

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.

The details regarding the construction of health infrastructure made public by the government

To provide free emergency services to the poor and minority groups from 14 hospitals of 7 provinces :
NRs. 14 Crore

For the construction of trauma units at 10 hospitals at the cost of NRs. 50 Lakh each unit:
NRs. 5 Crore

For the construction of emergency rooms at Koshi Hospital, Narayani Hospital, Bharatpur Hospital and Pokhara Institutes of Health Sciences at the cost of NRs. 9 Crore each :
NRs. 36 Crore

For the construction of general hospitals at 386 local units in the current fiscal year :
NRs. 6 Arab 4 Crore

To increase the capacity of the district hospitals of 52 districts to 50 beds at the cost of NRs. 1 Lakh for each 866 beds:
NRs. 8 Crore 66 Lakh

To add 1035 beds in 11 hospitals to increase the capacity of zonal and sub-regional hospitals to 200 beds :
NRs. 10 Crore 35 Lakh

To increase the capacity of Koshi, Narayani, Bharatpur, Bheri, Dadeldhura Hospital, Pokhara and Karnali Institute of Health Sciences to 500 beds at a cost of NRs. 7 Crore each:
NRs. 49 Crore

To establish quality hospitals in each province with minimum of 50 beds capacity and laboratory at the cost of NRs. 8 Crore for each province : **NRs. 56 Crore**

To operate 13 health desk at borders: **NRs. 10 Crore 15 Lakh & 16 Thousand**

To operate satellite hospital at 18 hospitals : **NRs. 58 Lakh**

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/mohpnep/videos/976488249521675>

Nepal Update



Tested

PCR Tested: 1,237,636
Positive: 121,745
Active: 36,533
Deaths: 694
Recovered: 84,518

NEPAL

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

Rumors & Facts



It is heard that we can get the COVID-19 test done only at NRs. 1000 now.

This fee is allocated not for PCR test but for antigen test. Only the laboratories licensed by the National Public Health Laboratory will be allowed to conduct antigen tests. The test will cost a maximum of NRs. 1000. However, a target group has been identified for the antigen test. The target group includes mass screening situations that require urgent report (e.g) hospital, people living in group accommodation (e.g: barracks, prisons, dormitories, old age homes, etc).

Source: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1To0nfDp5SKA1sTW0AfAcgzJHLmhl7yA1/view>



Has the government started an online ticketing service for passengers going home in Dashain?

The Department of Transportation Management has issued guidelines with regard to buying and selling of online tickets with the objective of managing medium and long distance bus services and minimizing the risk of COVID-19 infection. However, the buying and selling of online ticket service hasn't started yet.

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



Is it true that the new notes [Nepali rupees] will not be exchanged in this Dashain?

It has been said that the new notes [Nepali Rupees] will not be distributed this Dashain. Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) stated in a notice that new notes would not be distributed during the festivals this year due to the corona pandemic. Further, the NRB has stated that it has decided not to distribute the notes as the place could be crowded during the exchange of new notes and the risk of infection would increase.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/4go3vbp>



Is it true that the new notes will not be exchanged in this Dashain?

It has been said that the new notes will not be distributed this Dashain. Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) informed in a statement that new notes would not be distributed in the festivals this year due to the corona pandemic. The NRB has stated that it has decided not to distribute the notes as the place could be crowded during the exchange of new notes and the risk of infection could go high.


Source: <https://www.nrb.org.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.



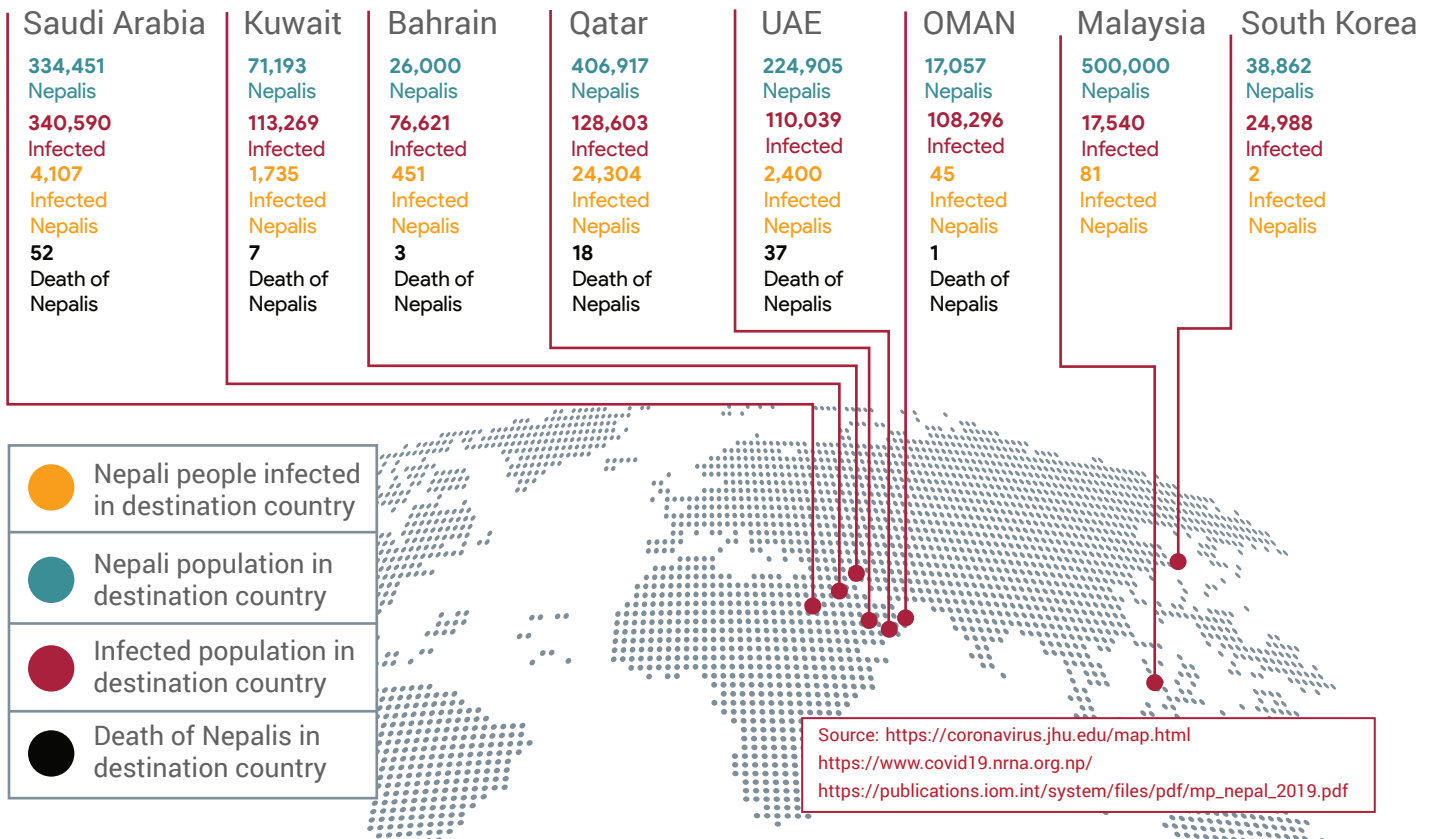
Toll-free **HOTLINE** on
COVID-19

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

Strict rules regarding social media in Middle East

Most of the countries in the Middle East have strict laws regarding cyber security. Here are some of the rules regarding social media (Facebook, Twitter, Tiktok, Instagram etc) in the UAE:

1. Upto 5 Lakh Dirham (or NRs. 1 Crore 60 Lakh) penalty could be imposed if you defame someone from social media. Therefore, avoid sharing and posting such posts in social media. You can file a case against the person who has written something defaming you.
2. Similarly, if you posted someone's photo on social media without their knowledge and a case is filed against it, then you should pay a fine. So, only take someone's pictures with their permission.

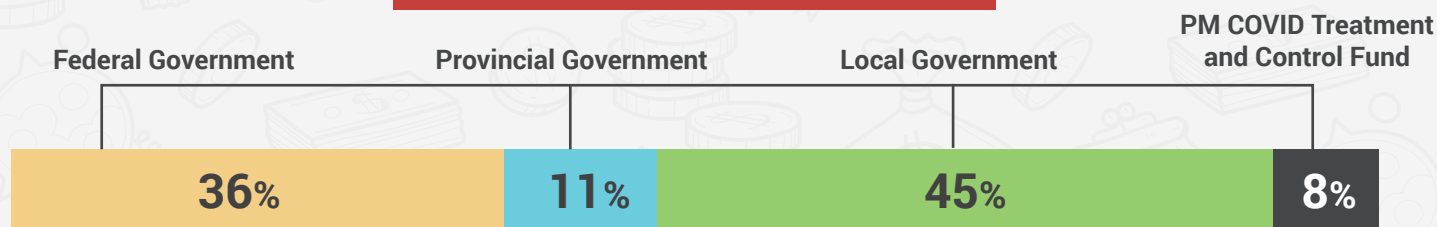
Such laws aren't just in the UAE but most of the Middle East countries. Thus, it is requested for everyone to stay alert.

You can listen to our Facebook live at www.facebook.com/shramik.sanjala 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

13.37 Billion NRS



Expense Headings at the Federal Government




Medicine and Health Equipments
Rs. 1,755,240,000



Quarantine Management
Rs. 46,946,000



Health Infrastructure
Rs. 2,938,896,000

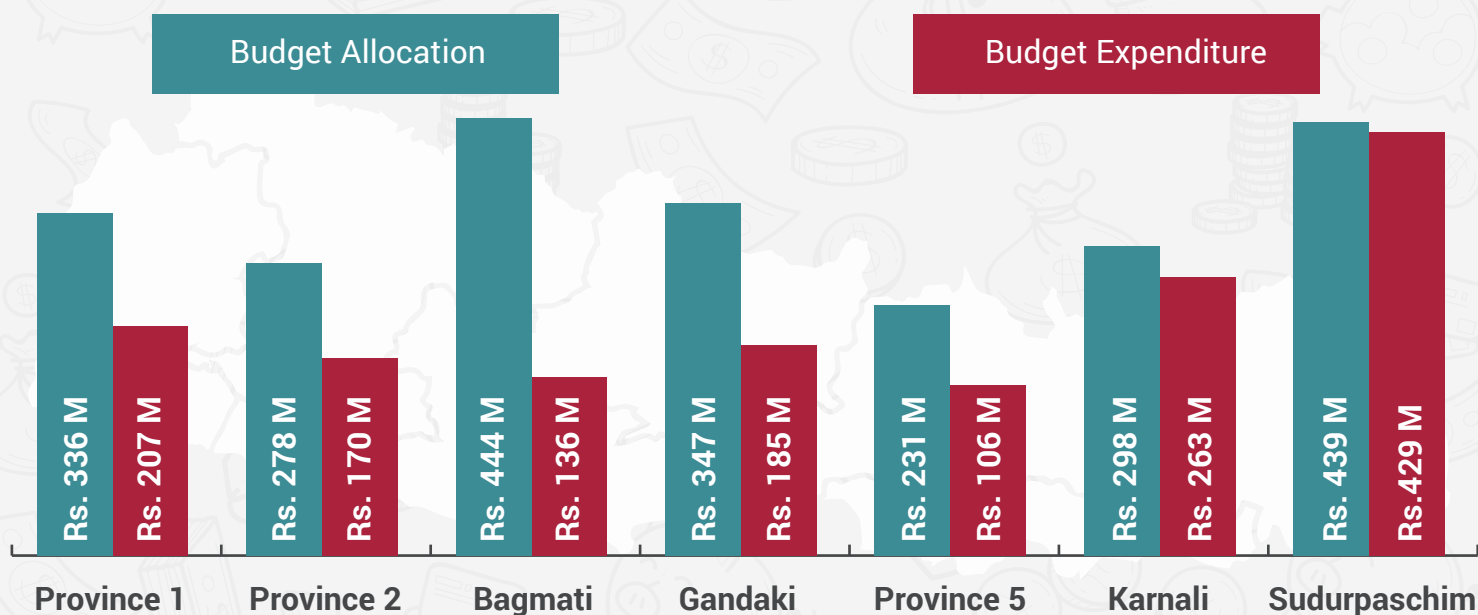


Other Expenses
Rs. 12,473,000



Human Resource Mobilization
Rs. 57,443,000

Expense made by Provincial Government





Anju Kumari Chaudhary

Acting Chairperson

Pratappur Rural Municipality, Nawalpur

"I was elected Deputy Chairperson in the last local level elections. After the death of Chairperson, Raj Kumar Sharma in the jeep accident on 32 Jestha, I am now working as an Acting Chairperson. When the Chairperson passed away, I was in quarantine located at the ward. no. 1, Sisnia. Even though it is difficult to work in the absence of Chairperson, I have been constantly working. It is

natural to feel uncomfortable to complete the work prescribed for two people single-handedly. I am actively working to protect the people within the local unit from corona pandemic. I have been able to work without fear due to my conviction that the public have me here to serve."

Shanta Gyawali

Deputy Chairperson

Suddhodhan Rural Municipality, Rupandehi

"I was very scared at first. But now the fear is gone. I have gained confidence that corona can be cured by looking at the people who have recovered. But, I have improved my eating habits. I don't eat cold food and also tell other family members to not consume the same. Recently, we have vacated all the quarantines in the schools within the local unit and have arranged home isolation. I have been visiting those who are in quarantine and are staying in home isolation due to the infection with health items. We have been giving them counselling to enhance their confidence."



Lakshmi Gupta

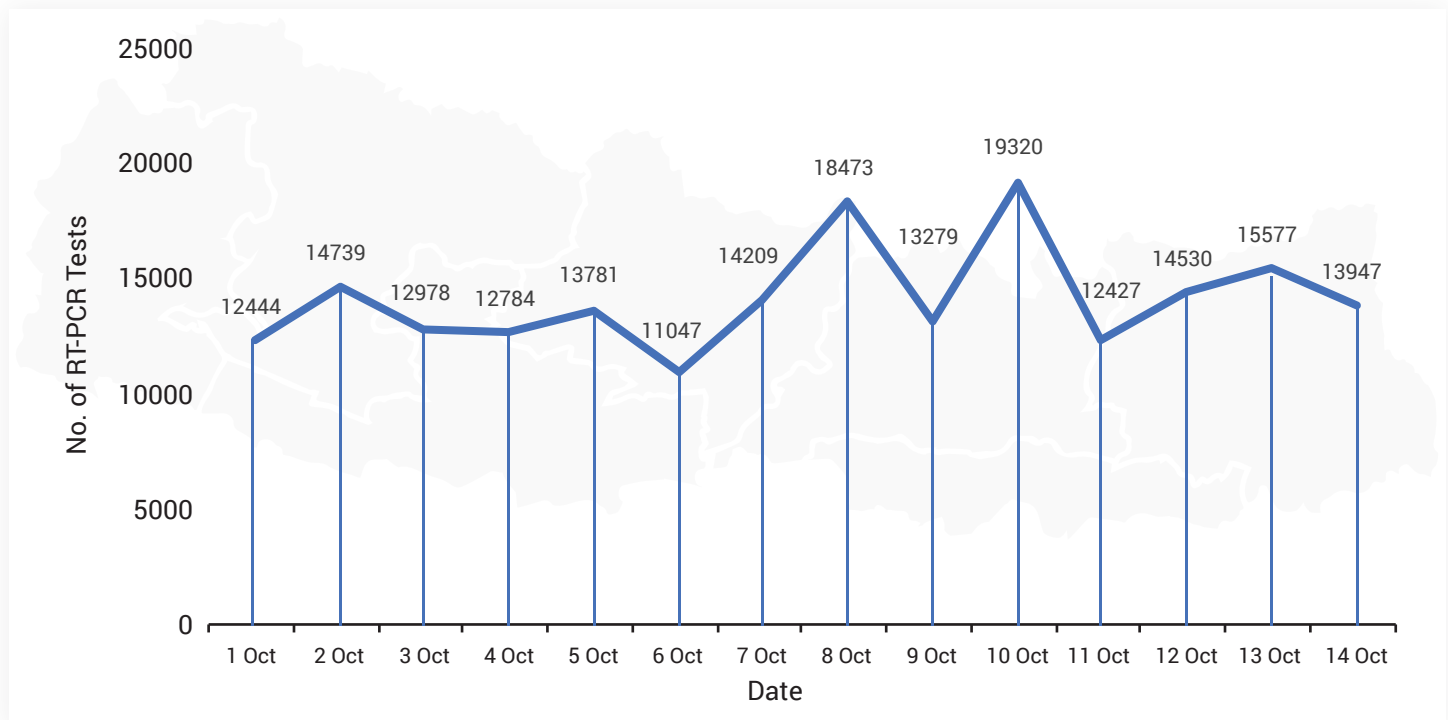
Deputy Mayor

Kapilvastu Municipality, Kapilvastu

"There are many people who quietly come from India and stay at home as the local unit is connected to the border. The whole local municipality is at risk because of them. They don't get tested and instead prefer hiding. The municipality has repeatedly urged people to wear masks, maintain physical distance and avoid crowds. I have been visiting those in quarantine and isolation with health items

and foods that increase their immunity. I have also been providing them necessary counselling. Being a local representative, I can't avoid meeting people. I have a family of six. I am careful that my family shouldn't get infected because of me."

Daily PCR tests in Nepal

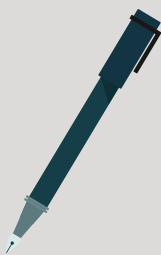


In the last two weeks, confirmed cases of COVID-19 increased by 48 percent in Nepal. The above graph shows the number of daily PCR tests done in Nepal during this period. Except for a couple of days, the number of daily tests remain static. Despite repeated claims from the government to do more tests, data shows that the testing rate has barely increased. Had there been more tests, confirmed cases in Nepal would likely be much more than now. Therefore, the government needs to expand testing facilities to sufficiently improve the volume of tests.

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.



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