



26th session of the
Human Rights Council
Item3

Interactive Dialogue
UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation and Karapatan welcome the report presented by the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, especially the situation of women in detention in India and Bangladesh.

Filipino women detainees also suffer the same kind of state-perpetrated violence, as seen in the case of Andrea Rosal, who was seven months pregnant when arrested this March 2014, by state security forces. Falsely charged of trumped up cases, the State produced mercenary witnesses who concocted baseless stories to justify her arrest – a practice most often perpetuated by the State under its counter-insurgency program Oplan Bayanihan against women human rights defenders such as Rosal.

In detention, the government did not provide Rosal with proper maternal and pre-natal care, was placed in a 5x10 meter cell with 31 other women detainees, and was subjected to inhumane treatment. This contributed to the death of her newborn daughter, 2 days after she gave birth this May.

The violations on Rosal and other women political prisoners and detainees in the Philippines, which are no different from the situation of women detainees in India and Bangladesh, constitute several violations of international human rights instruments including the UN Standard Minimum Treatment of Prisoners and the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners. It also shows the government's disregard of the Magna Carta for Women in the Philippines.

We appeal to the UN Human Rights Council to urge the Philippine government, as well as India and Bangladesh, as signatories to various human rights instruments, to respect women's human rights and to deliver justice for Rosal and all women detainees violated. We also urge the Council to call on the Philippine government to release Rosal and stop the violations against women human rights defenders. Thank you for your attention.