

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.

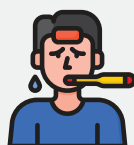
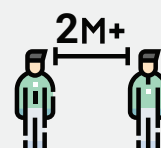
Government is preparing to conduct the examinations based on the following criteria

1. Mandatory disinfection of examination hall, office room, toilet, door handle, electric switch etc before and after the examination.



2. Make it mandatory for the staff, supervisors, concerned examinees and other entrants to check the temperature at the main gate of the examination center.

3. Arrange safety shield for the individual measuring temperature and ensure at least two meter distance is maintained.



4. Prevent the patients with fever and cold from entering the examination hall and help such individuals to visit the nearest health center.

5. Arrange soap, water, and sanitizer at the main gate of the examination center.



Source: <https://moe.gov.np/assets/uploads/files/Guideline.pdf>

Nepal Update



A crowd of people playing electricity bills without maintaining social distance or using masks at the Electricity Distribution Center in Jaleshwar, Province 2

Photo: Rakesh Prasad Chaudhary

Tested

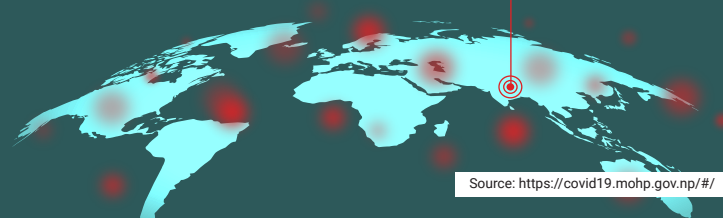
PCR Tested: 347,275

Positive: 18,752

Active: 4,950

Deaths: 48

NEPAL



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

Rumors & Facts



It is heard that the infection of corona is increasing after the government opened the lockdown.

The average number of confirmed infections in daily tests five days before the lockdown was 3.2% on average. Similarly, according to the Ministry of Health and Population, the average number of confirmed infections in daily tests five days after the government opened the lockdown was 3.3%. It is important to adhere to the health safety standards, even if the lockdown is open to prevent an increase in the rate of infection.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/mohpnep/>



What would the government focused on corona prevention do to rehabilitate those displaced by floods and landslides?

The District Disaster Management Committee has decided to provide Nrs. 1 Lakh per family to those whose food and shelter has been completely destroyed or those whose shelter hasn't been completely destroyed but they need to build a new house to prevent possible danger. However, this arrangement is only for those who do not have a home to live in another place. The Ministry of Urban Development will make arrangements for the construction of houses of the families who have been rendered homeless due to floods, landslides and erosion as per the procedure prepared for the 2072 earthquake.

Source: <https://www.moha.gov.np/>



The farmers have somehow cultivated the annual crops. But, they are not aware where, when and who will make the necessary fertilizers available for them.

The government had earlier said that it would not allow the agriculture sector to be affected even amidst the corona crisis. However, complaints are coming in this regard. The National Information Commission (NIA) has directed the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock to inform the farmers about where they can buy fertilizers, tools, pesticides required after planting paddy, maize, millet and other crops by including the names and phone numbers of the official contact person through local language and media. For this, the information can also be received by requesting for Right to Information in the concerned office.

Source: <https://nic.gov.np/mydata/165/1590555283.adesh9.pdf>



There is a rumor that the schools will reopen from 15 Shrawan. The government has also said that long distance travel is restricted before 1 Bhadra. How will the people who have gone home return?

Even though it has been said that the private schools will reopen from 15 Shrawan, the previous Council of Ministers meeting held on 5 Shrawan has said that the schools can take admissions and examinations from 1 Bhadra following the prescribed guidelines. However, it has been made clear that the regular activities of educational institutions shouldn't resume until a date is fixed by next notice.


Source: <https://mokit.gov.np/categorydetail/cabinet-2077-04-05>

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.



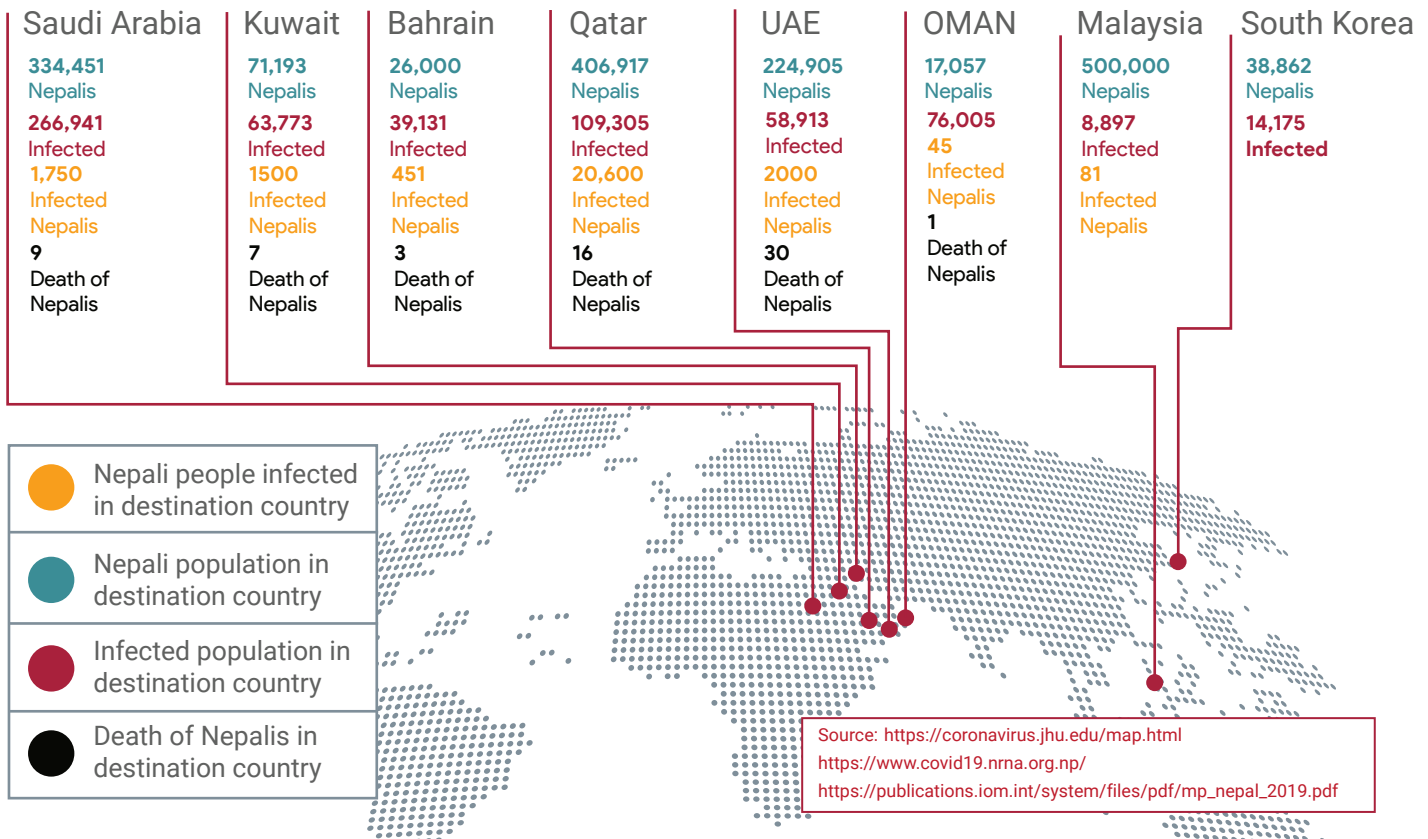
Toll-free **HOTLINE** on
COVID-19

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

One-week flight schedule for international flights made public

Although the international flights will start from 1 August 2020, the chartered flights have resumed now. The following flight schedule has been issued for one week:

Malaysia

11 flights, 3 airlines (Nepal Airlines, Himalayan Airlines, Malindo Air)
Flights will be on **August 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8**

Saudi Arabia

9 flights, 2 airlines (Nepal Airlines and Himalayan Airlines)
Flights will be from Riyadh and Dammam on **August 5, 6, 7 and 8**.

Kuwait

5 flights, 3 airlines (Nepal Airlines, Himalayan Airlines, Jazeera Airlines)
Flights will be on **July 31, August 2, 5**

UAE

17 flights, 5 airlines (Nepal Airlines, Himalayan Airlines, Fly Dubai, Air Arabia, Etihad Airways). Flights will be from Abu Dhabi and Dubai on **August 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8**

\$ 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

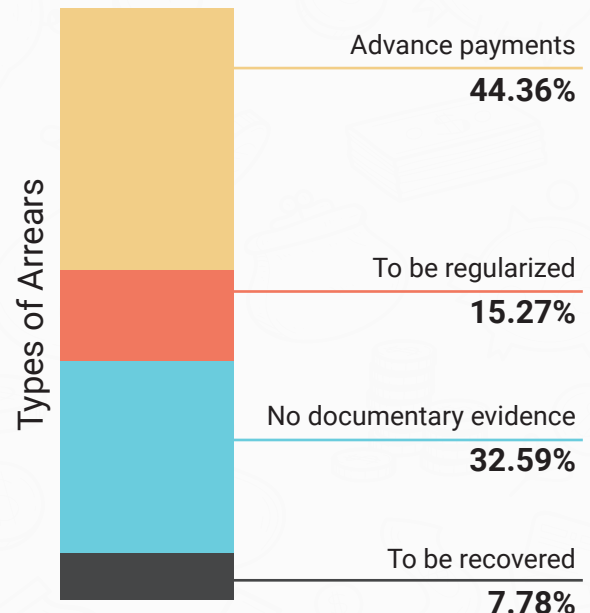
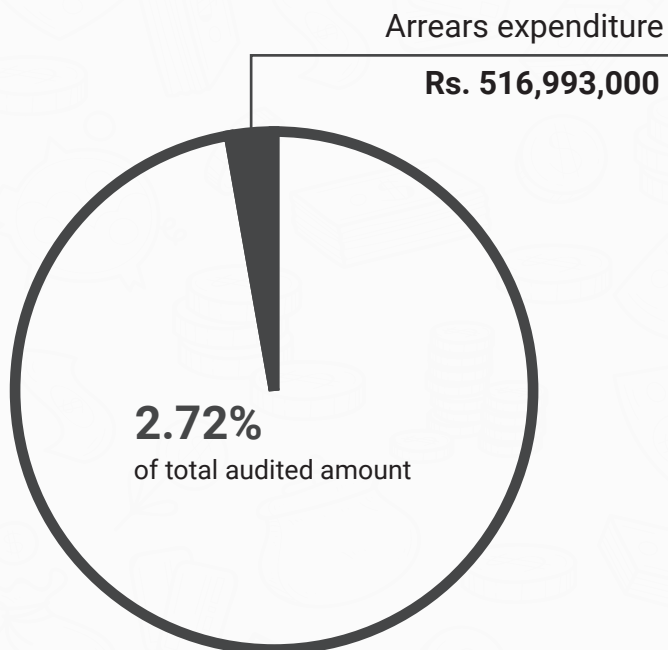
The Ministry of Defence for the purchase of health equipment to prevent and control COVID-19 released

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

Arrears status of Karnali Province in Fiscal Year 2075/2076



TOTAL AUDITED AMOUNT

19 BILLION NRS

TOTAL
AGENCIES
AUDITED

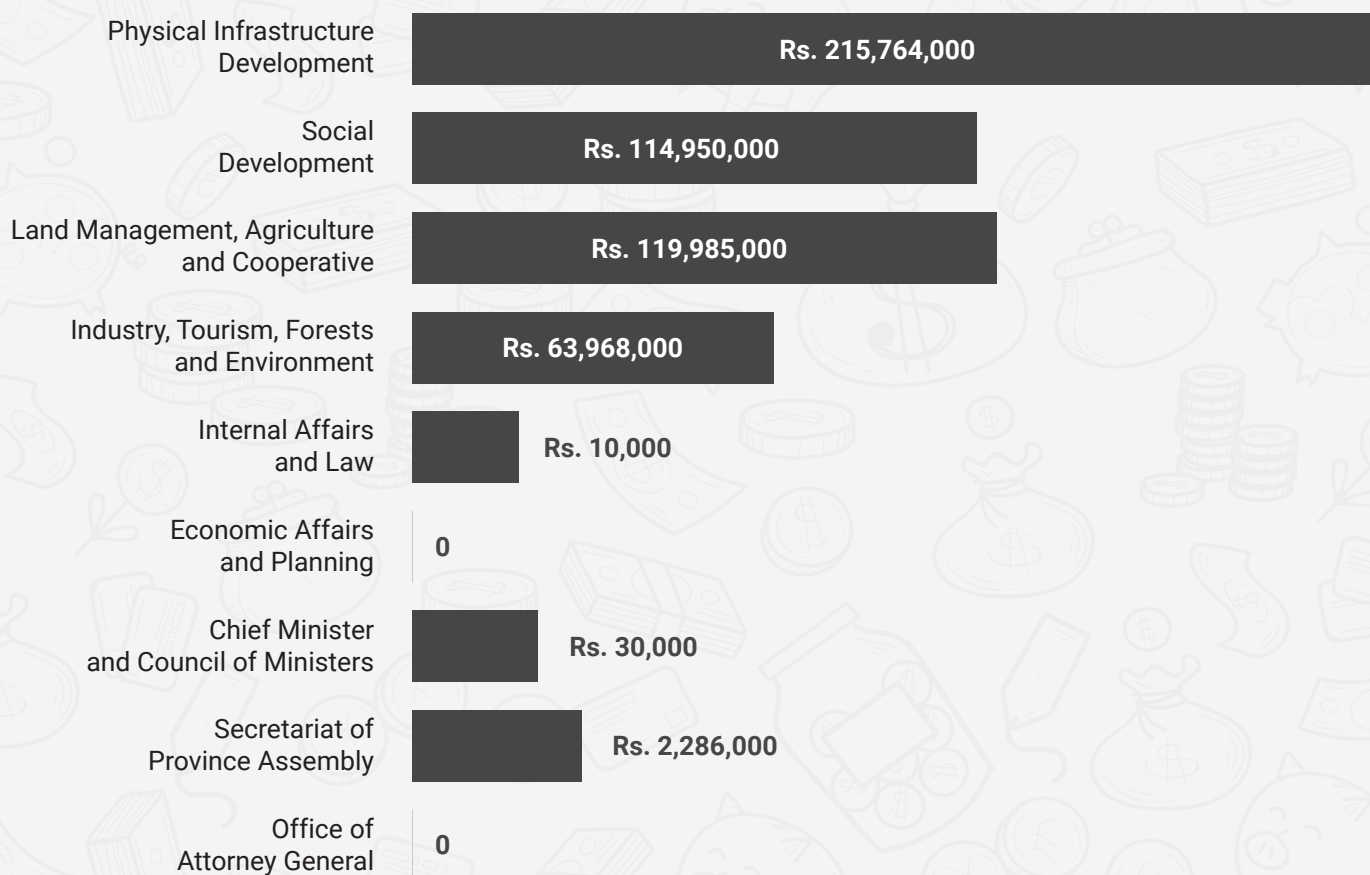
134

AGENCIES
WITH
ARREARS

75

\$ Follow the Money

Comparison of ministries and their Arrears expenditure of Karnali Province in fiscal year 2075/2076



Karnali Province has an arrear amount of almost 517 million NRS, which is 2.72% of its total audited amount which is quite high. Almost 56% of its agencies (75 out of 134) have arrears. Similar to the Sudurpaschim Province covered in the last issue, Karnali Province also has very high advance payments (45%) while almost 33% of all arrears occurred because no documentary evidence or supplementary information could not be produced. Spending without proper documentation pertains to unethical practices within an agency and actions to prevent them should be taken immediately.

The Ministry of Physical Infrastructure Development and the Ministry of Social Development and share around 64% of all the arrears. This shows that much needed funds in priority areas are either not being fulfilled or are not documented properly to cater to actual public needs. Furthermore, the Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperative also demonstrate high amount of arrears (23% of total arrears) along with the Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Forests and Environment (12% of total arrears) showing that there is inefficiency in local revenue generation areas as well. Also, the office of Chief minister has prime functions in maintaining financial discipline and motivating and supervising other agencies to do the same. However, much to the contrary of its mandate, the Karnali Province office of Chief minister and council of ministers has given salaries to press advisors, political advisors and public relation advisors which goes directly against the law.

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.



Frontliner's Voices



Nirmala Shahi

Deputy - Chief

Mandan Deupur Municipality, Kavrepalanchowk

"Although initially a quarantine was set up in a school in Mandan Deupur Municipality Ward No. 6, we couldn't find a person to work and cook there. It took us 15 days to get the ambulance, health workers and medical supplies ready. Even after making those arrangements, the people were still reluctant to stay in quarantine. After the community itself started hiding the people who

have returned from foreign employment, we were forced to take them to quarantine using police administration. However, after we started increasing social awareness, the people from the community itself started calling us to keep people in quarantine".

Kalpna Shrestha

Deputy-Chief

Bhumlu Rural-Municipality, Kavrepalanchowk

"Even though ours is a remote rural municipality, it was easy to monitor as there is only one entry point from outside. For this, the Bhulmu Rural Municipality and neighbouring Chauri Deurali Municipality have jointly arranged for a health check-up before entering the checkpoint at Dolalghat. It carried a good message. At the same time, we became involved in procuring essential health items, developing infrastructures in health institutions and managing quarantine. In order to provide accurate information, we started spreading awareness and information on radio in coordination with health workers, teachers and local representatives. Because of this, our municipality didn't have to face a huge risk".



Ujjwal Adhikari

Head of Health Department

Panchkhal Municipality, Kavrepalanchok

"As soon as the government announced the lockdown, it became a very challenging issue for us health workers to prevent the spread of infection in the community, run the health institutions safely and to manage the health supplies and medicines required in the health institutions. The encouragement of the local representatives and guidelines from the District Health Office made the work much easier.

There was some stress due to misinformation, but it didn't affect our work. We have been vigilant in the availability of health workers in all health posts, managing quarantine and RDT testing. The corona isn't over yet, so for this we are requesting people to maintain social distance and use masks."



What has COVID-19 taught us about personal finance management?

Personal finance management has become one of the most important life skill that needs to be acquired by individuals in order to have a sound financial future. The economic crisis followed by the COVID-19 pandemic has an equal if not greater lasting impact in lives of the people. The crisis has created an environment of financial anxiety among entrepreneurs, job holders and the government as well because of the shrinking economic activities and nose-diving market size in many sectors of the economy. In such times of financial uncertainties, managing our personal finance becomes more important than in normal times.



One of the major and initial approaches to enhance our personal finance management skill is by using digital financial services like e-wallets, internet banking, mobile banking, online purchase and payments etc. Using digital methods for financial transactions helps us in following ways:

1. It helps us to get a balcony perspective of our income and expenses.
2. It gives us a direction and supports to have a short, medium- and long-term financial goals.
3. It encourages us to plan and implement a budget and become a conscious consumer by spending money by assessing our needs and wants.
4. It helps us to build a positive transaction history useful for documentation and credit score.



Government Support

The Government of Nepal also has urged and encouraged citizens to use digital financial platforms for financial transactions to control the Covid-19 transmission through paper money. The government has taken following steps to encourage people to use digital financial transaction platforms:

Transactions limits from mobile and internet services are as follows:

S.N.	Medium	Per Day Transaction	Per Month
1.	Mobile banking (Including QR codes)	100,000	1,000,000
2.	Internet Banking (Merchant Payment)	1,000,000	3,000,000
3.	Internet Banking (Account Transfer)	1,000,000	5,000,000

Transaction limits from mobile wallets are as follows:

S.N.	Fund Transfer	Per Transaction	Per Day	Per Month
1.	From Agent or Sub-Agent to wallet	–	25,000	100,000
2.	From Bank Account to Wallet	25,000	100,000	500,000
3.	From Wallet to Bank Account	25,000	100,000	500,000
4.	From Wallet to Wallet	25,000	100,000	500,000

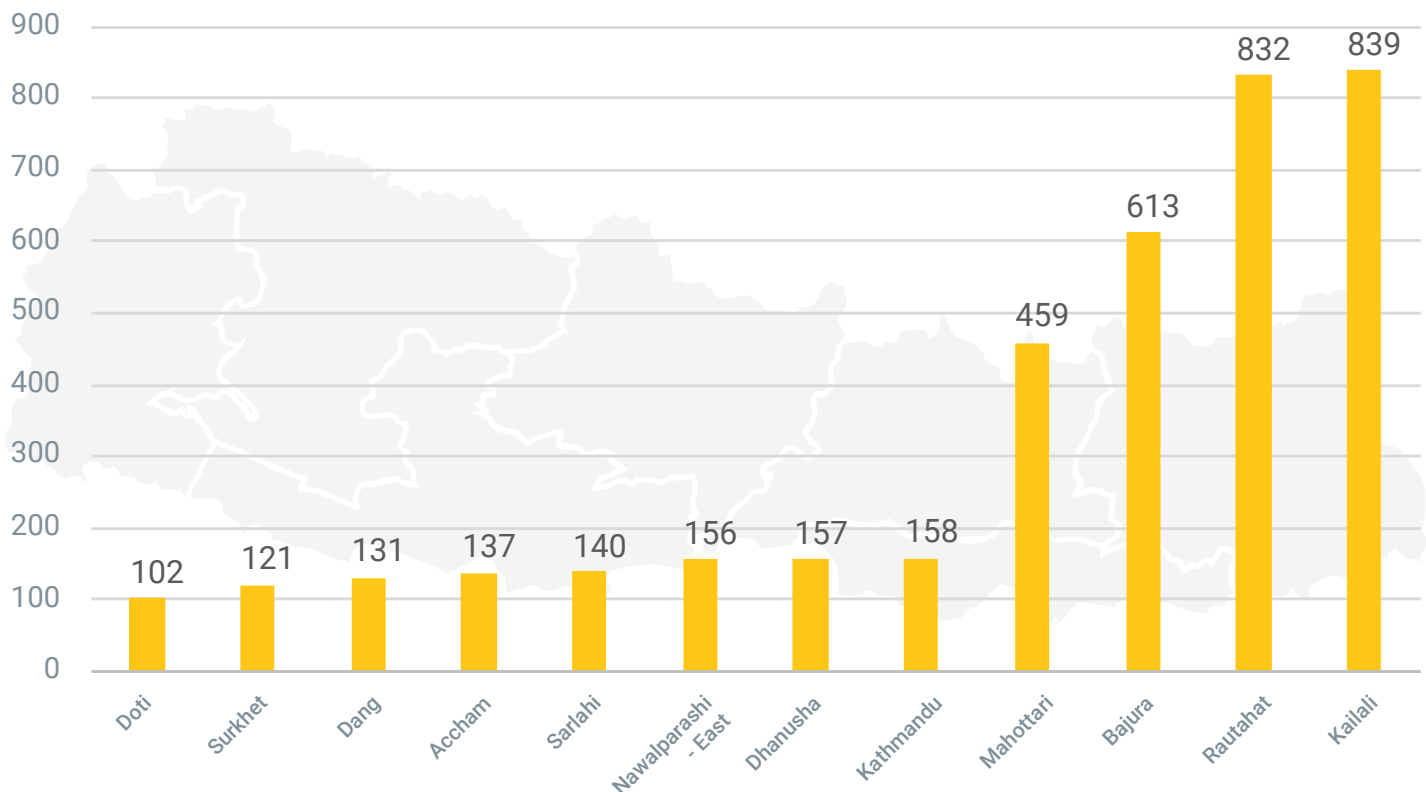
The use of digital payment services enables us to become more accountable and enhances transparent transactions.

Gaurav Thapa

Co-founder /Director, Finlit Nepal

Districts that are a high risk zone for Coronavirus

Districts having 100+ Covid-19 cases



The above graph shows the district-wise number of active cases of COVID-19 in Nepal, for districts having 100 or more active cases. 3835 active cases are from these districts, which is approximately 70 percent of the total number of active cases. There has been confirmed evidence that COVID-19 has entered the phase of community transmission in a district like Parsa. Some districts like Rautahat and Kalilai have sustained a high number of confirmed cases from the beginning. Kathmandu has also started to see a rapid surge in the number of cases as lockdown loosened. Citizens need to be more self-aware while in public areas to help the government control the virus.

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.



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