

SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS THIS MONTH



In this fast-paced world, people seldom have time to read the news every day. Fortnight Human rights update is a new INSECOline series aimed at disseminating a brief overview of National and International Human rights situation once in every two weeks. The series will be covering severe cases of Human rights violations Nationally and Internationally.

Human rights violations noted this month have been enlisted below:

NATIONAL UPDATES

1. FORTY-FIVE GEN-Z PROTESTERS DECLARED MARTYRS

The government officially declared 45 individuals as martyrs on November 3 following the September 8-9 Gen Z protests, which claimed over 72 lives. The Home Ministry forwarded a proposal to recognize those who lost their lives during the unrest. According to the National News Agency Nepal, the list includes: Buddhi Bahadur Tamang (Kirtipur-2, Kathmandu), Ishwot Bahadur Adhikari (Kathmandu-11), Santosh Bishwokarma (Belaka, Udayapur), Sulav Shrestha and Ayush Thapa (Nepalgunj-1, Banke), Shreeyam Chaulagain (Belbari-11, Morang), Gaurav Joshi (Dhangadhi Sub-Metropolis), Yog Bahadur Shrestha (Barhabise-6), and Mahesh Mahat (Sangachowkgadhi-8, Sindhupalchok). Other martyrs include Ashab Alam Thakuri (Birgunj-12), Sauran Kishor Shrestha (Baglung-4), Subhas Kumar Bohara (Khaptadchhanna-7), Bhimraj Dhimi (Durgathali-1, Bajhang), Rashik Khatiwada Khatri (Panauti-10), Dil Narayan Tamang (Temal-7, Kavrepalanchok), and Binod Maharjan (Lalitpur-7). Furthermore, Yogendra Neupane (Golanjor-1), Milan Ray (Dudhauri-8), Dipesh Sunuwar (Tinpatan-6, Sindhuli), Chhatman Kuthumi (Pakhribas-2, Dhankuta), Ojhan Budha (Swamikartik Khapar-2, Bajura), Dev Kumar Subedi (Lalbandi-5, Sarlahi), Prabin Kulung (Silichong-3, Sankhuwasabha), and Nikhita Gautam (Kalika-8, Chitwan) are the martyrs. This recognition honors their sacrifices and reminds us of the lives lost during the protests across the country.

2. COMMISSION URGED GOVERNMENT TO URGENTLY ADDRESS PROBLEMS IN DETENTION CENTERS

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has urged the government to urgently address problems in detention centers nationwide. Following the Gen-Z protests on September 8 and 9, security challenges have increased due to escaped detainees and looted weapons. Monitoring of detention facilities in the Kathmandu Valley revealed damaged infrastructure, poor sanitation, lack of women's cells, detainees held without arrest warrants, and injured police personnel. Some facilities have been rebuilt with community support, but issues persist. The NHRC calls for immediate action to ensure detainee safety and proper management of detention centers.

3. DEATH PENALTY CAN NEVER SERVE AS A MEANS OF JUSTICE: INSEC

The Informal Sector Service Center (INSEC) has called on the Government of Bangladesh to stop implementing the death penalty and ensure a fair retrial in line with international standards. INSEC expressed concern over the Supreme Court's November 17 verdict sentencing former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and other officials to death, stating that the ruling undermines democracy, human rights, fair trial, and political freedom. The organization emphasized that the death penalty is a cruel, inhuman punishment that violates international human rights norms, including the Convention Against Torture and the Rome Statute, and can never serve as a means of justice.

4. **NHRC URGED GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL TO CONCLUDE PEACE PROCESS**

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has urged the government to promptly conclude Nepal's peace process. The Commission highlighted that, despite some progress, the peace process in Nepal has failed to deliver timely justice to conflict victims. On the 19th year of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed on November 21, 2006, the Commission urged the government to conclude the peace process. Key provisions of the CPA such as publicly sharing information on those disappeared or killed during the conflict and forming a Truth and Reconciliation Commission remain unfulfilled, with delays in commission formation and unresolved justice issues raising serious concerns.

5. **OVER 8,00,000 NEW VOTERS ADDED FOR UPCOMING ELECTION**

The Election Commission of Nepal has reported that 837,094 new voters have been added following the extended voter registration. Of these, 344,914 registered through full biometrics, while 492,180 were added via National Identity Cards. The integration of National ID data boosted online applications, allowing citizens to register without visiting district offices. As of November 2, Nepal had 18,168,023 eligible voters aged 18 and above. The registration period, initially set to close on November 16, was extended to November 21 due to high turnout and requests from political actors.

INTERNATIONAL UPDATES

1. **ZOHRAN MAMDANI MAKES HISTORY AS NEW YORK'S FIRST MUSLIM AND SOUTH ASIAN MAYOR**

Zohran Mamdani made history as New York City's first Muslim mayor-elect and its youngest since 1917, winning on a grassroots platform focused on affordability on November 4, 2025. Defeating Curtis Sliwa and Andrew Cuomo, he called the result "a mandate for change" and addressed President Trump, saying New Yorkers know how to stand up to him. Mamdani's rise highlights the power of community-driven politics in reshaping the city's political landscape.

2. **TENSION ERUPT AS INDIGENOUS DEMONSTRATORS CLASH WITH COP 30 SECURITY**

On November 11, at COP30 in Belem, Brazil, activists briefly clashed with UN security after attempting to push into the main venue, leaving two security staff with minor injuries. The UN said the site was quickly secured and talks continued. Witnesses described tensions involving Indigenous groups frustrated over lack of inclusion and unmet community needs. The confrontation highlighted growing anger over slow climate action and disparities affecting Indigenous communities.

3. **BANGLADESH'S FORMER PRIME MINISTER HASINA SENTENCED TO DEATH**

On November 17, 2025, Bangladesh's ex-prime minister Sheikh Hasina has been sentenced to death by the country's International Crimes Tribunal for authorizing lethal forces during 2024 student protests that killed about 1,400 people. Tried in absentia while in exile in India, she called the case politically motivated. The verdict, welcomed by victim's families but criticized for using the death penalty, deepens Bangladesh's political divide as an interim government leads the country toward 2026 elections.

4. **UN WARNS STATES TO INTERVENE AMID ISRAELI VIOLATIONS OF GAZA CEASEFIRE**

On November 24, 2025 UN experts warned that Israel's repeated ceasefire violations in Gaza, including airstrikes killing hundreds, threaten the fragile truce and restrict humanitarian aid. They urged immediate protection of civilians, full UN-managed aid access, accountability for crimes since October 2023, and international action, including sanctions, an arms embargo, and independent investigations. Violence in the West Bank and continued military control over Gaza further risk entrenching occupation and obstructing lasting peace.