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.

Budget allocated for Corona Prevention and Control in Karnali Freezes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What amount has been freezeed in hospitals?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total allocated amount: Rs. 30,59,15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure: Rs. 23,55,54,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeze amount: Rs. 7,36,00,450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province/Office</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Freeze Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provincial Hospital, Surkhet</td>
<td>Rs. 3,43,01,695</td>
<td>Rs. 23,71,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Service Directorate</td>
<td>Rs. 82,51,900</td>
<td>Rs. 11,50,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Social Development</td>
<td>Rs. 8,35,000</td>
<td>Rs. 14,81,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailekh</td>
<td>Rs. 10,42,250</td>
<td>Rs. 12,96,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health Office, Surkhet</td>
<td>Rs. 46,99,800</td>
<td>Rs. 10,23,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salyan</td>
<td>Rs. 17,42,300</td>
<td>Rs. 13,15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rukum West</td>
<td>Rs. 11,17,000</td>
<td>Rs. 60,48,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jajarkot</td>
<td>Rs. 23,71,600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalikot</td>
<td>Rs. 11,50,800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumla</td>
<td>Rs. 14,81,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mugu</td>
<td>Rs. 12,96,300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dolpa</td>
<td>Rs. 10,23,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mehalkuna Hospital</td>
<td>Rs. 13,15,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provincial Department of Ayurveda</td>
<td>Rs. 60,48,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Karnali Institute of Health Sciences, Jumla and Chaujahari Hospital, Rukum West which were designated as corona hospital has spent the hundred percent budget.

Source: Ministry of Social Development, Karnali Province

Nepal Update

Tested
PCR Tested: 398,907
Positive: 20,750
Active: 5,732
Deaths: 57

People who want to enter the valley line up to collect swabs for Corona testing at the Sanga border in Kavre.

Photo: Keshav Raj Paudel

Source: https://covid19.mohp.gov.np/#/
Has the government ordered District Administration Offices to not provide travel passes to enter Kathmandu from other districts?

Since a large number of passengers entering Kathmandu Valley from different parts of the country were found to be COVID-19 positive, it has been said that except for vehicles importing necessary services, the movement of the passengers will be completely stopped at each entry point from 7:00 PM in the evening to 7:00 AM in the morning. For this, the Ministry of Home Affairs has requested the District Administrative Offices other than Kathmandu Valley to not issue inter-district passes except for important works.

Source: https://www.moha.gov.np/post/para-sa-sai-ja-jiangiapa-118

It is heard that all the quarantine and isolation established inside school premises are closed.

The activities related to quarantine and isolation should not be conducted inside the school buildings and premises. The schools buildings which are no longer used as quarantine and isolation should be disinfected and purified by the local units as per the prescribed guidelines and made suitable for running classes. Similarly, the Council of Ministers has also decided not to establish any structure related to prevention and control of COVID-19 within the school premises or close to school area in a way that affects students movement.


It is heard that the government has created new guidelines to broaden the horizon of testing. Who will get tested for COVID-19 now?

The Ministry of Health and Population has informed that from now on all the patients with symptoms, those who have come in contact with COVID-19 infected cases, those with chronic respiratory illness, all individuals who have returned from abroad, all health workers and staff who work in the frontline, those who have visited the area where COVID-19 has spread in last 14 days, all patients in intensive care unit, especially those above 60 years of age and with low-immunity power, the preoperative cases based on clinical decisions and the moderate and severe COVID-19 discharged cases will be brought under the scope of testing.

Source: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dAIK3GECgiKpztEwFq5wSaCRpblJQqLR/view

Where should those who want to go abroad get their PCR test? They don’t belong to the scope of the test set by the government.

The government has already given permission to the designated government and private hospitals to conduct testing of those going abroad or who want to get tested. For which, the fee prescribed as per the criteria made by the government should be submitted to the concerned health institution.

Source: https://cutt.ly/bdvpC90

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.
## Migrant workers in major destination countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Nepali Population</th>
<th>Infected Population</th>
<th>Death of Nepalis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>334,451 Nepal</td>
<td>278,835 Infected</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>71,193 Nepal</td>
<td>67,911 Infected</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>26,000 Nepal</td>
<td>41,536 Infected</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>20,600 Nepal</td>
<td>451 Infected</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>11,107 Nepal</td>
<td>20,000 Infected</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMAN</td>
<td>79,159 Nepal</td>
<td>6,000 Infected</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>500,000 Nepal</td>
<td>8,999 Infected</td>
<td>111,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>38,862 Nepal</td>
<td>14,389 Infected</td>
<td>224,905</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Source:
- https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html

---

### ShramikSanjal

Citizens of 32 countries prohibited from entering Kuwait

The citizens of Nepal and 31 other countries have been banned from travelling to Kuwait for the time being. However, the citizens of the prohibited countries will be allowed to enter Kuwait if they stay for 14 days in non-prohibited countries.

**The countries Kuwait government has banned flights for**

1. India
2. Iran
3. China
4. Brazil
5. Colombia
6. Armenia
7. Bangladesh
8. Phillippines
9. Egypt
10. Sri Lanka
11. Nepal
12. Iraq
13. Syria
14. Lebanon
15. Spain
16. Singapore
17. Bosnia
18. Herzegovina
19. Mexico
20. Indonesia
21. Chilli
22. Pakistan
23. Hongkong
24. North Italy
25. Macedonia
26. Moldova
27. Panama
28. Peru
29. Serbia
30. Montenegro
31. Dominican Republic
32. Kosovo
Follow the Money

The budget allocated from Nepal Government and Ministry of Finance in three rounds:
- Around 1.48B NRS
- Around 2.26B NRS

The total fund in Coronavirus Infection Prevention, Treatment and Control Fund:
- Around 1.48B NRS
- Around 2.26B NRS

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

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

Federal Government

Provincial Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province Names</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
<th>Spent Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sudurpaschim  Province</td>
<td>Around 254M NRS</td>
<td>Around 239M NRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnali Province</td>
<td>Around 229M NRS</td>
<td>Around 136M NRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gandaki Province</td>
<td>Around 183M NRS</td>
<td>Around 154M NRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bagmati Province</td>
<td>Around 156M NRS</td>
<td>Around 779M NRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province 5</td>
<td>Around 229M NRS</td>
<td>Around 436M NRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province 2</td>
<td>Around 136M NRS</td>
<td>Around 154M NRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province 1</td>
<td>Around 133M NRS</td>
<td>Around 136M NRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province 4</td>
<td>Around 193M NRS</td>
<td>Around 133M NRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province 3</td>
<td>Around 294M NRS</td>
<td>Around 193M NRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province 6</td>
<td>Around 425M NRS</td>
<td>Around 364M NRS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Arrears status of Gandaki Province in Fiscal Year 2075/2076

Arrears expenditure:
- Rs. 1,644,673,000

Advance Payments: 68.37%
To be regularized: 9.57%
No documentary evidence: 17.52%
To be recovered: 4.55%

Types of Arrears:
- Arrears expenditure: 6.88% of total audited amount

Total Audited Amount: 23.9 Billion NRS
Total Agencies Audited: 149
Agencies with Arrears: 95
Gandaki has an arrear amount of around 1.6 billion NRS, which is 6.88% of its total audited amount. This amount is exceptionally high considering Gandaki Province’s total audited amount is comparatively low. Almost 64% of its agencies (95 out of 149) have arrears. In Gandaki Province, over 68% of all arrears occurred due to advance payments. This means that budget was spent towards the end of fiscal year and settlements weren’t able to be made which is against the basics of public finance management where spending has to be done in time.

Majority of ministries and agencies in Gandaki Province have very little or no arrears which is a good sign. But, the Ministry of Physical Infrastructure Development has over 1.4 billion NRS in arrears. This ministry is responsible for over 88% of all arrears in Gandaki Province sending a very grim message. The Ministry of Physical Infrastructure Development has a very high budget outlet and mismanagement of budget in this ministry halts a lot of development in communities. The provincial government needs to keep a keen eye on the budget allocation and spending practices of this ministry and work towards managing it properly.

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.
Dr. Suresh Mahat
Head, Social Development Division, Province No. 1

“If we compare the situation of entire Nepal and Province no. 1, then we can observe that 1 in every 19 tested individuals have confirmed positive for infection in the entire Nepal whereas in province 1, only 1 in 48 tested individuals have confirmed positive. This shows that Province no. 1 is comparatively ahead in testing than other parts of Nepal. We can assure that Corona will be gone tomorrow. Thus, today’s need is also to use the resources of the country economically. The scope of the test must surely be increased, but it is also equally important to increase it in a scientific way and to spread the message”.

Dr. Surya Parajuli
Public Health Expert and Social Activist

“When the government does lockdown, the infection cases appear to reduce. When it opens the lockdown, the cases again increase. The process of infection continues. There will come a time when many people will be infected. And this requires a change in behavior. It isn’t important if the mask is used or not what is important is whether the mask is used properly or not. Next thing is that in the medical field, doctors or health was just thought to be a hospital, but that only makes up 10 percent of health, but 90 percent is outside. This has now been seen with the Corona.”

Mukunda Basnet
Health Division Head, Arjundhara Municipality, Jhapa

“Initially, we considered it a war. In war, guns can be fired and tricks can be used. But in this, we don’t know where Corona is going to crack from or where it will be touched. We completely worked in a state of fear. There was still a dilemma about how it will transmit. We focused most on quarantining those who have come from India or other districts. This brought the infection under control to some extent. But now again the infection has spread at the community level in our municipality. The movements have been banned for 5 days. Yet to see what tomorrow holds.”
With the halt in labour migration and then workers returning home often either empty handed or by paying for the expensive chartered flights, the state coffer was bound to feel a pinch. Country’s remittance-dependent economy took the blow as remittance is the single-largest source of foreign exchange required to finance import of essential goods and services. For Nepal, which was the 19th largest remittance-receiving country in 2018, money sent by migrants has been equivalent to more than 25 percent of the country’s GDP in the last few years. As per the initial estimates of the World Bank, the country would lose around Rs145 in remittance with a significant decline of 14 percent in 2020. Country’s central bank–Nepal Rastra Bank–had also projected a grim picture of loss of remittance for the fiscal year 2019-20, which was visible in the month of Chaitra.

As Nepal also enforced several measures for containing the virus, the biggest impact the country witnessed was on its labour sector, particularly labour migration sector, which was completely devastated. With the loss of jobs and fear of infection, tens of thousands of migrant workers had no option than to return home–often unilaterally terminated and unpaid. The scale of impact of the pandemic was massive for the country like Nepal, a country that is highly dependent upon money sent by its workers from labour destination countries.

With the halt in labour migration and then workers returning home often either empty handed or by paying for the expensive chartered flights, the state coffer was bound to feel a pinch. Country’s remittance-dependent economy took the blow as remittance is the single-largest source of foreign exchange required to finance import of essential goods and services. For Nepal, which was the 19th largest remittance-receiving country in 2018, money sent by migrants has been equivalent to more than 25 percent of the country’s GDP in the last few years. As per the initial estimates of the World Bank, the country would lose around Rs145 in remittance with a significant decline of 14 percent in 2020. Country’s central bank–Nepal Rastra Bank–had also projected a grim picture of loss of remittance for the fiscal year 2019-20, which was visible in the month of Chaitra.

As per the Nepal Rastra Bank’ statistics, Nepal received remittances amounting to Rs34.5 billion in Chaitra, nearly a 50 percent decline, compared to Rs71 billion in the same month of the fiscal year 2018-19. Although the figures slightly improved for the month of Baisakh with Rs53.9 billion, the impact of Covid-19 on country’s remittance has been remarkable. Dwindling remittance does not only affect the country’s economy, but its ramification will be felt in the kitchen and drawing rooms of tens of thousands of families who have been relying on the hard earned money, sent by their family member abroad, for making their ends meet.

- Samiksha Baral, Journalist, Kathmandu Post -
Although the above graph shows that PCR tests are increasing daily in the last two weeks, the number of tests conducted are inconsistent. Last month, on 20th June, over 7000 tests were conducted while after a month on 20th July only a little over 4000 tests were managed. This shows poor management of logistics. It can be seen that 10,000 tests in a single day can also be managed by the government, so a swift management over transport of test equipment and samples based on the capacity of labs is imminent.

Source: HEOC, MoHP, SitRep

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.