

Nepal Law Society/Civic Initiative Centre
Province No. 2, Janakpurdham
THMs Report 22 October 2019, Rajbiraj

1. Background

“Nepal Law Society” has established a Civic Initiative Centre in every province with the objective of informing about the laws by placing among the masses as to what laws are being made in our country under the Constitution of Nepal. The Civic Initiative Centre has presented the report for a one-day interaction program on provincial level, “**Basic Health Policy and Higher Education Policy**” after completing the same at Rajbiraj of Saptari District on the date 22/10/2019.

2. Objectives of the THM

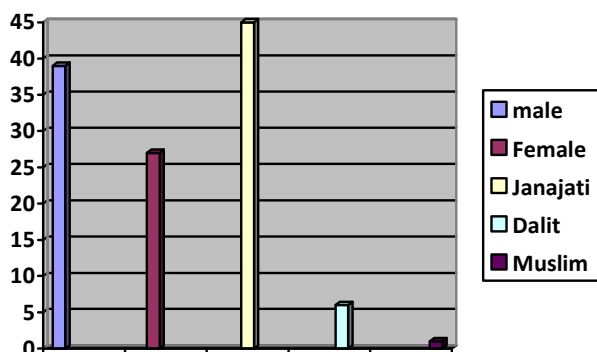
The purpose of this program is to share information with the concerned authorities on the Higher Education Policy and respective laws as per the letter and spirit of the new Constitution of Nepal. Specific objectives of the THM on Higher Education Policy are as follows:

- ✓ To facilitate public participation on policy and law making through the citizens' engagement assisting the progressive implementation of state directive policies for making effective functioning of the relevant Committee, pursuant to Article 54 of the Constitution;
- ✓ To collect suggestions from stakeholders for formulating effective policies through the relevant committee of the Federal Parliament;
- ✓ To support the inclusion of major stakeholders in public issues and law making through the facilitation of dialogue among parliamentarians, experts, civil society and common citizens disseminating information about the provisions of the Constitution, rules and policies on higher education;
- ✓ To offer necessary advice to the Government of Nepal through the relevant committee of the Parliament whether the provisions of the Higher Education Policy and the laws are compatible with the constitution and the federal laws.

3. Participation in the THMS

S. N.		Brahmin, Chhetri, Thahari, Sanyasi		Indigenous		Dalit		Newar	Muslim	People with Disability
		Hill/ Himalaya	Terai Madhes	Hill/ Himalaya	Terai Madhes	Hill/ Himalaya	Terai Madhes			
1.	Female	3	3	7	12		2		-	-
2.	Male	3	5	6	20		4	-	1	

Number of Total Participants: 66 The table shows diverse participants in the meeting as follows in a Bar Diagram:



4. Program Details

At the behest of Civic Initiative Centre, Province No. 2, an interaction program with the participation of provincial level leader and representatives, teachers, students, employees, intellectuals, women, Dalits, indigenous ethnic tribes, representatives of civil society, journalists and chiefs and representatives of various organizations and institutions was concluded at Rajbiraj Municipality of Saptari District on 2076/07/05 (22/10/2019) upon “**Basic Health Policy and Higher Education Policy**” with the objective of informing as to what laws are being made under our constitution.

66 people of the district, 38 males and 28 females had participated in the program. The program as concluded with the participation of the representatives of various political parties was chaired by Hon. Anil Kumar Jha; likewise, Hon. Pramila Yadav, Hon. Govinda Neupane and Hon. Netra Bikram Shah had taken the seat as the chief guest. Mrs. Manu Khanal had welcomed the participants who had attended and had operated the program. In the program, Rekha Jha, Chief of Civic Initiative Center had shed light upon the Bill. Likewise, Hon. Khim Lal Devkota had coordinated upon the issue. 4 groups were formed in the program. In the program, the participants had presented their queries. The program which ran for almost 5 hours was very contextual and the opinion that such programs should be conducted from time to time and that such programs should gain continuity was forwarded. The Civic Initiative Centre, by conducting this program has made us grateful. We have benefited by being informed through the conduction of the program. By stating that for the same we would like to thank them very much, the Chairman had concluded the program by expressing thankfulness towards the organizers and the participants of the program.

A. Mr.. Khim Lal Devkota presented his paper on“**Basic Health Policy and Higher Education Policy**” with the objective of informing as to what laws are being made under our constitution.

B. Group Discussion

Group-I

- ✓ Cost free health policy and Acts have not been made on the basis of the fundamental rights as mentioned in the constitution. Because of which, there is no provisions in the laws and there is for the citizens the situation of not being able to exercise in practice.
- ✓ Acts should be formed as per the provisions of the constitution.
- ✓ Monitoring and suggestions should be submitted as per the same.
- ✓ Consciousness related to health service should be spread among the common public through the various means.
- ✓ Control the fraudulent business of private health institutions. Balance and harmony between plan of action and strategy should be maintained as per the constitution. The responsibility of basic health should be implemented and coordinated between all three levels of the government.
- ✓ Provision for critical monitoring and competent surveillance up to the level of the citizenry should be done by the government at all three levels.
- ✓ Budget is insufficient
- ✓ Ask for assistance from donor agencies.



- ✓ Invest in the health sector a certain percentage of tax collected by the state.
 - ✓ Obtain compensation in lieu of Nepal's private and government forests from the carbon deficient nations.
2. There is scarcity
- ✓ Increase the number of health workers in proportion to the number.
 - ✓ Local bodies, civil society and the stakeholders should monitor the health services as delivered by the health workers.
 - ✓ Make provisions for punishment and reward for the health workers.
 - ✓ Operate by constructing necessary physical infrastructure in the coordination of all three levels.
 - ✓ The public should obtain easily and conveniently the medicines as distributed free of cost.
 - ✓ Legal action should be taken upon the health workers who sale and distribute the medicines as distributed free of cost.
 - ✓ The health workers should not provide paid health service within the duration of the office.
 - ✓ For buying the medicine, the Federation and Province should avail timely budget to the health institutions and the local level.
 - ✓ Initiative for making investment.
 - ✓ Private hospitals should make arrangements for the benefit of senior citizens, disabled, deprived children, victims and orphans.
 - ✓ Quick arrangement should be made for the treatment of various problems of the women like cancer of the womb, uterine prolapse, breast cancer.
 - ✓ Operate from time to time health camp for the identification of diseases as mentioned hereinabove.
 - ✓ Arrangement should be made for Child Reform Home and Reform Homes for the Abusers of Narcotic Substances.

Group III

- ✓ Provision should be made for hanging in every health institutions a Citizens Charter in a manner which could be seen by all,
- ✓ The common public should be informed about the provisions of an Emergency Health Fund,
- ✓ Health institutions should be given the management for facility to Emergency Health Fund
- ✓ Information related to which health service is available at which health institution should be available and duties of the service seekers and a helpful environment should be made.
- ✓ 2. Inadequacy of health equipment for providing qualitative service and for that, at least 30% of the total budget of local bodies should be separated for health,
- ✓ Arrangement should be made for equal and friendly treatment towards all the citizens.
- ✓ Health insurance should be compulsory and free of cost,
- ✓ All have not been insured, presently insurance program has not been operated in the district of Saptari.
- ✓ Expert and specialist service has not been made available.
- ✓ Federation should make available health group and expert and specialist doctors as per the vacancy and
- ✓ Equipment and medicine related to health should be made available.

Group IV

- ✓ Mange complain box, inquiry section and notice board in the concerned entity.
- ✓ Keep hoarding board related to the project.
- ✓ Provide guarantee as to timely allocation of budget and giving of health service through its proper utilization.
- ✓ If the budget freezes by not being spent on time, matters related to action and punishment upon the employees of the concerned entity should be forwarded.
- ✓ Compel to keep citizens charter, notice board and complain box also in the private sector
- ✓ Make public the statistics of private health institution after collecting the same.
- ✓ State should monitor and evaluate in relation to the sales and distribution of medicine, the method of treatment as per the law.
- ✓ Free of cost arrangement pursuant to the constitution adopted by the state should be made in relation to the basic health service.
- ✓ Make treatment expenditure easily available, regular and cheap.
- ✓ Take legal action and also prohibit the Dhama and Jhankri and the mobile doctors.
- ✓ Who should purchase the medicine, equipment etc. as necessary all over the country? (Federation and the Local Level)
- ✓ Provincial government should be given the responsibility for buying and distributing medicine, equipment etc., and the same should be monitored and evaluated and be regularly distributed by forming a committee of doctors by the Centre.

C. Feedbacks/Suggestions from floor

a) Pawan Pokhrel (Student, Rajbiraj)

- ✓ Free of cost health has been stated, but we have not gained it because we have to get an invoice while going to the hospital. Have we gained a free of cost health?
- ✓ While allocating powers, some is vested on the province some on the center but the same is not equal.
- ✓ Implementation and monitoring seem necessary along with surveillance.

b) Hem Shankar Singh (Reporter, Incident and Opinion dot com)

- ✓ Actions should be taken against such doctors who sale and distribute medicines to be distributed free of cost.
- ✓ Doctors should not be allowed to perform treatment by taking money from 10 to 5 o' clock.
- ✓ Monitor whether the health worker has disseminated or not disseminated the service.

c) Rabin Kumar Bhandari (Teacher Happy Land S.S.G.S. Saptari)

- ✓ A patient meeting with a sudden accident is left negligently.
- ✓ Note should be made upon which service is available from which hospital.
- ✓ There is no good arrangement of equipment for providing qualitative service.
- ✓ Health insurance should be done but should be free of cost and compulsory for all.

d) Aabha Setu Singh (Province Chairman, Women Rights Forum, Province No. 2)

- ✓ Our country is still in a transitional phase.
- ✓ Arrangement should be made for health workers on the basis of the population.
- ✓ Notice board should be kept also in the private health institutions because it is also its right.

e) Sadhana Jha (Deputy Chief, Rajbiraj Municipality, Saptari)

- ✓ Many problems have come in the course of treatment specially that of the handicapped, hands and feet have been connected without arranging.
- ✓ People will go in the place where there is proper management and good governance.
- ✓ The movement of Govinda K.C. was really good, for no one should play with the life of a man.
- ✓ It would be better still if the service seekers are given service through love and affection.
- ✓ All matters would be known in detail if the program was for two days.

f) Prathiva Kumari Dev (Rajbiraj, Saptari)

- ✓ I would like to express thanks to the Nepal Law Society.
- ✓ Not just the province but the whole country should be made free of plastic.

g) Govinda Neupane (Member, Province Legislature)

- ✓ This program has imparted great knowledge to us, for which we would like to thank the organizing team.
- ✓ All should function according to the constitution but now to manage when the same does not happen according to the same.
- ✓ The country cannot function if the citizens are not healthy.
- ✓ If water is thrown out by cutting a lake which has been still for many years then blurred water flows and after some time, clean and pristine water come. Similarly, the policy and rules of our country are being formed, it will take time but after some time all will be good.

h) Anil Kumar Jha (Member Representative Assembly, Rautahat 1)

- ✓ The name of Civil Initiative Centre should not be Civil Initiative Center, Janakpur but should be Province No. 2.
- ✓ I am not an opponent of the Constitution of Nepal as written on 2072.
- ✓ All matters of the constitution is capable of being adopted.
- ✓ There is the matter of purchasing the health equipment but who is to buy.
- ✓ A person who speaks or writes no matter at what place, the same has some impact.
- ✓ By stating this much, I would declare the end of the program by giving thanks to Nepal Law Society.

Key Achievements

Nonetheless the program was contextual and the participants expressed the saying that such programs should be conducted in every province on a wider scale and the knowledge upon the matter that all got informed as to what laws are being made and that the opinion of the citizen is known also by the parliamentarian is the achievement of the program.

Challenges and lesson Learned

- ✓ To Strengthen health system to deliver basic health services at local government level.
- ✓ Building disaster management capacity, establishment of hospital networks and sector wide, coordination.
- ✓ This policy has also identified key challenges to the health sector. It said health services had yet to reach to the citizens from all regions, strata, class and community as envisaged in the constitution.
- ✓ In order to achieve the vision and objectives of the policy, the government will definitely develop and expand promotional, preventive, curative and diagnostic services throughout the country; hence challenge is to make private sector investment service based
 - develop trained and skilled human resources

- make service providers accountable and responsible
- ensure domestic production of essential drugs scientific
- Adopt public health disaster preparedness
- Develop integrated health system
- promotion of nutrition
- increase life expectancy of citizens
- and lastly reduce infant and maternity mortality.

The opinion that as other institution gives travel expenses to the participants, Nepal Law Society, Civic Initiative Centre consumes the money by not providing the travel expenses had been raised by the participants,

1. Conclusion

A road map outlined in the government policies and strategies is in place for strengthening health services. In conclusion, the country's health development is being scaled up through effective strengthening of the health system and its enabling environment. however it is crucial to maintain the sustained growth of the system.

Inspite of Nepal facing with internal conflict and political disturbance throughout the country, Generally health actions are on way forward and a remarkable achievement has taken place in terms of health sector reforms. To improve the health status of the population, The role of health sector will be vital, but the holistic approach of the country's development policy, plans and action will have a compounding impact on the health system.

Annex I: Few Glimses of the of the Program :

