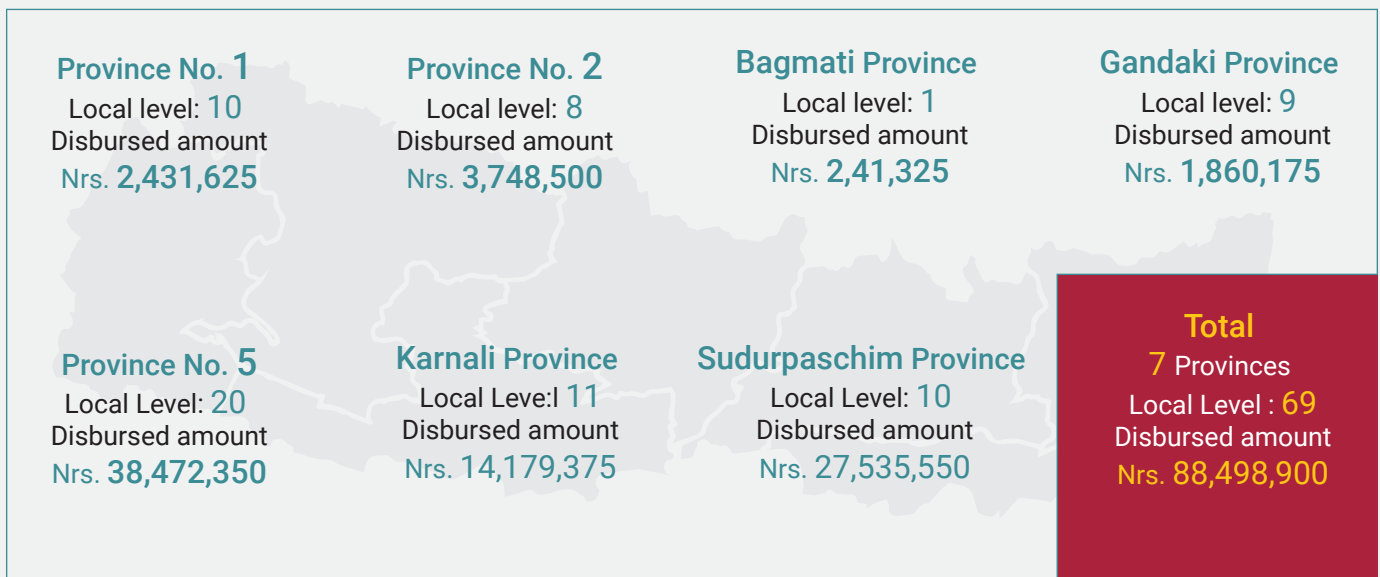


The **Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC)** gathers rumours, concerns and questions from communities across Nepal to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, NGOs and citizens. By providing the public with facts, the CCC ensures a better understanding of needs regarding the coronavirus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

Additional funds released to local units for establishment, management and maintenance of the quarantine



As this distribution system is defined based on COVID Management System (CMIS), it seems scientific. The full detail on the budget disbursed to each local unit can be viewed in the link below.

Source: <https://www.opmcm.gov.np/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Corona-Fund-8th-meeting-2077-3-23.pdf>

Nepal Update



7 youths returning home from the isolation of Jaleshwar Hospital upon their recovery.

Photo: Rakesh Prasad Chaudhary

Tested

PCR Tested: 2,89,371

Positive: 16,945

Active: 6,613

Deaths: 38



Source: <https://covid19.mohp.gov.np/#/>

Rumors & Facts



It is heard that now we can test coronavirus by paying the cost. In which places is this facility available?

The government has given permission for testing of samples which doesn't fall in the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Population with a cost of five thousand five hundred. The permission to conduct such testing has been provided to Koshi Hospital, Biratnagar in Province 1, Narayani Hospital, Parsa in Province 2, Bir Hospital, Tribhuvan Teaching Hospital and Patan Hospital in Bagmati Province, Pokhara Academy Health Sciences, Kaski in Gandaki Province, Provincial Public Health Laboratory, Surkhet in Karnali Province, Provincial laboratory, Dhangadhi in Sudurpaschim Province.

Source: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pzWFyF0nerOX-7DCM7cbRm7wQRT10K-d>



Is it true that the fares of all public transport have increased by 50% at once due to corona?

The public transport would be allowed to keep maximum 50% passengers based on the seat capacity including the driver and would be allowed to take 50% additional fare by following the guidelines set by the guidelines. However, this rule will not apply to taxis. For now, this provision will be applicable till 6 Shrawan, Tuesday.

Source: <https://mocit.gov.np/categorydetail/cabinet-2077-03-25>



It was said that the government would provide scholarships to the children of those who have gone for foreign employment. It's been four years since my husband went for foreign employment, but my children haven't received the scholarship.

Educational scholarships would be provided to the children of the families of those laborers who have received 100% financial assistance from the Foreign Employment Board due to death or disability faced during foreign employment. The children won't get a scholarship while the parents are still in foreign employment.

Source: <http://www.fepb.gov.np/detail/84/suchana>



It is heard that the cases of sexual abuse towards women are being reported less during the corona pandemic due to fears of breach of confidentiality.

Keeping this in view, the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration has written to all 753 local units to protect women and children who are inside quarantine or outside from possible sexual abuse and exploitation and to conduct hearings in safe and confidential manner in cases where abuse has taken place. This will be in accordance with the Internim Note prepared by Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). Check the link below for details.


Source: <https://www.mofaga.gov.np/uploads/notices/Notices-20200712142348915.pdf>

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.



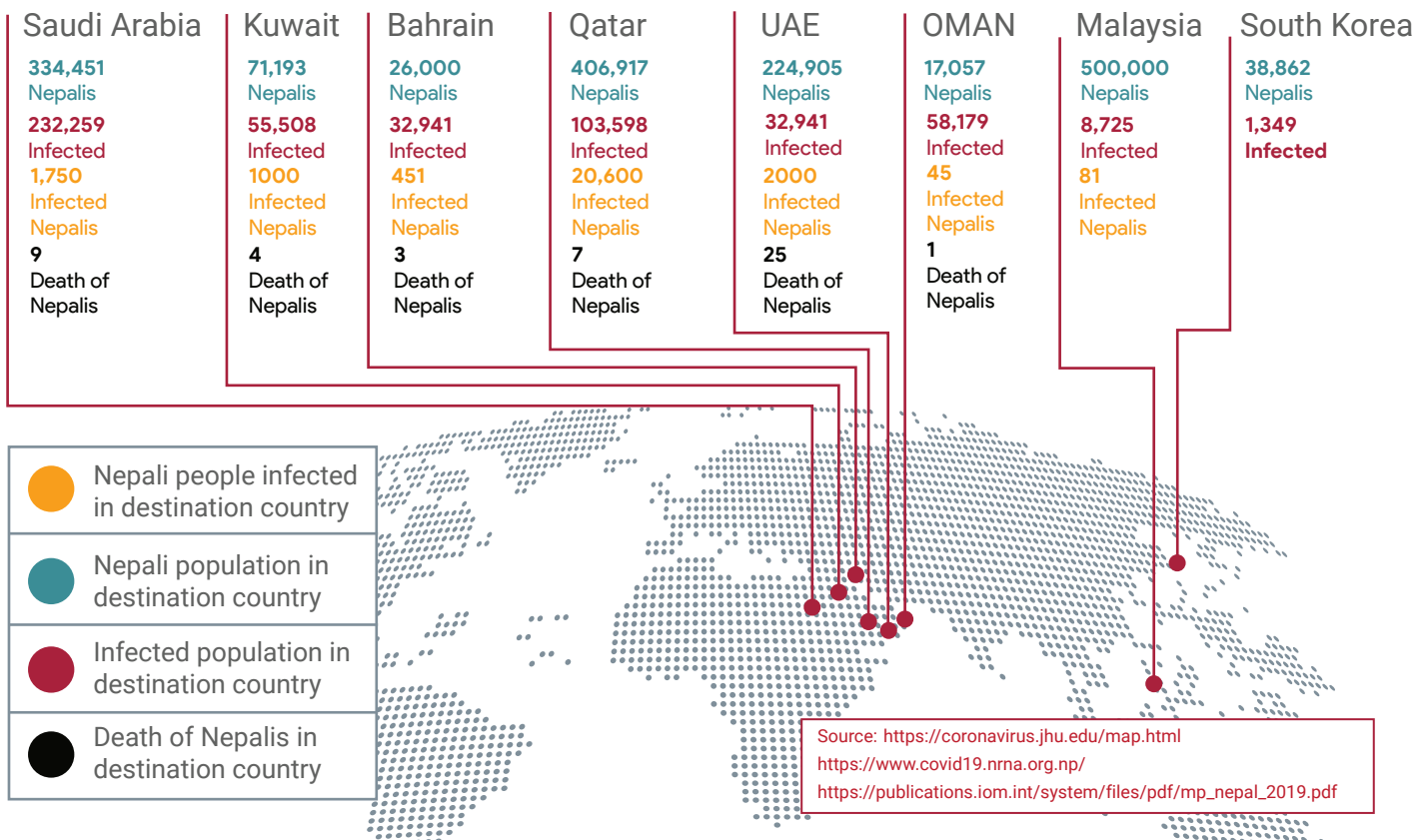
Toll-free **HOTLINE** on
COVID-19

Brought to you by  viamo

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

Open Migration

Migrant workers in major destination countries



ShramikSanjal

Fines relating to COVID-19 could be waived in UAE

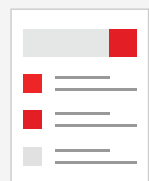
Are you in the UAE? Are you supposed to pay a fine regarding COVID-19, not because you made a mistake but due to the system? Or you didn't commit the mistake knowingly but still are supposed to pay the fine, then you can appeal for the waiver. For it, you need to submit following documents:

- Copy of Emirates ID
- Document showcasing the fine
- Other supporting documents



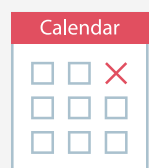
How to apply?

- Firstly, go to <https://bit=ly/3b3nSvR>
- Fill the detailed form mentioning when, where and what mistake occurred
- Upload the supporting documents



How many days will it take?

- Normally, it might take upto 10 days



What will happen? Will my fine be waived?

- If the appeal is accepted, your fine will be waived
- If your appeal is rejected, there will be no changes in your fine
- If not, the amount of the fine might be reduced to some extent depending on the status of the appeal.



\$ 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

Donors

ADB
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 294M NRS	Around 266M NRS	Around 429M NRS	Around 183M NRS	Around 156M NRS	Around 254M NRS	Around 425M NRS
Spent Amount	Around 193M NRS	Around 133M NRS	Around 136M NRS	Around 154M NRS	Around 779M NRS	Around 239M NRS	Around 364M NRS

Budget allocation to local level units in the Sudurpaschim Province



Rs. 16,200,000

54 Rural Municipalities



Rs. 16,200,000

33 Municipalities



Rs. 16,200,000

1 Sub-metropolitan City

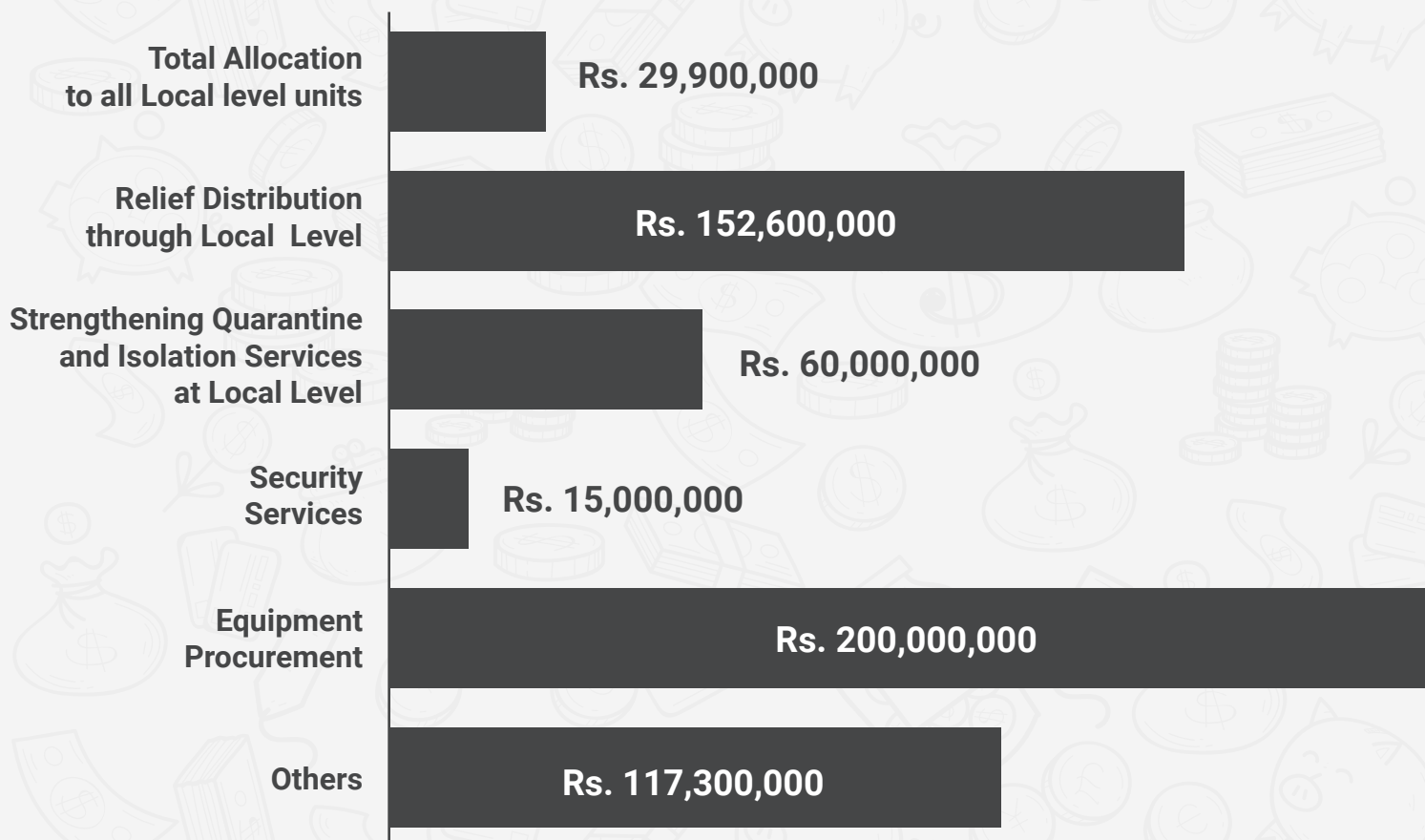


Rs. 29,900,000

Total Allocation to local level units

\$ Follow the Money

Expenses made on Corona response by the Sudurpaschim Province as of Asar 8, 2077



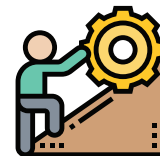
Sudurpaschim province has one of the highest cases of covid-19 infection in Nepal. Therefore, it is understandable that the highest amount spent is for equipment procurement. But, the amount spent on relief seems to be too high. Although the information on the number of Households reached through relief distribution is not disclosed, it can be estimated that around 1 lakh 22 thousand households could have received the services based on the government of Nepal's estimation that each household, on an average, should be receiving Rs. 1,250 on relief. This means that around 26% of the households in Sudurpaschim Province have already received relief from the government, which is quite high. Also, given the widespread criticism about the condition of quarantine, the province could have spent better in managing quarantine services when the number of people in quarantine is so high and since it directly affects the containment of the virus.

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.

Simta Rural Municipality is becoming an example. How can a local unit be free from the crisis of corona pandemic ?

Challenges

1. There was a lot of dilemma on how to respond due to the new type of infection.
2. There were management difficulties when 2750 individuals entered the local unit at once from India and third countries (more than 80% were from India)
3. There was a loss of more than 22% of the total income of the local unit that would come from foreign employment.
4. Physical distance between those who came from abroad and locals wasn't implemented, but societal distance was maintained.
5. The moral and human obligation to save themselves and others came at once to the local representatives.



Planned Response

1. The local unit considered the corona pandemic to be a bigger war than world war.
2. The local unit made plans to work on four principles prior to the lockdown (Record, Regulate, Recognize and Report)
3. A unique action team consisting of 470 volunteers was formed. In a decentralized manner, 72 groups were formed and mobilized at local level keeping in view the participation of the general public.
4. A mechanism was set up to report from ward to local unit, local unit to district and from district to province in every 24 hours
5. The relief program was implemented by collecting data of 778 senior citizens, 554 individuals with chronic illness and 757 individuals with disabilities.



As of now all of the 5 corona infected individuals along with 750 residing on quarantine have returned home. When we see it this way, it wouldn't be wrong to say that Simta Rural Municipality is a corona free local unit.

What should be done now?

1. Make the policies and budget targeted for corona in the coming days.
2. Fulfill the 22% of the income gap coming from abroad by expanding economic activities within the local unit
3. Link the economic, social and infrastructure development together.
4. Priority should be given to the issues related to health .
5. Emphasize on social harmony.



The given material is based on the conversation with **Mr. Kabindra Kumar KC**, Chief of Simta Rural Municipality, Surkhet.



Frontliner's Voices



Manju Malasi

Chief

Dipayal Silgadhi Municipality, Doti

"With the rise of the corona pandemic, we as people's representatives had to fight with disease, society and migrant returnees at the same time. The disease was unfamiliar, the society wouldn't allow to manage the potentially infected individuals, and those returning from abroad wouldn't agree to stay in quarantine. We normalized the situation by going house to house, meeting individuals and counseling them. Now the time has come for the battle for economic development, we are preparing for it".

ation by going house to house, meeting individuals and counseling them. Now the time has come for the battle for economic development, we are preparing for it".

Padam Bahuwal

Chief

Badimalika Municipality, Bajura

"The number of individuals coming to India from Bajura increased at once after the corona pandemic. The risk of the spread of the infection was still the same. But as someone who likes to get involved myself, there wasn't much difficulty in management. 491 individuals stayed in the 9 quarantine of the municipality. Infection was seen in 59 individuals. One girl died, but no one agreed to go for last rites. I myself went to the funeral with the District Police Chief. The quarantine and isolation have become vacant now. I believe that I can be a leader as long as I am a citizen".



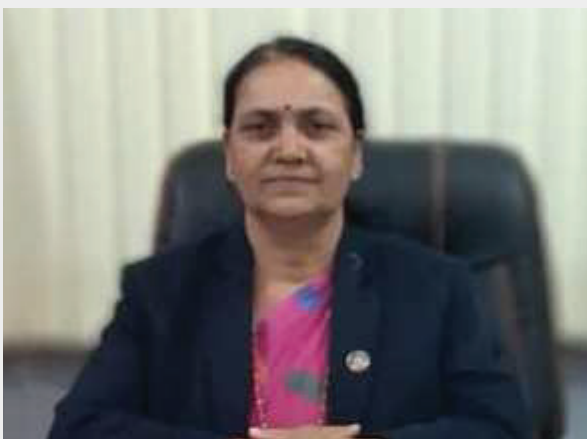
Gumadevi Acharya

Deputy-Chief

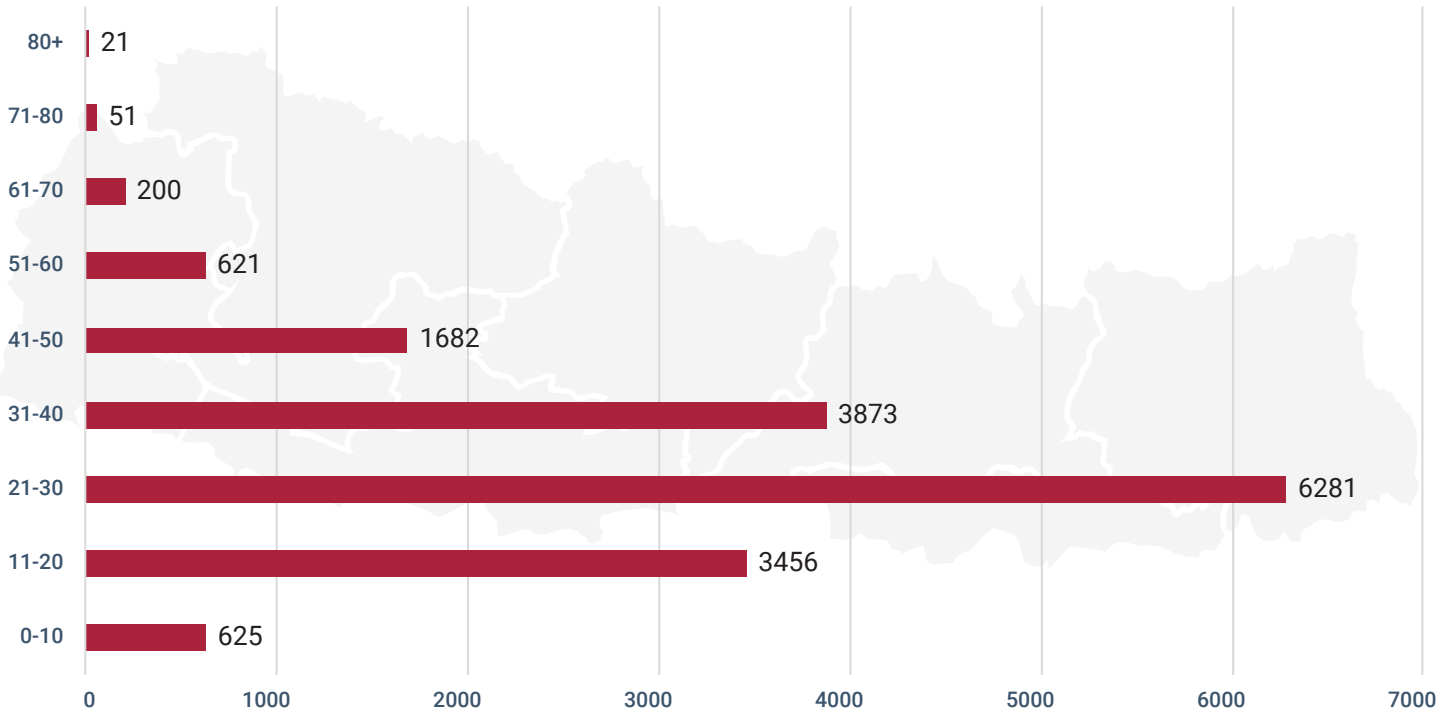
Butwal Sub-Metropolitan City, Rupandehi

"I was scared to hear that the risk of Corona has increased. I watched a few Youtube channels for self-empowerment. But because of the responsibilities, I wasn't allowed to stay at home out of fear. We started to collect the data of the workers who couldn't meet ends due to the lockdown and engaged in relief

distribution. The number of individuals in quarantine are decreasing now. Therefore, we have planned not to increase the number of quarantines, to make the existing ones more organized and to give priority to home quarantine".



Age Wise Distribution of Covid-19 Cases In Nepal



The above graph shows that a large number of Covid-19 cases fall into the age-range of 21 to 30. Most of these cases have been suspected to be migrant workers, but after the loosening of the lockdown, a lot of carefree youths could be susceptible to infection. Also, there are a significant number of cases above 60 years and below 10 years, which are potentially the result of community transmission. Therefore, it can be concluded that COVID-19 transmission is the primary reason for infection among a lot of people, and any business outside of your homes should be taken care of with very high precaution.

Source: HEOC, MoHP, SitRep

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 July 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.**

