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Discrimination at political level: Activists

EKANTIPUR REPORT

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KATHMANDU, DEC 07 -

Human rights activists on Tuesday claimed that Dalit discrimination is seen at the political level as well. Speaking at an interaction organised by Jagaran Media Centre (JMC), Sushil Pyakurel, a human rights activist and former commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), said inclusion of Dalits and other minority groups in the Constituent Assembly (CA) is not enough to address Dalits' woes and formulate new policies that would help curb discrimination against the community.

“The entire CA is on one side, but most vital decisions are taken by top leaders without holding enough discussions in the CA,” he said. “This has shadowed the Dalit movement and has proved the inclusion of Dalits in the CA a failure.”

Another rights activist Shova Gautam said: “Dalits live in all parts of the nation, and as per the current proposed model of federalism, only around one percent Dalit population would come under each proposed state,” she said.

Stating that the Nepali media can play a big role in the Dalit movement for equality, activists claimed that the media in Nepal are not doing enough on their part in this regard. According to Ganesh BK, Chairman of the National Human Rights Alliance, though individual cases of Dalit discrimination are highlighted in the media, they don't cover the cases in detail which would have helped identify the cause and effect and help eradicate such discriminations.

Posted on: 2010-12-07 09:08

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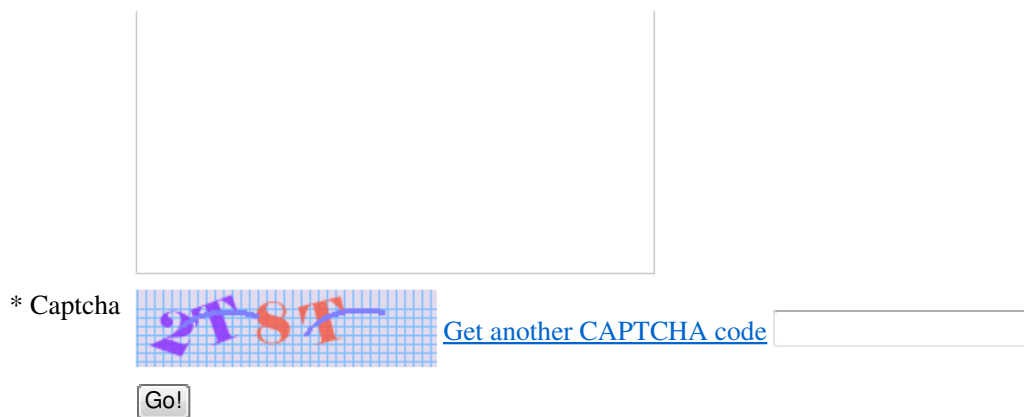
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