

Situations like the coronavirus pandemic quickly lead to misinformation, rumors and fake news, as we saw after the earthquakes in Nepal. We can all play a role in beating the virus by making sure that we are sharing validated information and using trusted sources to inform our decision-making.

The **Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC)** gathers rumours, concerns and questions from communities across Nepal to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, NGOs and citizens. By providing the public with facts, the CCC ensures a better understanding of needs regarding the coronavirus and debunks rumours before they can do more harm.



15 SUGGESTIONS

READ MORE HERE 

Ways to pass the time



Rumors - Facts



A lot of people are taking advantage of the crisis and are overpricing necessities such as gas, masks and food items. Is it possible to lodge a complaint against them? If yes, is it safe to lodge a complaint?

It is illegal to create a shortage of necessities and overcharge for these items, or price gouge. If you see this happening, you can alert the government by calling 1137. The person will be charged with 5 years in jail or with a fine up to Rs. 300,000.



The government is locking us down for a week. What do we do if we run out of food, medicine etc?

The Government of Nepal decided to lock down the whole country for a week starting from Tuesday, 24th March at 6 am. All movements outside the home will be prohibited. Citizens may only allow to go out to purchase very essential items, such as food, and to seek medical attention.

[Click to follow government rules during lockdown.](#)



The hospitals are not conducting check-ups for patients suffering from the common cold and fever with fear of getting infected from coronavirus.

The government has directed all hospitals to collect throat swabs of patients who may be infected with the coronavirus. They are kept in isolation wards and samples are sent to the National Public Health Laboratory. The government has also formed an investigative committee to ensure citizens are not deprived of their basic health rights and services.



I have a friend here on a tourist visa. Will they be fined or jailed for overstaying their visa now that the airport is closed?

On March 21 the Immigration Department of Nepal announced that they would suspend all visa services between March 22 and April 3. Travelers will NOT be considered out of status as long as 1) their visa was valid at least through March 21, and 2) they make contact with Immigration no later than seven days following resumption of services. Additionally, holders of visas expired before March 21 and not extended will be subject to late fees and penalties.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[World Health Organization](#) [Ministry of Health and Population](#)

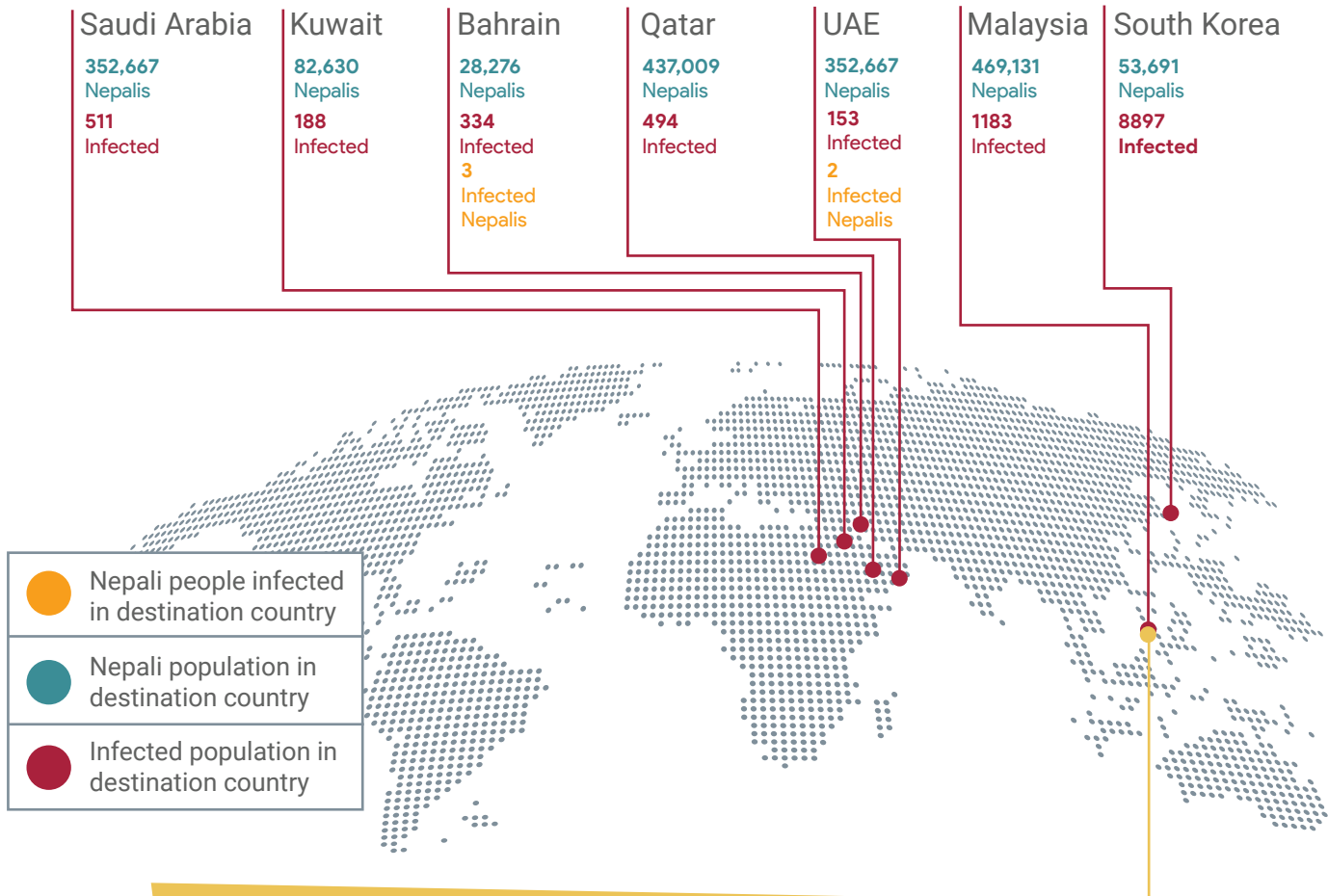
[List of the emergency contacts](#) [Do's and don'ts](#) [COVID-19 Situation](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update, Ministry of Health and Population, Government of Nepal](#)

[Nepal Labour Force Survey Report](#)



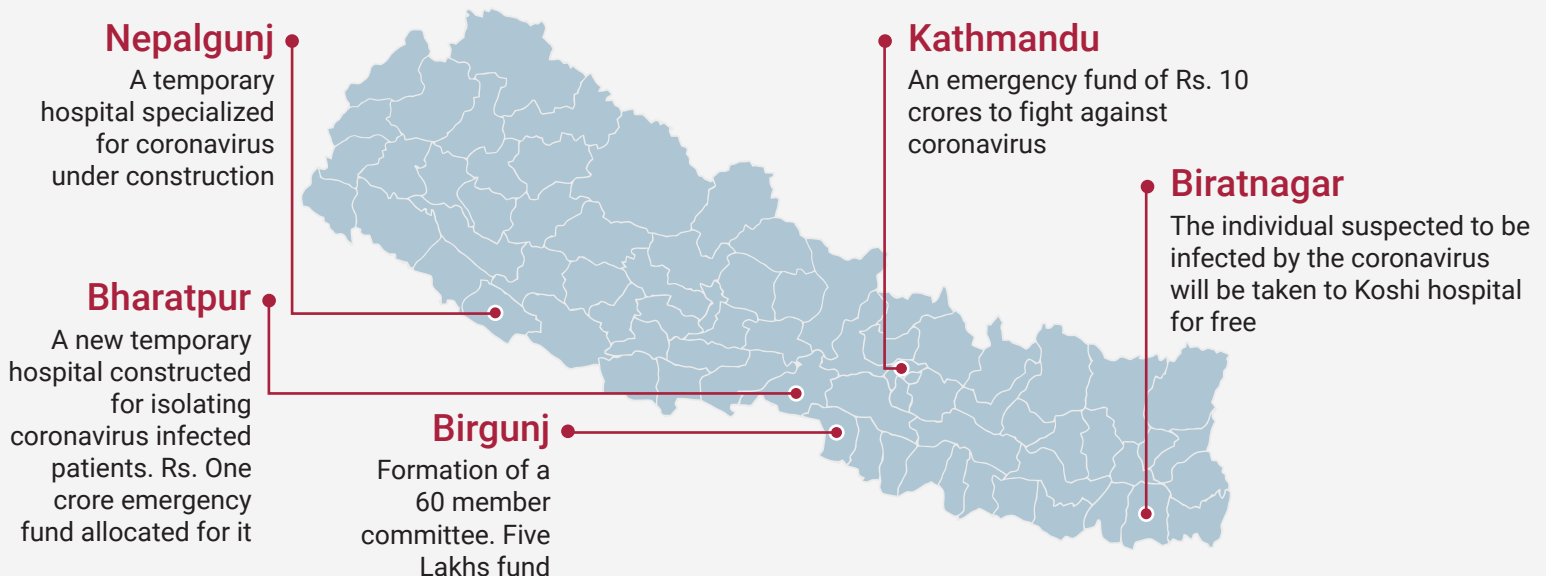
Migrant workers in major destination countries



Malaysia: Migrants still forced to work

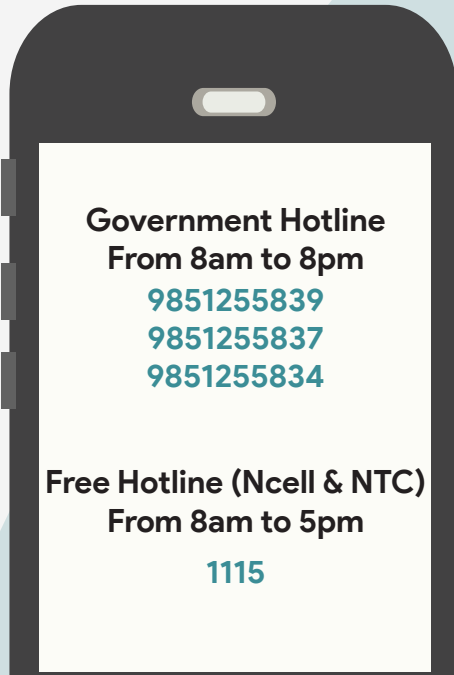
Nepali migrants in Malaysia are being **forced to work** even during the lockdown. Around 45 Nepalis working for PPH Printing were notified to report to work. Those workers could be caught by the security forces as public movements are restricted on streets.

5 Cities 5 Tackling Plans



What if I contract **coronavirus**?

COVID-19 HOTLINE



Where can I get a coronavirus test?

The National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL), Teku, Kathmandu is conducting tests. As the person suspected to have the virus needs to be isolated, the sample is collected by hospitals and sent to the NPHL.

Is the sick person allowed to go to the lab to get tested? How much does it cost?

The sick person is not allowed to go to the lab directly. The local hospitals will refer to the NPHL to test if suspected. There is no cost for the test.

How long does it take to see the results of the test?

The test report is provided between 24-48 hours after the sample is submitted to the lab. If the report is positive, the concerned hospital or the doctor is informed.

The sources of rumors, information and issues presented here are collected from a variety of organizations and individuals including the Ministry of Health and Population, the World Health Organization (WHO), social media and the CivActs team based on their conversations with 1,276 people in early March 2020. The issues highlighted are chosen based on prevalence, relevance and potential impact. The information presented here is correct at the time of issue.

Coronavirus CivActs Campaign is brought to you by
Accountability Lab Nepal.

