

### Nepal Coronavirus CivActs Campaign

Issue #34
11.06.2020

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.

## Is the human resource mobilized in corona prevention control and treatment enough?

67591 mobilized health workers



If we see the statistics, we can assume that 1 in every 47 individuals staying in quarantine have been infected with coronavirus. Considering this ratio, if the number of people staying in isolation will reach 10 thousand, the number in quarantine will reach 4,68,751. Thus, it can be observed here that each health worker has to take care of 7 people. So, will the available human resources be enough if the transmission increases in the current rate?

Source: http://dftqc.gov.np/ne/noticedetail/31/2020/85448947

#### **Current Situation**

3,675 1,72,266 people in isolation quarantine

total people 1,75,941

#### **Assumed Situation**

10,000 estimated people in isolation

4,68,751

people will be in quarantine

total people 4,78,751

### **Nepal Update**



People who came from India are being taken to the village by putting them in a tipper from the entrance of Birendranagar, the capital of Karnali province.

Photo: Dinesh Gautam



### **Rumors & Facts**



Currently, the food products distributed locally are of poor quality. Where should we report?

In the present context, if there is any complaint regarding the quality of food in sale or relief distribution, the general consumer can inform the complaint to the Department of Food and Technology or its subordinate offices. Please open the link below for detailed contact details.

Source: http://dftqc.gov.np/ne/noticedetail/31/2020/85448947



While the social distancing is being practiced everywhere else, what is the situation of prison? Is there any monitoring mechanism or

Is the social distance of 3 feet as per the criteria set by the World Health Organization being maintained or not? Is the criteria of Nepal Government about not allowing to gather more than 25 people being followed or not? Are the new prisoners kept separately or not? The Attorney General's office has determined a checklist for monitoring.

Source: https://ag.gov.np/oag-post/1785



Does the CIAA look into the government budget spent in corona?

Whether or not the complaint is received, there is a legal provision for the Commission for the Investigation for Abuse of Authority to investigate the government expenditure in the name of corona prevention and control. The CIA can investigate on the basis of the information or news covered in the media. As per the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse and Authority Act and Prevention of Corruption Act, the CIA can investigate and file a case in special court.

> Source: Advocate Mahendra Pandev, President. Transparency Stakeholders Group, Rupandehi, Contact: 9857032601



Why is the result of the PCR test of COVID-19 being delayed in Karnali Province?

The high number of swab collection in local level but the inadequate testing capacity in province level has caused the delay in the results of PCR test. In order to streamline the process, the provincial government has issued a circular to its subordinate agencies to determine the priority level of swab collection.

Source: Karnali Province, Ministry of Social Development

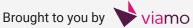
To receive our regular updates through WhatsApp

- 1. Add +27 60 080 6146 to your contact list.
- 2. Send a message saying Nepal to the contact.





Toll-free **HOTLINE** on C∰VID-19

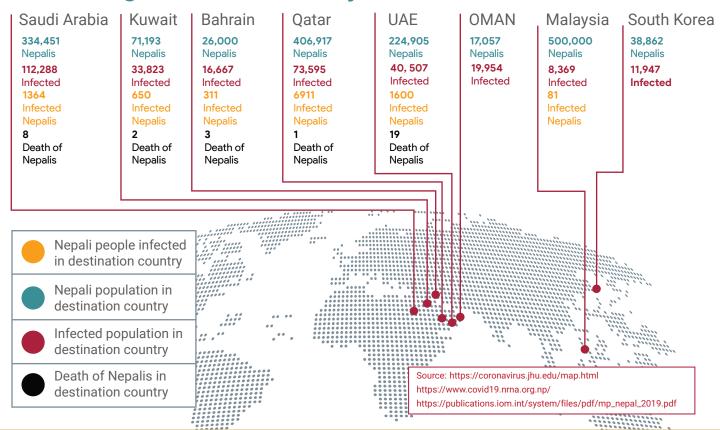


**DIAL 32100** from your NTC simcard for accessing all COVID-19 information for FREE



## **Open Migration**

### Migrant workers in major destination countries



**Shramik**Sanjal

# Information regarding the confusion on amnesty being given by UAE and revoked visa

Those individuals whose resident visa, tourist visa and visit visa expired from March 1, their visas will be automatically extended until 31 May. Click in the link to know about your visa.

https://smartservices.ica.gov.ae/echannels/web/client/default.html#/fileValidity

Similarly, those individuals whose visas expired before March 1 will also be allowed to return to their home country without paying the penalty. The ones who ran from the companies will also receive this benefit. This provision will be effective until 18 August 2020. The following procedures have to be followed for this:





Resident Visa - Go to the airport directly with air ticket and passport or travel document

Tourist Visa or Visit Visa - Can reach the airport 6 hours earlier in Sharjah, Abu dhabi and Ras Al whereas should reach the airport 48 hours earlier in Dubai for clearance.

The ones using Dubai Airport should reach the Al Qusais (Al Qusais Police Station) Terminal 2 before 48 hours and get the clearance.

If the visa has expired after March 1, it's evident the visa won't extend until December. So, those individuals can use amnesty and need to return to the home country before 18 August 2020.

# \$ Follow the Money

Total

#### **Federal Government**

Spent

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 2.26B NRS

250M USD
World Bank
28.7M USD
IMF
130.9M USD
European Union
82M USD

The total expenditure of Nepal government's activities against Coronavirus

**Around 1.8B NRS** 

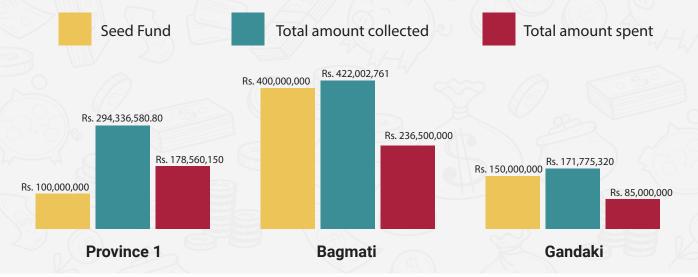
The Ministry of Defence for the purchase of health equipment to prevent and control COVID-19 released

**Around 2.34B NRS** 

#### **Provincial Government**

Province Names	Province 1	Province 2	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Province 5	Karnali Province	Sudurpaschim Province
Total Amount	Around 293M NRS	Around 610M NRS	Around 400M NRS	Around 150M NRS	Around 236M NRS	Around 500M NRS	Around <b>402M NRS</b>
Spent Amount	Around 178M NRS	Around 177M NRS	Around 123M NRS	Around 92M NRS	Around 136M NRS	Around 132M NRS	Around 201M NRS

### Total funds gathered and spent in Province 1, Bagmati and Gandaki



The above data shows that even the Province 1 has one of the highest number of active COVID-19 cases, the funds they have allocated internally (seed fund) is very low compared to Bagmati and Gandaki, both of which have very low active cases. This shows that the provincial government there is in dire need of support from the federal government and external organisations. The amount spent by these provinces seem to be on track with their necessities but the details were still unavailable.

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.



# Management of Nepali migrants returning from India during the lockdown

Democracy Resource Centre Nepal (DRCN) has published an update on the measures taken by three levels of government to prevent and control transmission of COVID-19 by interviewing various stakeholders via phone, analyzing official documents and media monitoring. The update discusses the various challenges faced and efforts made to manage the volume of migrants returning from India, focussing in the following headings.

- 01 Thousands of Nepali migrants returning everyday
  - 02 Management of migrants who have entered Nepal
- Quarantine operation and management after the influx
  - 04 Safety of migrants in quarantine facilities
- 05 Testing facilities and material supply
  - 06 Cooperation among three levels of government

The federal and provincial governments must without delay take upon the responsibility of quarantine management. If the entire responsibility of managing citizens staying in quarantine facilities after returning from India is left to local units alone and if testing continues to happen at the present sluggish rate, the infection may spread at an uncontrollable rate.

Please read the full report (English and Nepali) at: https://www.democracyresource.org

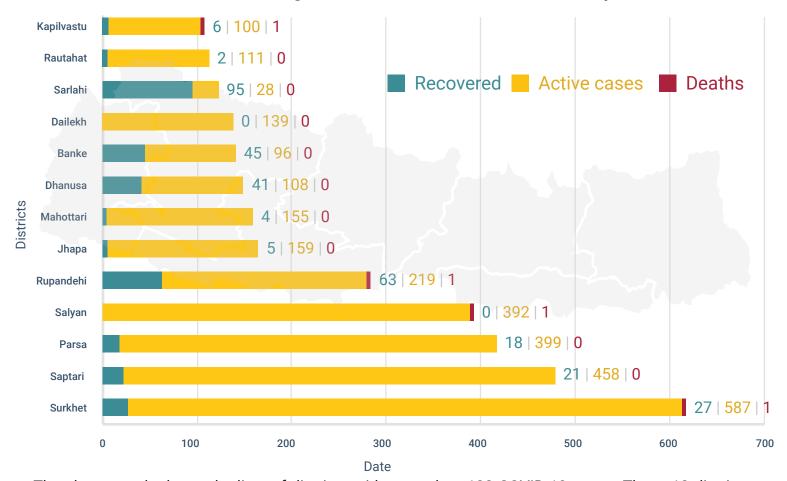






## Nepal shows very low risk in other areas of th country compared to selected districts

#### Districts having over 100 cases of Covid-19 in Nepal



The above graph shows the lists of districts with more than 100 COVID-19 cases. These 13 districts constitute 76.4 percentage of the total active cases in Nepal. What this means is that the majority of Nepal has very low risk of infection compared to these areas. As the government is now heading towards loosening the lockdown modality, with proper measures, regular activities can be safely resumed to relieve the country's economy.

DISCLAIMER

The sources of rumors, information, and issues presented here are collected from a variety of organizations, government agencies, international organizations, news articles, social media, and Community Frontliners in all 7 provinces of Nepal, as well as the CivActs team based on their conversations with over 2000 people in May 2020. The issues highlighted are chosen based on prevalence, relevance, and its potential impact on society. The information presented here is correct at the time of the issue.

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







