

### Nepal Coronavirus CivActs Campaign

Issue #68

08.10.2020

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.

Disbursement of funds to upgrade the capacity of 246 health posts of the local units and construct a 5/10/15 bed hospital



For **5** bed capacity hospitals: **70 Lakh** NRS

For 10 bed capacity hospitals: 85 Lakh NRS

For **15** bed capacity hospitals: **1 Crore** NRS

For **5** bed capacity hospitals in **52 local units** 

36 Crore 40 Lakh NRS

For 10 bed capacity hospitals in 105 local units

89 Crore 25 Lakh NRS

For 15 bed capacity hospitals in 107 local units

1 Arab 7 Crore NRS

Total amount: 2 Arab 32 Crore 65 Lakh NRS

Full details about the health posts of the local units to be upgraded can be seen in the link below: https://cutt.ly/Wgro6fp

Source: https://cutt.ly/ugrpyuY

#### **Nepal Update**



### **Rumors & Facts**



The news is circulating that those who go home in Dashain should stay in quarantine for 14 days. Is it true?

The government has requested everyone to celebrate the festival at their current residence as much as possible considering that the number of people visiting home could be high during festivals and the senior citizens and other risky groups could be prone to infection. The government hasn't made any decision about staying in quarantine for 14 days while going home in Dashain. However, the District Crisis Management Center, Tanahu has decided that those going to the district to celebrate Dashain should stay in quarantine for 14 days. The issue has been covered in various news media.

Source: https://www.facebook.com/setopati/videos/433560340942335



Is it possible to hold a conference or seminar with less than 25 participants now?

No, the government hasn't made any decision to allow any conference or seminar to be conducted. However, the government has permitted the vocational training provider organizations to conduct only short-term vocational training with less than 25 participants. While conducting such training, the public health and safety standards issued by the Government of Nepal, the provincial government and the local unit should be fully followed.

Source: https://mocit.gov.np/categorydetail/2077-ashoj-19-cabinet



Can the items used by the individual who died of COVID-19 infection be used again?

The re-usable items such as watches, jewellery etc used by the individual who died of COVID-19 can only be used again after disinfecting it with 70% alcohol sanitizer and drying in the sun. Similarly, the clothes used by the deceased can be used after soaking it in hot water and soap and drying it in the sun. One should be extremely careful while reusing the items used by the patients.

Source: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dbTpfm5aysdY9utUcOXLEbuZ-VUxQ5y5/view



At present, the hospitals do not look after the patients who need emergency operation. Even if they see, they wait for the PCR report.

According to the recently revised National Testing Guidelines on COVID-19, all patients who need to be kept in the ICU or undergo operation should do PCR test. However, in case of emergency operation, it has been clearly stated that there is no need to wait for a report. In such cases, the concerned health worker should perform the operation with health precautions.

Source: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wrzHLdSDpLbAVsukYfS0HLeRS8m9XmTW/view

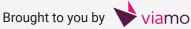
To receive our regular updates through WhatsApp

- 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



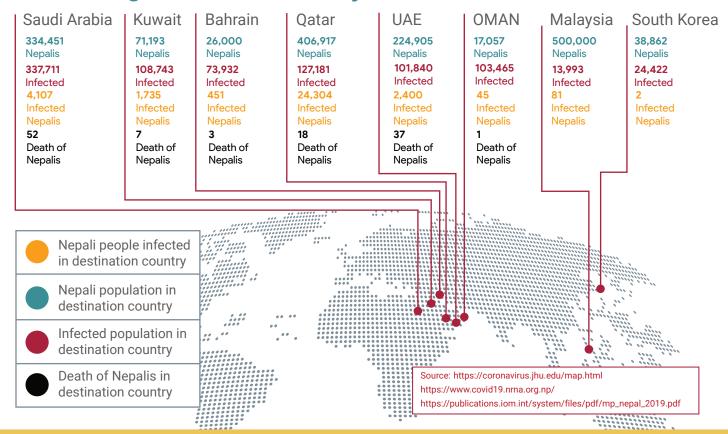
DIAL **32100** from your NTC simcard for accessing

all COVID-19 information for FREE



## **Open Migration**

#### Migrant workers in major destination countries



#### ShramikSanjal

#### Some new rules introduced in the UAE



Those individuals whose visa expired between March 1 to July 12 must renew their visas by October 10, 2020, or leave the country. Otherwise they would be fined. This rule will not apply if someone's visa is revoked. He/she must leave the country within 28 days if the visa has been revoked.

Free COVID-19 test will be done for international visitors in Ras Al Khaimah, UAE.





It has been said that the GDRFA and ICA Approval is mandatory for the passengers arriving at Dubai Airport. He/ she may have to face a problem if one doesn't have ICA or GDRFA Approval.

Air Arabia will provide a free COVID-19 test for its flights from Sharjah and Abudhabi.



You can listen to our Facebook live at www.facebook.com/shramik.sanjal every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday evening UAE time (8: 00 PM), Kuwait (7: 00 PM) and Malaysia (12 Midnight).



# **\$ Follow the Money**

#### **Total expenses by the Government of Nepal until Shrawan 2077** to Fight Against Coronavirus



#### **Expense Headings at the Federal Government**







Infrastructure Rs. 2,938,896,000

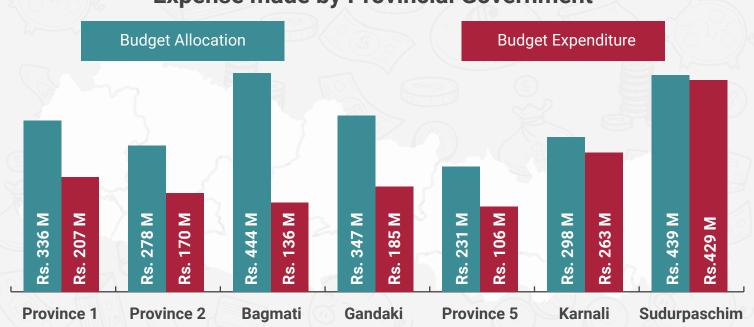
Health



Expenses Rs. 12,473,000

**Human Resource** Mobilization Rs. 57,443,000

### **Expense made by Provincial Government**





#### **Lekhnath Pokhrel**

Chairperson Chatradev Rural Municipality, Arghakhanchi

"When 28 people were infected within the local unit, the hotels refused to feed them and the locals also showed their disappointments. However, I went to quarantine myself carrying food for them. Later, the situation returned to normal. The constant challenge surfaced when the Province government sent the brothers and sisters coming from the border directly to the local unit. There is

a possibility of getting infected at any time. As a servant of the public, I have not been distracted from my responsibilities to protect the people within the local unit. I stay cautious not to infect others because of me."

#### **Sabita Pandey**

Aheb, Gonaha Health Post Mayadevi Rural Municipality, Rupandehi

"I have been actively working on the management of quarantine and isolation and treatment since the lockdown began. In the beginning, I was scared when the incharge tested positive for COVID. I stayed in a hotel in Bhairahawa for seven days. I came home only after the PCR report confirmed negative. At present, the number of fever and dry cough patients has increased in the village. They should be given daily service. I come to the health post located at a distance of 34



Km from my house in Butwal. I am worried about how to ensure the safety of my 2 children even if I get infected."



#### **Lakhsman Pandey**

Chief Administrative Officer Gulmi Durbar Rural Municipality, Gulmi

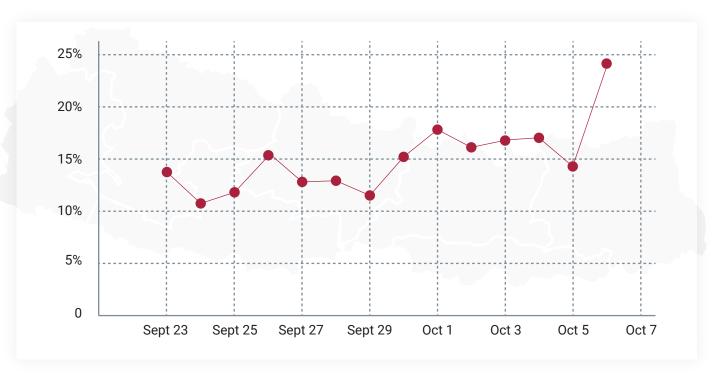
"Along with mobilizing the health workers inside the local unit, I have also been working in providing nutritious food and counselling to the people infected with corona. Since I stay in direct contact with the residents of all wards within the municipality, I often feel afraid of getting infected. I have been adopting health safety standards and maintaining social distance. However, the chances of infection are

high. Since my father is a diabetic patient, I worry how to protect him from the infection. As the movement inside the local unit is sure to increase with approaching Dashain and Tihar, we are working to formulate necessary strategies to control the risk."



# The alarming rate at which more people are being tested positive in Nepal

## Percentage of Positive Cases out of total PCT Tests Performed in the Last Two Weeks in Nepal



The above graph shows the percentage of positive cases out of total tests conducted per day for the last two weeks in Nepal. It shows that the ratio of positive cases is slowly increasing every day. On 7th October, one in every four people that conducted the test, tested positive. This is very alarming because over this period the number of daily tests by and large remained the same. It implies that COVID-19 has spread in the community deeper than anticipated by public health authorities in 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 different people, directly and indirectly, over the past week. 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.







