

## **Nepali HIV-infected Women Claim For Free Treatment**

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KATHMANDU, Oct. 2 (Xinhua) -- Nepali HIV-infected women have complained that the present policies and programs of the government have failed to address their problems and claimed for free treatment, state-run newspaper The Rising Nepal reported on Thursday.

At a press conference in the Nepali capital of Kathmandu on Wednesday, organized by Shakti Milan Samaj, a social organization working for HIV infected women, they said though they had heard that a great amount was received in aid for the HIV/ AIDS sector from donors, their problems could not be addressed in the government's policies and programs, according to the report.

Similarly, expressing regret that the perception of the society towards them has not changed yet, they demanded the government to guarantee for free treatment, care, resettlement, social security and jobs, and announce a special program for them to eke out livings.

"The government should make arrangements for free education to our children and announce legal action against all violence against us regarding it as a crime against the state," they further demanded.

Around 55 HIV infected women were provided with a skill development training whereas 65 children were provided with support in education so far by the Samaj organization, informed its Chairperson Goma Rai.

Likewise, stating that the women had to suffer from HIV infection due to the cultural, economic and domestic violence against them, Program Coordinator of the Samaj, Mamata KC shared her bitter experiences from the society and urged all to save her life as how to live is the foremost problem.

Editor: Jiang Yuxia