

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.



## How to manage workers in the projects permitted by the government?



- Mandatory health check-up on a daily basis



- Arrangement of accommodation in one place



- Ensure secure movements following the health standards for safe transportation. The concerned body should make arrangements of passes for it.



- Arrangement of the lunch in the workplace itself



- In case of lack of space, safe accommodation should be arranged in coordination with the local body. The public buildings of the concerned wards could be used avoiding contact with locals.

# Rumors & Facts



Government has permitted the cargo vehicles to run. But, we have heard that people are entering Kathmandu from outside in the same vehicles.

The government has decided to not allow the passengers enter Kathmandu valley in the cargo vehicles. Arrangements have been made to keep the details of the driver and co-driver at the entry point including their names, date of birth, date of entry in Kathmandu, and date of return. In addition to that, they check if individuals with the same details are returning in the same vehicle. If someone is found traveling providing incorrect information the administration will take control of the vehicle and take actions.

Source: <https://mocit.gov.np>



We have heard that the government has taken a decision to allow the hotel businesses to open.

The hotels on the highways and sub-highways with a minimum distance of 50 kilometers are permitted to open for drivers who have to carry transport goods and for people to travel for essential service. The local government will specify the places to operate the hotels and restaurants to sell packed foods only as per the criteria approved by the Ministry of Health and Population. In addition, the vehicles running in the highways will only be able to stop in designated areas during designated times.

Source: <https://mocit.gov.np>



The government has loosened the lockdown despite the increasing risk.

Considering the risk, the Nepal government has decided that the local administration can immediately seal any area or district for a certain time if found with a high risk of infection or if the infection is spreading at the community level.

Source: <https://mocit.gov.np>



We have heard that farmers can now sell their products online. What is the process?

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development has recently launched a digital agriculture market to make it easier for the farmers to contact commercial buyers for the sale of agricultural products including vegetables. For this, the farmer has to go [moald.gov.np/demand-analysis](https://moald.gov.np/demand-analysis) and fill the following details: farmer/supplier name, phone number, name of local level, address, name of the vegetable/food and type of crop/food, available quantity, and the proposed unit price

## 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

Saudi Arabia	Kuwait	Bahrain	Qatar	UAE	OMAN	Malaysia	South Korea
352,667 Nepalis	82,630 Nepalis	28,276 Nepalis	437,009 Nepalis	231,088 Nepalis	8,250 Nepalis	469,131 Nepalis	53,691 Nepalis
33,731 Infected	6,567 Infected	4,131 Infected	18,890 Infected	16,240 Infected	2,958 Infected	6,467 Infected	10,822 Infected
42 Infected Nepalis	84 Infected Nepalis	49 Infected Nepalis	2 Infected Nepalis	71 Infected Nepalis		1 Infected Nepalis	

-  Nepali people infected in destination country
-  Nepali population in destination country
-  Infected population in destination country



Source: <https://who.sprinklr.com/>

## ShramikSanjal

### The steps taken by different countries in the interest of workers

**Malaysia:** The foreign nationals whose visas have expired since January 1, 2020 are allowed to return to their home country with air tickets within 14 days of the expiration of **Movement Control Order (MCO)**. While returning no documents should be prepared for immigration and no penalty has to be paid.

#### What is Nepal doing for its workers abroad?

The process of getting the forms filled continues to understand the situation of workers in different countries. For Qatar and Malaysia, the Nepal Embassy has posted the form on its Facebook page. The forms for UAE, Bahrain, Oman, and Kuwait are found on the website of the Embassy.

#### What are the workers doing?

Over 550 workers in 9 countries from 50 districts have participated in the campaign "Let us go home" #gharjanapau started by the migrant workers. They are posting articles, photos, and videos revealing their problems on why they want to go home.

#### What are other countries doing with their workers?

Pakistan has taken back around 2000 stranded Pakistani workers from the UAE. On May 7, India took back Indian workers stranded in the UAE. Similarly, they are also taking back the workers stranded in Qatar and those who are receiving amnesty from Kuwait.

# \$ Follow the Money



Total

Spent

## Federal Government

The total expenditure of Nepal government's activities against Coronavirus

**Around 1.5B NRS**

The Ministry of Defence for the purchase of health equipment to prevent and control COVID-19 released

**Around 2.34B NRS**

## Donors

ADB

**60M USD**

World Bank

**28.7M USD**

IMF

**130.9M USD**

European Union

**82M USD**

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 2.20B NRS**

Province	Total Amount	Spent Amount	Remaining Amount
Province 1	Around <b>289M NRS</b>	Around <b>159M NRS</b>	Around <b>138M NRS</b>
Province 2	<b>610M NRS</b>	<b>177M NRS</b>	<b>433M NRS</b>
Bagmati	<b>400M NRS</b>	<b>123M NRS</b>	<b>177M NRS</b>
Gandaki	Around <b>150M NRS</b>	<b>92M NRS</b>	<b>58M NRS</b>
Province 5	<b>236M NRS</b>	<b>126M NRS</b>	<b>100M NRS</b>
Karnali	<b>500M NRS</b>	<b>132M NRS</b>	<b>368M NRS</b>
Sudurpaschim	Around <b>402M NRS</b>	<b>202M NRS</b>	<b>200M NRS</b>

Note: This information is not complete. It has been brought together from different sources available. We will keep collecting the data and revise it in the days ahead.

# Media personnel should pay attention to these five things during the lockdown

It is the responsibility of the media to connect the citizen-government-stakeholder in the time of crisis. Media plays a crucial role in spreading awareness, disseminating information and encouraging the citizens to fight against crisis. However, sometimes when the journalists forget their code of conduct, it leads to a larger crisis. The five important things that journalists shouldn't carry out during this time are:



1. Don't go around places that aren't important for reporting and don't roam around for the entire day. Anyone can easily get infected by the virus.

2. Don't go out for reporting assuming that your working area is not affected by the spread of Coronavirus.



3. Do not publish or broadcast unconfirmed news, even if the information seems sensational or ground-breaking. False information can create unnecessary panic and discomfort.

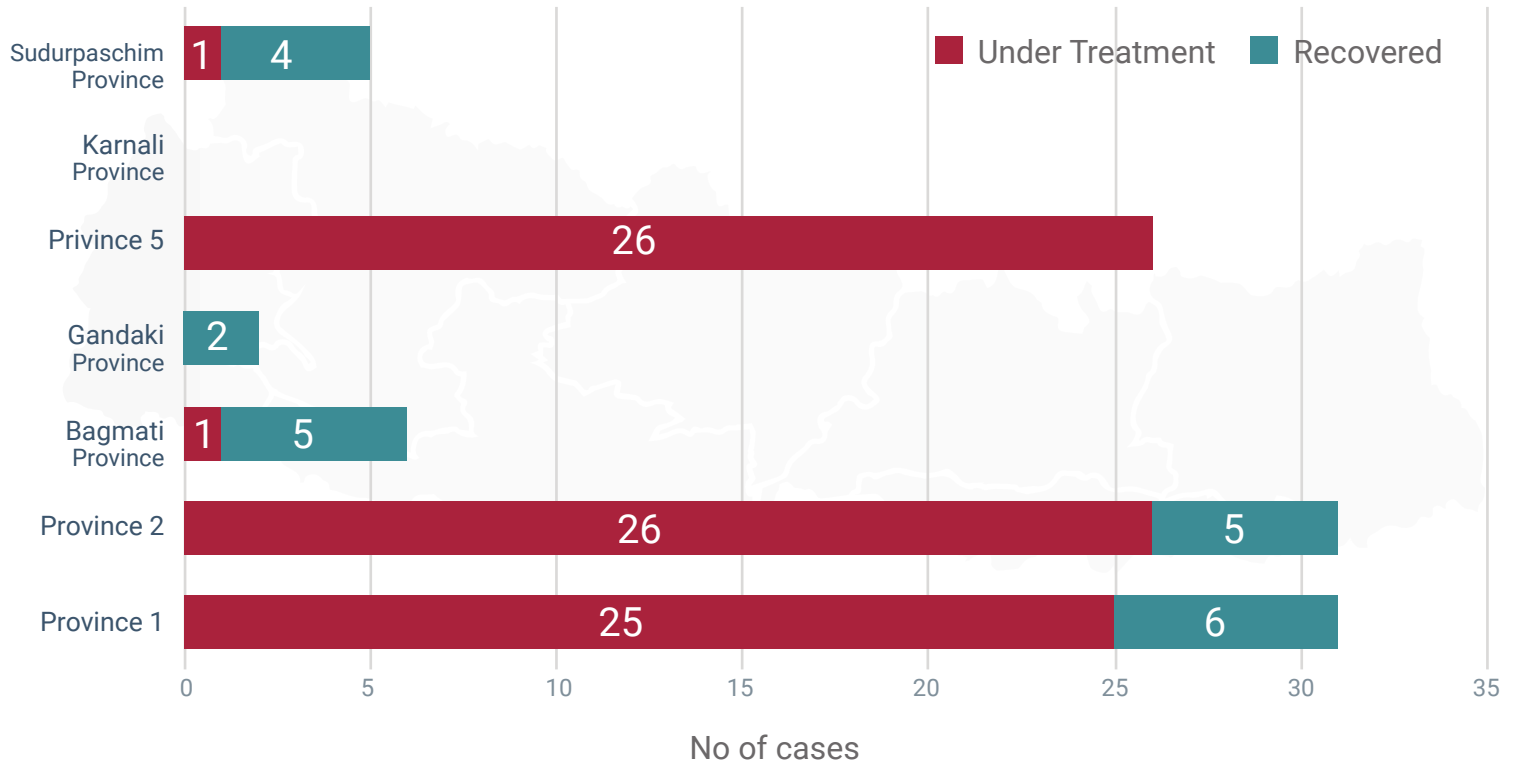
4. Don't present news distorting the perception of an individual in order to get viral on social media.



5. Don't misuse the press pass given by the government.

**Krishna Adhikari**  
Journalist, Nepalgunj

COVID-19 Cases



The above graph demonstrates the total number of COVID-19 cases in different provinces of Nepal. It shows that provinces with a wider border with India have a high number of cases. Since we have open borders with India, and as cases in India increase at a record-setting speed, we need strong measures to limit the mobility across the borders. Otherwise, cases in Nepal will keep rising in boarding districts.

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.**

