

Press Release

Lalitpur 14 August 2014 - A media monitoring commissioned by Sancharika Samuha (SAS) Nepal has shown that 18 girls and women were killed in a month. There were 50 media coverage of 18 cases of murder.

The cases of VAW were segregated into 13 types: rape, sexual harassment/torture, domestic violence, dowry-related violence, trafficking in person, murder, polygamy, witch accusation, traditional and religious, economic, health, political violence and others.

The monitoring of 14 national dailies was carried out from 1 to 31 July 2014. The newspapers had 111 coverage of 33 rapes committed in a month. There were 55 media coverage of 24 cases of trafficked women and girls. Violation of health rights had 52 media coverage of 12 cases.

Traditional and religious violence had 45 media coverage. Likewise, there were 22 media coverage of 5 incidents of VAW related with dowry. Sexual harassment/torture had 21 media coverage of 8 cases.

In terms of placement, most of the news appeared in inner pages of those newspapers. 29 news items were printed on the first page. A large number of news items of VAW were given very little space.

78 news items mentioned family members as perpetrators, 26 state, 25 unnamed, 4 neighbours and 147 news items mentioned others as perpetrators. During the month, 7 editorials, 9 photo news, 36 articles, 44 soft news, and 399 hard news items were published. Only 33 hard and 26 soft news items carried photo/sketch.

Overall, the dailies accorded priority to news on VAW. However, inadequacies were seen in follow-ups, use of photo/sketch in soft news, quote of perpetrators, and existing legal provisions relating to VAW.

Kantipur, Nagarik, Annapurna Post, Naya Patrika, Gorkhapatra, Himalaya Times, Karobar, Rajdhani, Nepal Samacharpatra, Commander Post, The Kathmandu Post, The Himalayan Times, Republica, and The Rising Nepal were monitored.

SAS, a forum of women journalists and communicators, has been monitoring the print and electronic media for more than a decade with a view to analyzing their trend on the coverage of VAW and recommending ways to reduce VAW through media.

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