were arrested and kept in illegal detention. Two students, Sarswoti Malah and Gita Pasi were also injured. Two Indian citizens named Ram Shuvam Pal and Rajanath Pal who came to Marchwar to attend a social function were also arrested. As per our monitoring Manoj Kumar Yadav, a health post In-charge was also arrested. The police had dispersed the crowd who were protesting in front of the Udawaliya police post after they pelted stones for 15 minutes. The police fired two shots in the air and 15 cells of tear gas canisters to disperse the protestors. According to the locals, more than 20 persons were arrested and 50 persons were injured.

Therefore, we request to investigate the excessive use of force, punish the culprit, provide treatment to the injured and release the people who are being kept in illegal detention. Similarly, we request all the stakeholders to take all necessary precaution for non repetition of such incident. We urge all the stakeholders to maintain peace in the Marchwar area.

Shailendra Prasad Harijan
Regional Human Rights Coordinator
Bhairahawa

Collective Voice for Equity and Justice

THRD Alliance, Jaleswor-4, Mahottari, Regional Office: Bhairahawa, 071-521047,
Email: thrdalliance@gmail.com, website: www.taraihumanrights.org