

# Nepal Coronavirus CivActs Campaign

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.





### Funding sources of Coronavirus Infection Prevention, Control, and Treatment Fund





Funds from government and non-government agencies



Funds from provincial and local government



Funds from national organizations and individuals



Funds from foreign governments, organizations, and individuals



Interest rates from the bank where the fund is deposited

After the Coronavirus is under control, the government will recommend fund dispersal and the property and responsibility of the fund will be transferred to the Prime Minister Disaster Relief Fund.



# **Rumors & Facts**



Although the government has claimed to make the system easy for the farmers, the situation remains the same. Whom should they contact in case they need support?

The government has established a Rapid Response Team to provide urgent facilitation and support to solve the problems of the farmers. The contacts are:

Dr. Hari Bahadur KC, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (9851225755)

Dr. Banshi Sharma, Department of Livestock Services (9851067387)

Purna Bahadur Budha, Veterinarian, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (9849454006)



When the results of COVID-19 tests in other parts of Nepal are positive, it is further sent to Kathmandu for a re-test. Are the patients kept in quarantine until the results of the re-tests from Kathmandu arrive?

The cross-verification of the tests from different parts of the country is conducted in the National Public Health Laboratory, B.P Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, and Bheri Hospital. The patients should be kept in isolation, and their management should be the same as the COVID-19 positive patients.



Although the government has declared that they will give a pass for people to go to the hospital when sick, it is not helpful for people like us, who do not have vehicles.

The kidney patients who regularly have to conduct dialysis, the cancer patients who have to undergo chemotherapy, and the patients with long term illness can dial in 1180 for a free of cost ambulance for the two-way trip from their home to the hospital arranged by the Kathmandu Metropolitan City. If there is any problem related to the service, you can contact Traffic Police Uparikshyak Jiwan Shrestha in 9851016313 and Rajkumar Bamidbar in 9851122135.



There are various discriminatory practices such as untouchability being practiced during relief-distribution. Is there no one who looks after these issues?

Samata Foundation has started a free-legal aid intervention to ensure that the discriminatory practices are not repeated during the relief distribution. You can contact Advocate Prakash Nepali in 9841352381, if you see any such practices happening in your household, neighborhood, or community.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

World Health Organization Ministry of Health and Population

Do's and dont's Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center

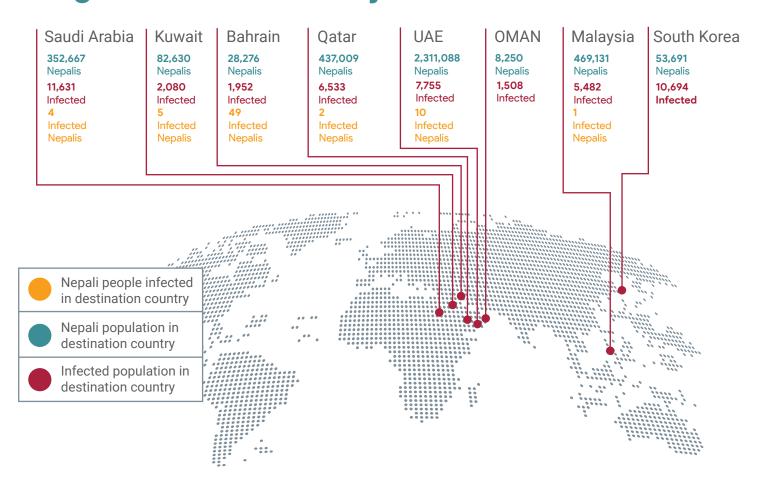
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update, Ministry of Health and Population, Government of Nepal

Nepal Labour Force Survey Report COVID-19 Situation





# Migrant workers in major destination countries



# **Shramik**Sanjal

# Important notice for the welfare of migrant workers from the Embassy of Nepal in Saudi Arabia

The government of Saudi Arabia has started using different star certified hotels for quarantine purposes. After the Nepali citizens working in these hotels complained to the embassy and shared that they cannot work there anymore, the embassy had a discussion with the hotel management. Hotels have shared that they are taking all the precautionary measures for safety as per the guideline from the government and there is no problem as such. The embassy has directed all the workers from Nepal to consult their problems with the hotel management and take all the precautionary measures for their safety.

If the company tries to transfer you to another accommodation, please do not accept it. If you have

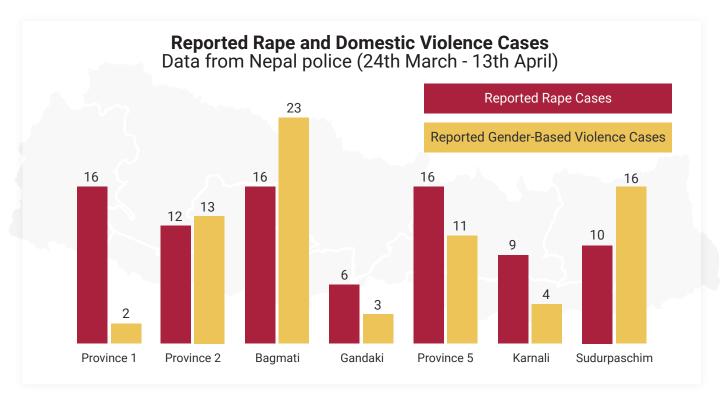
a strong reason or basis to shift do not only go with the driver but also with the company representative. If you need any support please inform the police by calling 999.

Please do not forget to send your name, name of the district, Aakama Number, name of the company you are working in, and name of the manager (or someone who knows about your problem) when you are sending your problems to the embassy through telephone, Whatsapp, and email.





# Better security needed for women during the current pandemic



According to Nepal Police, criminal activities have reduced by unto 90% after the lockdown began on March 24th, 2020. However, data of the first three weeks of lockdown shows that rape and domestic violence are still prevalent across the country. Women and girls are unsafe in their own communities and family. We need a responsive local government and an easy reporting mechanism to fight rape and domestic violence.

# \$ Follow the Money

Total

Spent

# **Federal Government:**

The budget allocated from Nepal Government and Ministry of Finance in three rounds

# **Around 1.48B NRS**

The total fund in Coronavirus Infection Prevention, Treatment and Control Fund

**Around 2.1B NRS** 

The total expenditure of Nepal government's activities against Coronavirus

**Around 1.5B NRS** 

# **Province 1**

The total amount in Corona Infection Prevention, Treatment and Control Fund

**Around 285M NRS** 

Total spending till now

**Around 120M NRS** 







# A glimpse of Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Nepal

#### **BEFORE COVID-19**

Government's projection of Economic Growth

8.5%

#### **AFTER COVID-19**

World Bank's projection of Economic Growth

1.5% - 2.8%

31.2% population

at the risk of falling under extreme poverty

# The most affected sectors

#### **Business**



- High Risk to Small and Medium Businesses
- Decrease in productivity due to disruption in the import of raw materials
- Rise in Inflation rate

### **Agriculture**



- Delay in harvesting
- Challenge in the transportation of agricultural products to the market
- Problems in Seasonal agriculture

## Foreign Employment



- Lakhs of migrant workers losing their jobs
- GDP of Nepal will be largely affected

### **Tourism Industry**



- The downfall of Visit Nepal 2020
   Closure of tourism-based
- Enterprises
- Aviation, travel and trekking
   agencies, cargo, hotels, restaurants will go under long term unemployment until global travel and movement restrictions

#### International Trade

are eased.



- Reduction of both import and export
- Global supply chain breakdown due to the closure of factories and the ban on transport
- The downturn in exports and tourism will reduce foreign exchange earnings

# Pro

#### **Production**

Pause in the production sector



#### **Most Affected**

Informal Sector Workers [Daily wage workers in Nepal and India]



#### **Future Risks**

- Financial Instability
- Loan defaults
- The liquidity crisis in baking system



# What if I contract coronavirus?

# COVID-19 HOTLINE



### Where can I get a coronavirus test?

The PCR tests for Coronavirus are conducted in 14 Labs across 7 provinces including the National Public Health Laboratory whereas R.D.T tests are conducted in all 7 districts across Nepal.

# 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 PCR tests reports are given in between 6 to 48 hours, whereas the reports for RDT tests are given in 15 minutes.

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 over 2000 people in April 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.

