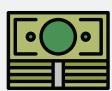


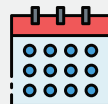
The **Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC)** gathers rumours, concerns and questions from communities across Nepal to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, NGOs and citizens. By providing the public with facts, the CCC ensures a better understanding of needs regarding the coronavirus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

“Youth Employment Transformation Initiative” to promote internal employment

The Nepali labor market has been affected with the shrinking global employment sector due to COVID-19. Keeping in view that the large number of workers are losing their jobs, the government has launched this project with the support of the World Bank loan to meet the objective of creating employment opportunities for the economically deprived unemployed youth, enhancing their skills and building capacity, and expanding employment oriented services.



Total amount
14 Arab
(approx)



Time period
4 Years



90% of the total amount will be spent on maintenance upgrading local level infrastructure to create employment.



60 % of beneficiaries will be women



Aim of providing employment to **1 Lakh** unemployed individuals

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

Nepal Update



The hair cutting started by adopting safety measures in Birendranagar, Surkhet.

Photo: Muna Hamal

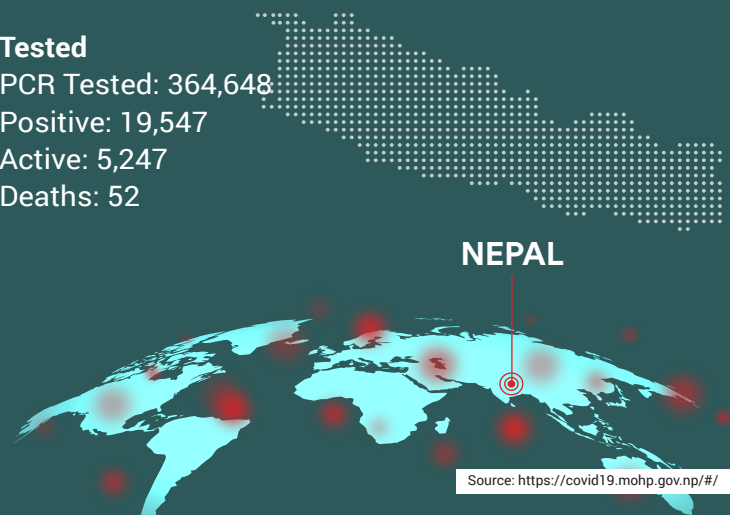
Tested

PCR Tested: 364,648

Positive: 19,547

Active: 5,247

Deaths: 52



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

Rumors & Facts



The Tribhuvan University has asked the teachers to come for work as the holidays are over. But the teachers who have gone home aren't able to return due to the ban in long distance travel. What facilities are arranged for them?

been observed that the teachers are unable to be present in the campuses. Considering this, the T.U has made arrangements for the teachers to be present in the nearby affiliated campuses until the long distance ban is lifted. However, they have to return to their workstations within 7 days from the day the ban is lifted. The teachers who are following this instruction should inform their campuses through electronic mediums. The regular attendance of the teacher will be ensured after he/she submits their attendance in their campuses within the seven days from the transportations begin operating.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/TsBpzx0>



It is heard that there will be heavy rainfall throughout the week. Which areas should follow precautions?

According to Flood Forecasting Division, it has been predicted that Kankai, Koshi, Narayani, Tinau, West Rapti, Babai and their tributaries, and the small rivers flowing from Province 1, 2, Gandaki Province, Province 5 and Sudurpaschim Province will reach the flood vigilance level and some small rivers will reach the flood danger level. Thus, the request has been made to maintain high precautions in the coastal areas.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/NsBH5ex>



The government had promised to provide loans at 2% interest rate to the entrepreneurs who want to encourage investments in innovative works. Why has it been delayed?

Due to COVID - 19 and the amendment to be made as per the point no. 59 in the budget speech in regards to providing loans at 2% interest rate to the entrepreneurs who want to encourage investments in innovative works, the deadline for submitting the proposal has been extended till the end of Ashoj 2077. The National planning commission has published the information to disseminate further information about the revised procedure and various processes.

Source: <https://www.npc.gov.np/images/category/Notice12.pdf>



Is the District Administration Office, Kathmandu closing the services due to the increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in Kathmandu?

The services aren't being closed. Due to the increase in the number of infected cases in Kathmandu and the necessity of maintaining social distance, it has been said that the pattern of service delivery will change from 18 Shrawan 2077 until other arrangements are made. According to which, the specified local unit will only get the service on specified day and only the specified services would be provided. Go through the link below to know in detail.


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

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

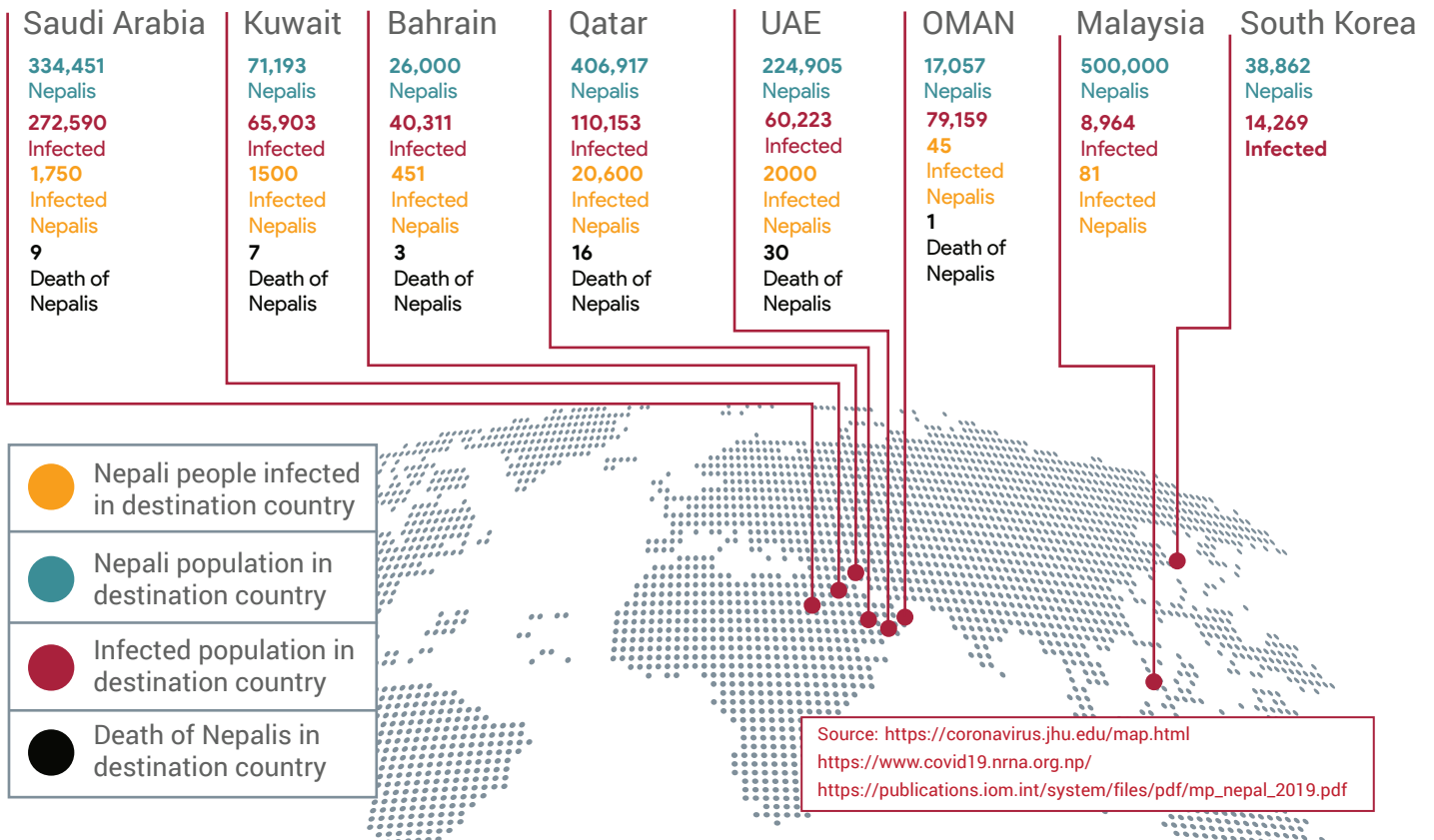
Brought to you by  viamo

DIAL **32100**

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

Open Migration

Migrant workers in major destination countries



ShramikSanjal

Eid has begun in the Middle-East countries. But don't go to gatherings, functions and ceremonies this year.

Since Eid is a long holiday, friends gathering and travelling together is practiced for fun during this time. However, we can't do this at the present as times aren't normal as before. In some countries, strict rules have been made against those who violate the rules. For example, if someone organizes such gatherings, parties or functions in UAE, the fine is 10,000 dirhams and if someone attends such a party, the fine is 5,000 dirhams. Similarly, if someone is found bringing goats and cutting inside their accommodations, then the fine of 20,000 would be charged. So, if someone wants to have meat, they should purchase or get it cut from the butchers only.



In Kuwait, the business flights are set to open from 1 August. Due to which, the charter flights aren't allowed in Kuwait after 1 August. Similarly, since Nepal is opening the business flights only from 18 August, there will be no flights between Nepal and Kuwait from 1 to 17 August.

\$ Follow the Money

Total

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

Federal Government

Donors

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

Spent

The total expenditure of Nepal government's activities against Coronavirus

Around 1.8B NRS

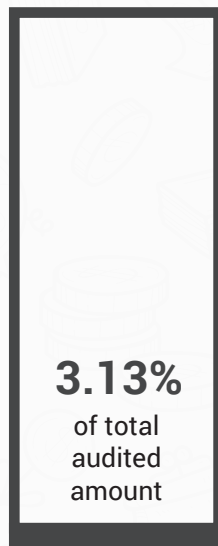
The Ministry of Defence for the purchase of health equipment to prevent and control COVID-19 released

Around 2.34B NRS

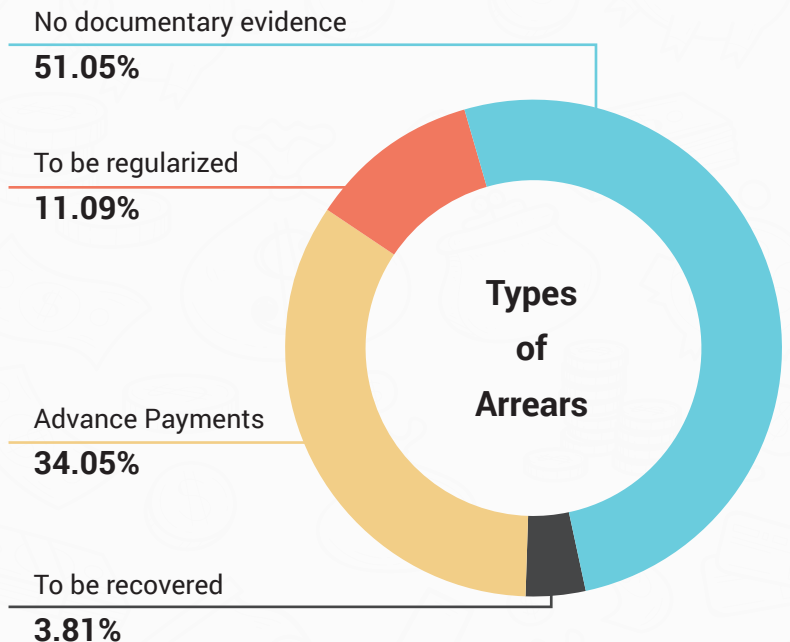
Provincial Government

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 Province 5 in Fiscal Year 2075/2076



Arrears expenditure
Rs. 946,834,000



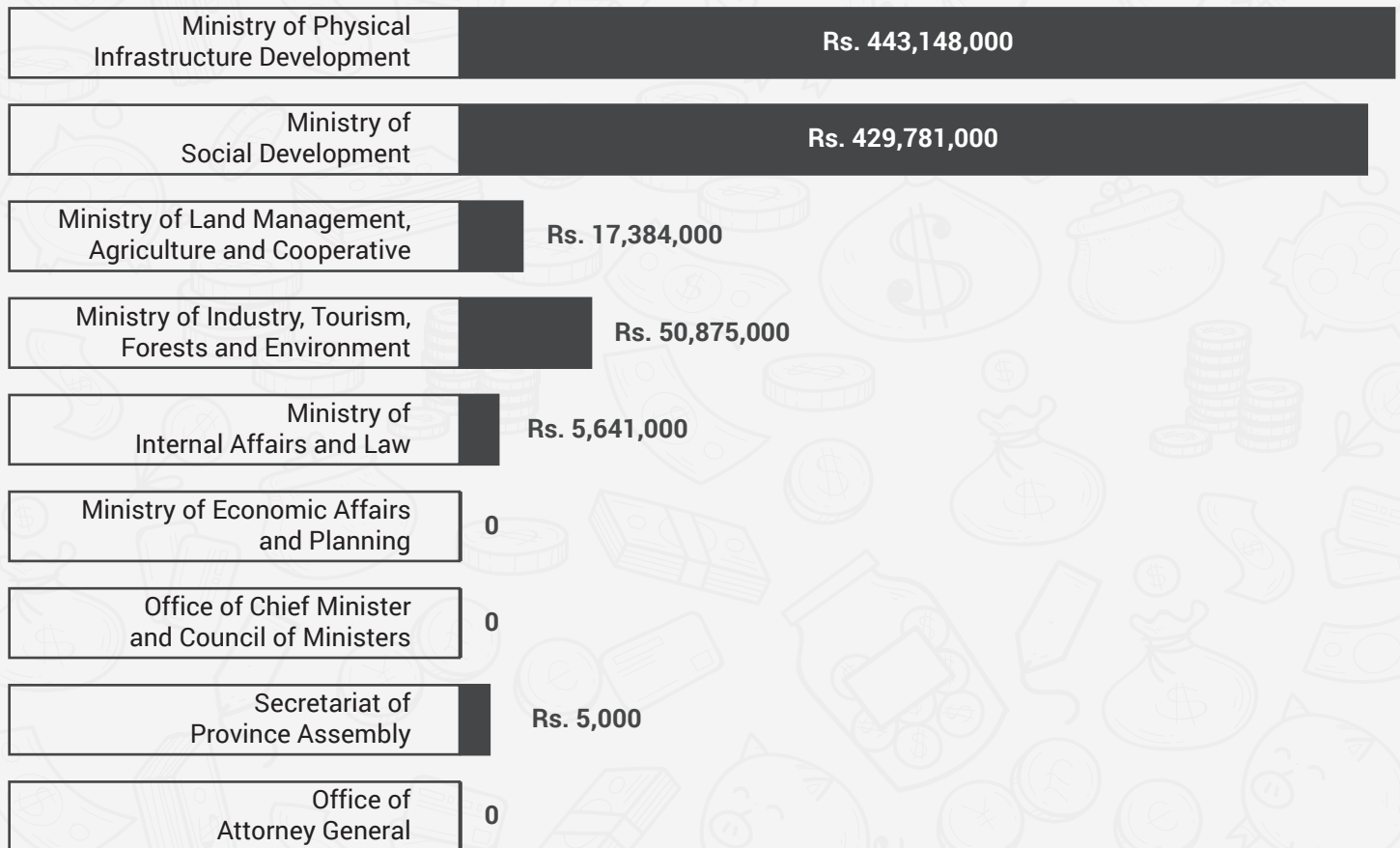
TOTAL AUDITED AMOUNT
30.2 BILLION NRS

TOTAL AGENCIES AUDITED
153

AGENCIES WITH ARREARS
110

\$ Follow the Money

Comparison of ministries and their Arrears expenditure of Province 5 in fiscal year 2075/2076



Province 5 has an arrear amount of over 946 million NRS, which is 3.13% of its total audited amount. Almost 72% of its agencies (110 out of 153) have arrears. In province 5, over 51% off 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, especially when such a high amount of arrear has occurred because of a lack of documentation. Province 5 also has high advance payments (34%).

Majority of ministries and agencies in the province have very little or no arrears which is a good sign. But, the Ministry of Physical Infrastructure Development and the Ministry of Social development have almost 450 million NRS each in arrears. These ministries are responsible for the majority of development works so funds spent in the physical infrastructure, and social development have largely been misappropriated. Such a sizable amount of arrears should send a worrisome signal to regulators and decision makers because the money cannot be spent in priority areas and funds spent would not be according to the laws.

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



Dr. Nirajan Dutta Sharma

Consultant Physician, Seti Provincial Hospital, Dhangadhi

"After the first case was seen in Sudurpaschim, not just me but the entire Sudurpaschim was in panic. The necessary safety equipment wasn't there. There was no alternative to working by fully sanitizing. When the families of the infected individuals would bid farewell wishing them to return only after corona is cured, we would feel further responsibility has been added to our shoulders. We would feel we have won a huge war the day patients got discharged smiling. This inspired us to provide service. Now that we have the necessary resources and equipment, we are in a ready situation".

Prem Bhandari

Ward Chief, Dhangadhi Sub-Metropolitan City, Ward No. 9, Kailali

"When the Nepalis coming from India entered at once through the Dhangadhi entry point, we faced a lot of difficulty in managing them. We tried to establish quarantines in all the schools in the ward but it was hampered by the community's fear of spread of the virus. On the other hand, our families were afraid that the infection would transmit to us while managing the returnees. On top of that, the province government gave the responsibility, but the lack of resources to manage it added the challenges. As an alternative, we were able to establish quarantine with the resources of the ward and other local resources and support".



Geeta Panta

Ward member, Dhangadhi Sub-metropolitan City, Ward no. 10, Kailali

"When I would go out, my neighbors would tell that I to go to various places, meet people who have returned from India, and would transmit the virus to them. But, my family encouraged me. They made me realize that it is my responsibility to rescue the victims and alleviate their fear. No work will result in success at once. We will learn gradually while working. The current situation has also taught a ward member like me that we will only learn when we are made responsible".

Impact of COVID-19 on GDP

From 2014 to 2016, the Ebola virus that had spread in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone made a huge impact in the overall GDP of these countries, resulting in the countries' GDP to be negative 8.7%. But, the impact of COVID-19 is seen across the world. This time, the most-affected countries GDP is anticipated to result negatively by 8.7%. Since its influence still persists, the results could be more negative. From 1918 to 1920, when the Spanish flu epidemic spread worldwide, especially in China, India, Indonesia, Russia, and the United States, affecting 25% of the world's population, the GDP changed by 0.8%. This means that COVID-19 has made the greatest impact on GDP among the recent epidemics in the world.



Sectoral impact of COVID-19 on the overall GDP of Nepal

Due to the impact of COVID -19, Nepal's overall GDP is estimated to decline by 2.3%. Looking at the sectoral impact, the effects of COVID-19 is high in the areas of remittances, tourism and construction. Those areas' contribution to the GDP is 25.3%, 6.7% and 7.77% respectively. Similarly, COVID-19 is expected to have a moderate impact on the food and agriculture sector which receive the most donations.



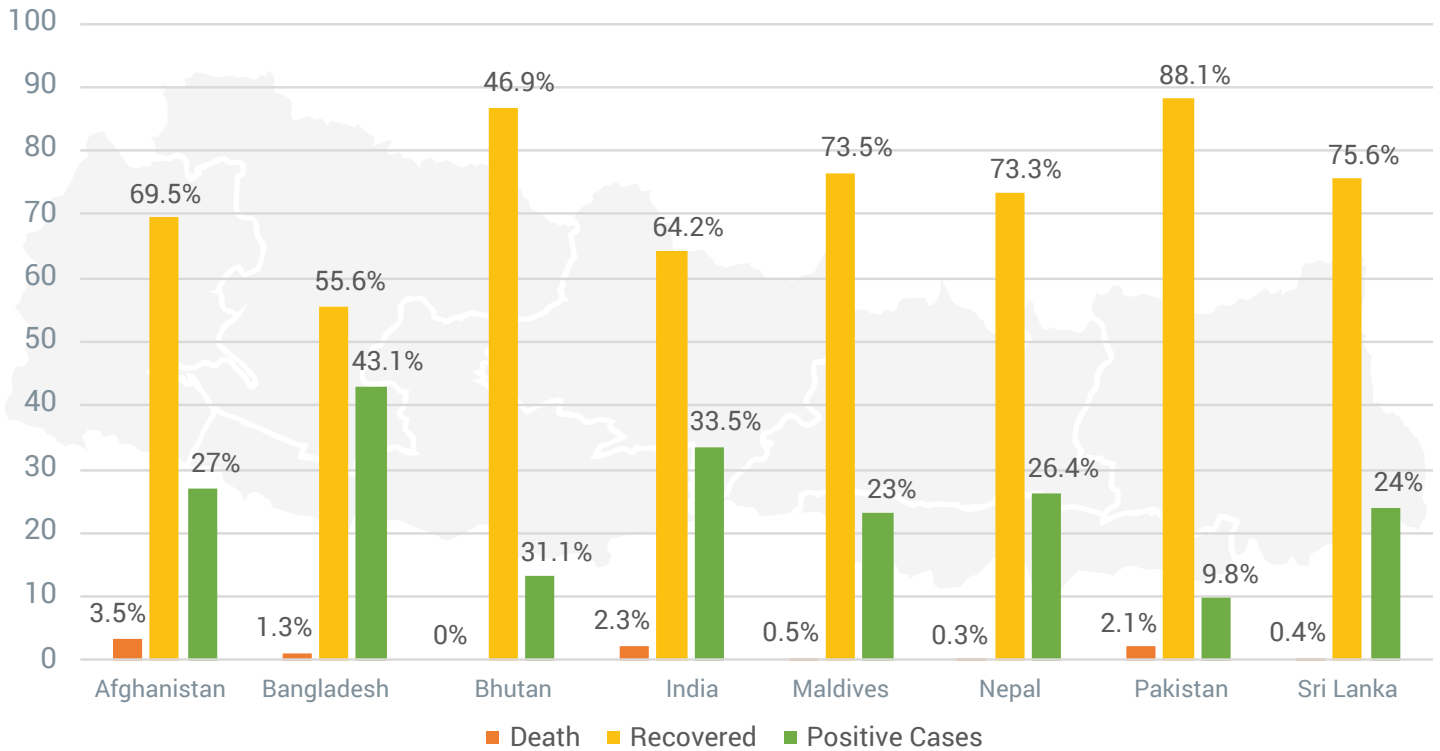
In the annual year 2018/19 itself, 8 Arab 30 crore remittance entered Nepal. Nepalis are working in 172 countries with labor permits. The major destinations, however, are Qatar, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, India, Malaysia, America, Japan and South Korea. Due to the economic slowdown in these countries, new rules on reducing the number of laborers are being introduced. The direct impact of which will be felt in highly remittance dependent countries like Nepal. According to the Department of Immigration, a total number of 27,583 Nepalis arrived in Nepal from the airport during the period of lockdown from 14 Chaitra 2076 to 31 Ashad 2077. While many are still preparing to return home, many are waiting for the rescue. The only alternative now for Nepal is to create jobs in the COVID-19 low-risk areas and to uplift high-risk areas in new ways.



Suresh Chand

Active, Recovered and Death percentages in SAARC Countries

Percentage-wise Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in SAARC



The above graph shows the percentage-wise distribution of COVID-19 cases in the SAARC region in terms of deaths, recovery and active cases. On average, 1.3 percent of cases have been reported as deaths, 73.7 percent have recovered and only 25 percent of total infected are the active cases in SAARC region. Nepal's status is similar to the average status of the region with three times less deaths reported due to COVID-19. Lower deaths indicated in Nepal is supported by the age distribution of COVID-19 cases of Nepal where most infected are youth or adults, not elderly. Due to early lockdown, Nepal's cases have been contained until now. However, as community transmission is reported in a number of places; the coming days are still challenging for Nepal.

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.

