

#### Nepal Coronavirus CivActs Campaign

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.

### Some new decisions made by government regarding COVID-19

1. The passengers movement will be halted at all the entry points of Nepal on Nepal's International border till midnight on 30 Mangsir 2077.



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- 2. Each ward office will form a dedicated team and provide health coun seling to the people living in home isolation, monitor and treat their health condition, and supervise whether or not they are following the guidelines.
- 3. Permission will be given to conduct the sports activities by following the health safety standards. (to participate in the upcoming Olympic games, to participate in sports training, football, cricket and other sports at international level, to organize friendly games and to prepare for football division games and to conduct other sports)





**4.** Oxygen plants will be established in the hospitals as per the need at the provincial level.

Source: https://mocit.gov.np/categorydetail/cabinet-kartik-24-2077



The crowd to purchase mushroom seeds in Dhangadhi Sub-Metropolitan City

#### Photo : Ganga Bhandari

## Nepal Update

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**Tested** PCR Tested: 1,633,559 Positive: 215,020 Active: 28,106 Deaths: 1276 Recovered: 185,638

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

NEPAL

## Rumors & Facts



There is a lot of talk about the government providing employment to the unemployed. How much does the government really pay?

In order to provide employment to the unemployed youth under the Prime Minister's Employment Program, NRs. 3 Arab conditional grant has been sent to 568 local units as per the number of the unemployed. Under this program, a person participating in the 100 days employment will be provided a payment of NRS. 519 per day as per the minimum daily wage rate allocated by the government.

Source: https://moless.gov.np/?p=3704 https://cutt.ly/Ng4YOQc



It is heard that the government has given instructions to open the schools. Will all the schools open now?

It has been said that the schools in those local units which aren't at the risk of COVID-19 or where the infection risk is decreasing will be allowed to conduct classes by choosing the appropriate alternative. For this, the government has also approved the School Operation Framework, 2077. Thus, the government hasn't asked all the schools to operate in Nepal. For this, the concerned local unit has been provided the authority to decide whether to open or close the schools considering the risk of infection within the concerned local unit.

Source: https://moe.gov.np/assets/uploads/files/School\_Reopening.PDF



Several newspapers are reporting that there will be strict lockdown in Kathmandu after Chhath. Will there really be a lockdown again?

The kathmandu Valley Mayor's Forum has put forward a proposal of imposing lockdown to control the rising infection rate in the Kathmandu Valley. The meeting was attended by the Chief District officers of three districts, representatives from security agencies and the Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Industry. However, no official decision has been made on the issue of imposing lockdown.

Source: Janakraj Dhakal, Chief District Officer, Kathmandu



It is heard that the government is again collecting the details of the migrant returnees. Will the government only collect the details or also provide employment?

The government is collecting the data of those who have returned from India and other countries after losing their employment due to COVID-19 and those educated and skilled unemployed who have returned from higher educations and the unemployed between the age of 18 to 59. For this, a circular has been issued to all the locals units to send the details within 15 days.

Source: https://www.mofaga.gov.np/news-notice/2185

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1. Add +27 60 080 6146 to your contact list.





2. Send a message saying **Nepal** to the contact.



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DIAL 32100 from your NTC simcard for accessing all COVID-19 information for FREE

## **Open Migration**

## Migrant workers in major destination countries



## **Shramik**Sanjal

### What should you do to report a human rights violation in Qatar?

#### UAE

The time period of amnesty given till 17 November to those whose visa expired before 1 March, 2020 has been extended until 31 December, 2020.

#### Qatar

If you have to report any incident related to human rights violation or if you have any complaint or grievance, you can contact at the address with the documents given below:

Contact email address

c@nhrc.org.qa

nepalcommunity.nhrc@gmail.com

#### Necessary documents:

- 1. Application of the person making complaint, copy of identity card, contact number
- 2. The contact number or any document revealing the identity of the person against whom the complaint is to be made

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**



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### Young people earning NRs. 80,000 a month in foreign employment are now facing difficulties in fulfilling everyday necessities of their family

Rabin Shrestha of Butwal has been living at home for the past eight months. He returned to Nepal on 5 Chaitra. Rabin, who has worked in foreign countries for the past 18 years, was recently working in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Rabin who used to work at a one-star hotel there would save about NRs. 80,000 per month by cutting the expenses. Rabin began his foreign employment experience in Malaysia in 2002 and later travelled up to Iran from Qatar. When he first went to Malaysia, his salary was 400 ringgits. Rabin, who was born in 2040 BS, had gone to Malaysia to earn money and bring happiness to the family after he couldn't perform well in academics.

His family consists of his parents, two brothers, a sister, and a wife. The money earned earlier was spent on household expenses. Now that he is unemployed, he is facing problems even in managing his personal expenses. Rabin who is staying on a two-month leave hasn't yet been called by the company he works for. After waiting so long for the company to call he has become frustrated now that the company shows no signs of approaching him. In other years, he used to earn extra money for festivals and New Year celebrations. All those extra incentives have lost this year. He suffers the most when he has to say no even when his wife asks money to buy something as simple as bangles.

Even if the company calls him, Rabin is skeptical that he will be able to earn as much as he did before the corona infection began. He works in a hotel. Hotel business is in crisis due to corona. He

worked abroad for 18 years. His financial situation deteriorated only in 8 months after Corona made him unemployed. He is only a representative character who sustains the livelihood of his family only through foreign employment. Who is there to explain to the young people like Rabin that earnings can be generated within the country itself if they are willing to work hard in the country. Who gives them the alternative? Isn't the annual expenditure made by the government in the name of youth employment targeted for young people like Rabin? Are all unemployed youth supposed to work for NRs. 517 daily wage?





## Hilly districts in Nepal show higher active cases of COVID-19 in Nepal

#### Districts with 500+ active COVID-19 Cases in Nepal



The above chart shows the districts that have 500+ active COVID-19 cases in Nepal. These 11 districts hold almost 80 percent of total active cases in Nepal. Kathmandu alone contributes 43 percent of active cases. With restrictions in border crossings, Nepal in general seems safe but community transmission within these districts is still highly contributing towards the increasing infection rate. Kathmandu valley, and Kathmandu district in particular, continues to be the largest hotspot for COVID-19. Case density has increased in central hilly districts of Nepal now as only a few districts in Terai have more than 500 active cases.

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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