



Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO)

For a just and equitable society

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Advisory Team:

Durga Sob

Kala Swarnakar

Bhim Bahadur B.K.

Editor:

Renu Sijapati

Special Support:

Rakshya Risal

Contact:

Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO)

Kupondol, Lalitpur, Nepal.

G.P.O. Box No.: 4366, Ktm.

Tel: +977-01-5520982, 5543986

Fax: +977-01-5520982

Email: dms@fedo.wlink.com.np

Website: www.fedonepal.org

B: www.dalitwomen.wordpress.com

F: www.facebook.com/FEDONepal

Meeting with the European Delegation to Nepal

In 7 January, 2014, FEDO organized the meeting with the Ambassador H.E. Rensje Teerink and the Head of Cooperation Andreus Rottger of European Delegation to Nepal at FEDO Office. The objective of the meeting was to share the work of FEDO with the delegation and aware the existing situation of Dalit women of Nepal. The meeting was facilitated by the Executive Director of FEDO, Bhim Bahadur B.K. The meeting proceeded with the introduction followed by the presentation which was given by the president of FEDO, Durga Sob. She highlighted the real scenario of Dalit women in socio-economic political sectors of the development. Along with the efforts made by FEDO to address the issues of Dalit women in the state mechanism. The president emphasized that the severity of dalit women's situation will only be changed when there will be the change in the attitude of the people.

Her Excellency expressed her support and solidarity to outreach the marginalized community majority of Dalits and Dalit women for their mainstreaming and will initiate on putting the requirement for consultation. She also added that the EU looks into the major two priority areas like sustainable agriculture and the other is governance and decentralization. Besides this, she was aware on the issue of Dalit women and in order to assure to benefit then, EU is always there to provide support and she was glad to know the work that FEDO has been doing is remarkable. The Head of Cooperation, Andreus Rottger said that EU will be continuing its work on Education to this year. The major focus will be in quality education and Equity. After the round of discussion, the meeting was concluded with the effective interaction which paved the way towards the strong partnership between FEDO and EU Delegation to Nepal.

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Review and Reflection Workshop

Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO) is implementing, "Increasing Dalit Women's Political Participation for a sustainable peace in Nepal" in three districts namely Banke, Kailali and Kanchanpur since 1st April 2012. The project will be implementing for four years beginning on 1 April 2012 and ending on 30 March 2016 to counteract the lack of participation of Dalit women in government and politics, which limits their contribution to development, poverty reduction and the achievement of gender equality.

In this context, the review and reflection workshop of the project of third year (i.e. 2014) was conducted in order to share the overall progress, challenges, way forward and strategy for the upcoming year (i.e. 2015). The workshop was held on 2-3 February, 2015 in Kanchanpur district where both the program and finance team from the central along with the district project team had their participation. The objective of the workshop was to Review and planning of project as well as to know real status of project progress. The workshop was facilitated by the Central Senior Executive Member, Renu Sijapati, Chaired by FEDO's president, Durga Sob and the chief guest was Wendy Ingoma, Programme Manager, Womankind UK). The Executive Director, Bhim Bahadur highlighted the objectives of the workshop.

The two day workshop accomplished with the effective outcome. It presented the clear picture on the project's effectiveness for bringing the impact in the lives of the Dalit women.



Campaigners Demonstrate for the Dalit Friendly and inclusive Constitution

The Human Rights Defenders have been obstructing the CA Proceedings since Sunday 18 January, 2015. All the Human Rights activists and civil Society Organizations have been continuously conducting the peace demonstration in order to pressurize the leaders of Constituent Assembly for the timely and inclusive constitution for all. In 22 January, 2015, Dalit activist came up together to show their solidarity for the Dalit friendly constitution where all the Dalit and Dalit women will ensure their equal rights that they do have the right for. The constituent Assembly has failed to meet its moral and political obligation of drafting the new constitution. The civil society is still being hopeful from to have the Dalit and Women friendly Constitution. The demonstration will be ongoing until and unless the state come up with the decision with regard to drafting the Constitution.

President of FEDO, Durga Sob and the General Secretary, Kala Swarnakar showed their solidarity for the Dalit friendly Constitution.

The need of Media for the voice of voiceless

The daily newspaper of kanchanpur district of far-western region had an encounter with the FEDO's President, Durga Sob. She talked about the less accessibility of Nepalese women in every state mechanism. She also add on the fact that Dalit are violated to the extreme and the vulnerable ones are neither have got justice nor are free from the violence. There stills prevails massive discrimination majorly in the far western of Nepal. Dalit women are the affected ones and the state is not accountable to their issues. So, she strongly believe that the role of media also vital in order to sensitize the government, the state and the community people on the issues of Dalits ad Dalit women of Nepal. Although Dalits have contributed for the reconstruction and the development of the nation, they have minimal participation in the decision making level. Because of the inappropriate evaluation of the state towards the contribution of Dalits and Dalit women, they have been marginalized and discriminated.

She made the strong demand for the state to be accountable towards Dalit women and in order to fulfill the gaps; the solidarity of Media is highly appreciated.

Exposure visit of American Students

The group of around 31 American Students had their exposure visit today at the office of FEDO, Kupondole in 19 February, 2015. They were the Human Rights students who came from different Universities throughout the United States. The students were facilitated here in Nepal by the Passage International. The objective of the visit was to provide the students with the first hand experience on understanding the situation of Dalits and Dalit women of Nepal.

The meeting was facilitated by the Executive Director of FEDO, Executive Director and then continued with the presentation which was given by the President of FEDO, Durga Sob. The presentation covered the overall socio-economic and political right of Dalits and Dalit women of Nepal and the FEDO's endeavor for the just and equitable society.

The students came up with the several queries regarding the Human Rights of Dalit women as well as organizational development. The two ways interaction went fruitful and FEDO insisted students to take the issues of Dalit women in the international arena and also to have the solidarity for the eradication of caste based discrimination and untouchability.

