








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.

## Infected individuals staying in home isolation will be provided "Isolation Kit" through local unit

### Target group receiving isolation kits:

Pregnant women, individuals over the age of 60, individuals with chronic diseases (people affected by diabetes, heart diseases, cancer, kidney problems, lung problems)

### List of isolation kit:

<b>Medical mask</b> Total 84 masks for the infected and individual taking care to change for 6 times a day for 14 days 	<b>Hand Sanitizer</b> 1 bottle of 250 ml 
<b>1/1 thermometer and pulse oximeter</b> After the isolation period, it should be cleaned and returned to the health institution or designated health worker 	<b>Paracetamol tablet</b> 42 tablets 
<b>Infection, prevention and control leaflets and leaflets about the necessity to go to the hospital</b> 1/1 box 	<b>Tissue paper and gloves</b> 1/1 box 
	<b>Self-monitoring form</b> To monitor twice a day 

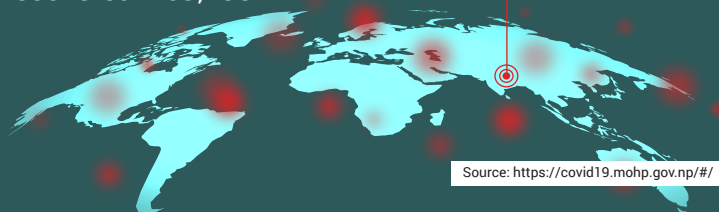
Source: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HcOJ3rx41tYGzXuS0bgO5LfKGDz6D5kR/view>

## Nepal Update



### Tested

PCR Tested: 1,700,000  
Positive: 227,640  
Active: 16,793  
Deaths: 1412  
Recovered: 209,435

**NEPAL**


# Rumors & Facts



Has the risk allowance of the employees working in the prevention of COVID-19 also been reduced now after the government introduced economical measures for public expenditure?

All employees working in public agencies will get as usual uniform expense, inflation allowance and local allowance. Even if it has been said that all the employees working in public agencies will not be given encouragement incentive, overtime allowance, risk allowance, food or meal allowance, the doctors and health workers working on the frontline for prevention of COVID-19 infection will get the allowance as before.

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



What is the eligibility for the business loan provided by the government?

Entrepreneurs affected by COVID-19 will get the business loan. Such business must be registered with any agency of the Government of Nepal, who have done regular renewal and have a minimum 5 employees. Also, they must have paid regular wages or salary from Shrawan to Falgun of FY 2076/077 or filed after deducting income tax in advance. The business also should have had an audit in the last fiscal year and obtained a tax payment certificate and paid the employees' salary by depositing it in their bank account.

Source: <https://www.nrb.org.np/contents/uploads/2020/11/wages-and-salary-compensation-manual-2077.pdf>



At present, it has been said that more than 85 percent of the corona infected are staying in home isolation. Has the government really shied away from monitoring or supervising them?

Keeping this in mind, the government has directed the local units to form a group in each community to monitor and take care of the people living in home isolation. Each group should monitor a maximum of 50 houses. If there are more than 50 houses in a community, then another group should be formed. Those groups will be operated by Tol Sudhar Samiti (community development committee), clubs, consumer committee or gutthi. Those groups should submit a regular report to the ward chairperson with all the progress and challenges.

Source: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L4SmmCha-Fzm8FZl9dsJGcDHdX\\_q-Frd/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L4SmmCha-Fzm8FZl9dsJGcDHdX_q-Frd/view)



Won't those individuals who aren't included in the list of unemployed compiled by the local units be able to participate in the Employment Program?

All the rural municipalities and municipalities should mandatorily keep the details of the forms that have completed all the stages of the process of listing the details of unemployed persons of their respective areas into the Employment Management Information System (EMIS). The Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security disburses conditional grants based on the number of unemployed persons listed in this way. Therefore, the person who wants to participate in the Employment Program must be listed in the list of unemployed collected by their local unit.


Source: <https://www.mofaga.gov.np/news-notice/2210>

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**

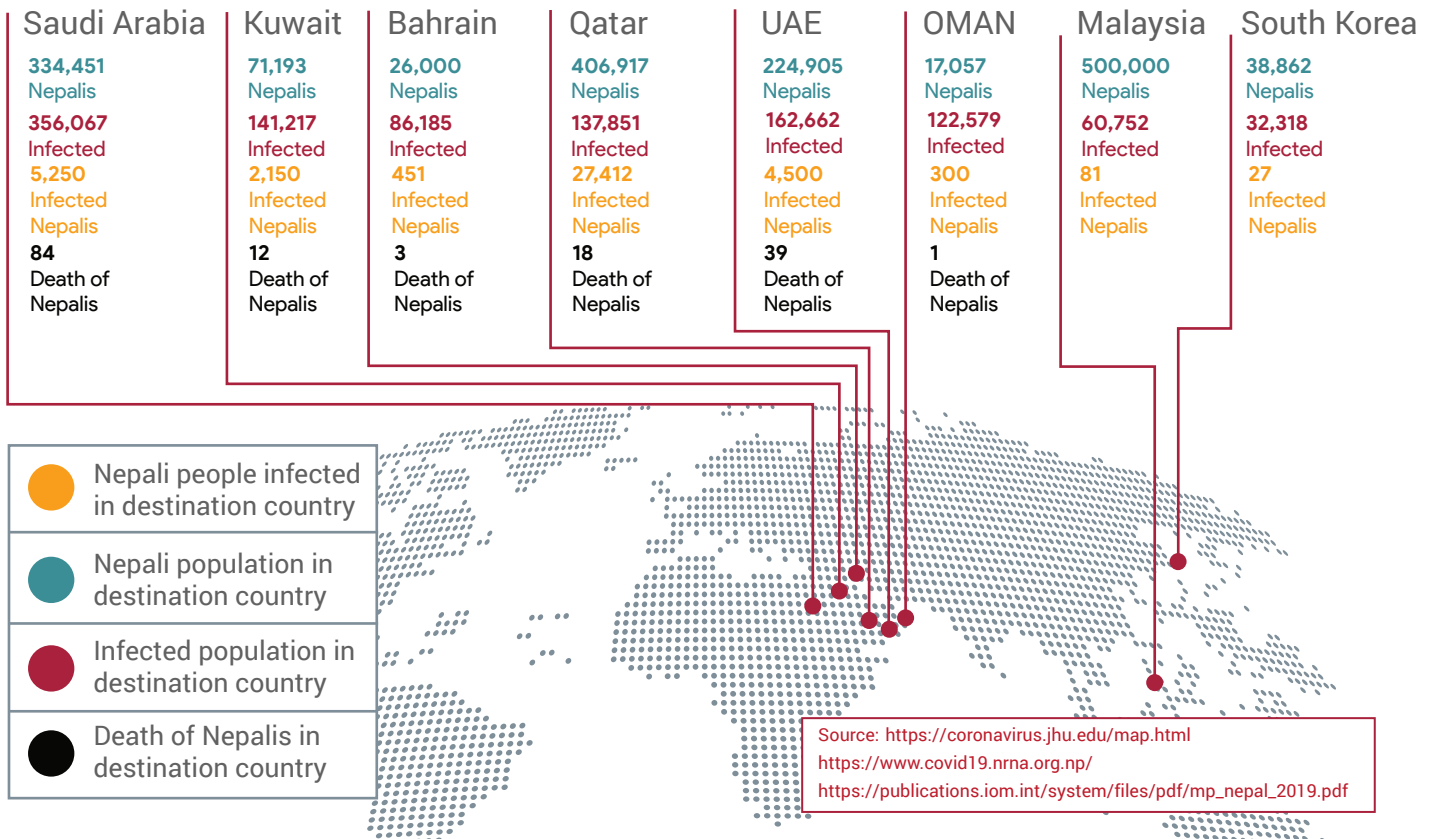
Brought to you by  **viamo**

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



# Open Migration

## Migrant workers in major destination countries



## ShramikSanjal

## New Rules that are regulated in UAE, Oman and Kuwait are:

### UAE

On the occasion of 49th National Day, it was declared that all the charges/fines related to traffic will be discounted by 50% starting from December 2nd. This applies to the fines that were decided before 23rd November in Ajman.

In every winter there are picnics and other programs in Furera. Even though the winter has started this year, such programs are asked not to be conducted this year. If such programs are found taking place, people could be punished.

### Oman

One will be charged 500 Omani Riyal (sums to Rs.1 lakh 50 thousand) if they are found involved in any activities that insults Oman Riyal, or posting of such activities in any kind of social media.

### Kuwait

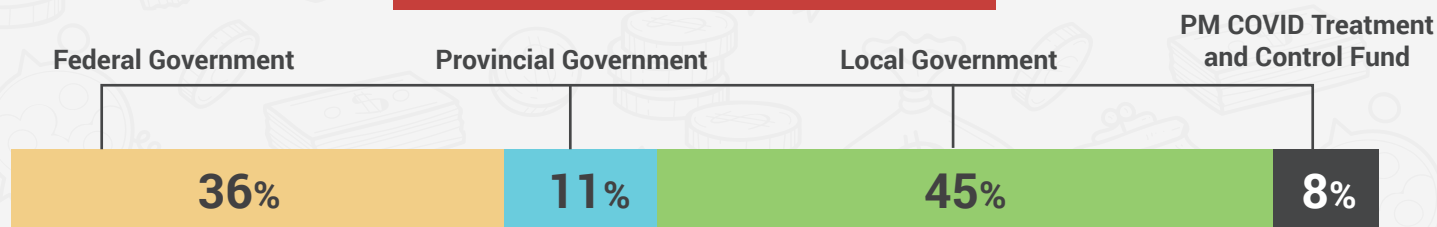
145 KWD has been fixed as the flight charge from Kuwait to Nepal for the Nepalese. We are informed that there has been preparations for sending domestic workers to Kuwait from December 10.

You can listen to our Facebook live at [www.facebook.com/shramik.sanjal](https://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

**13.37 Billion NRS**




## Expense Headings at the Federal Government

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

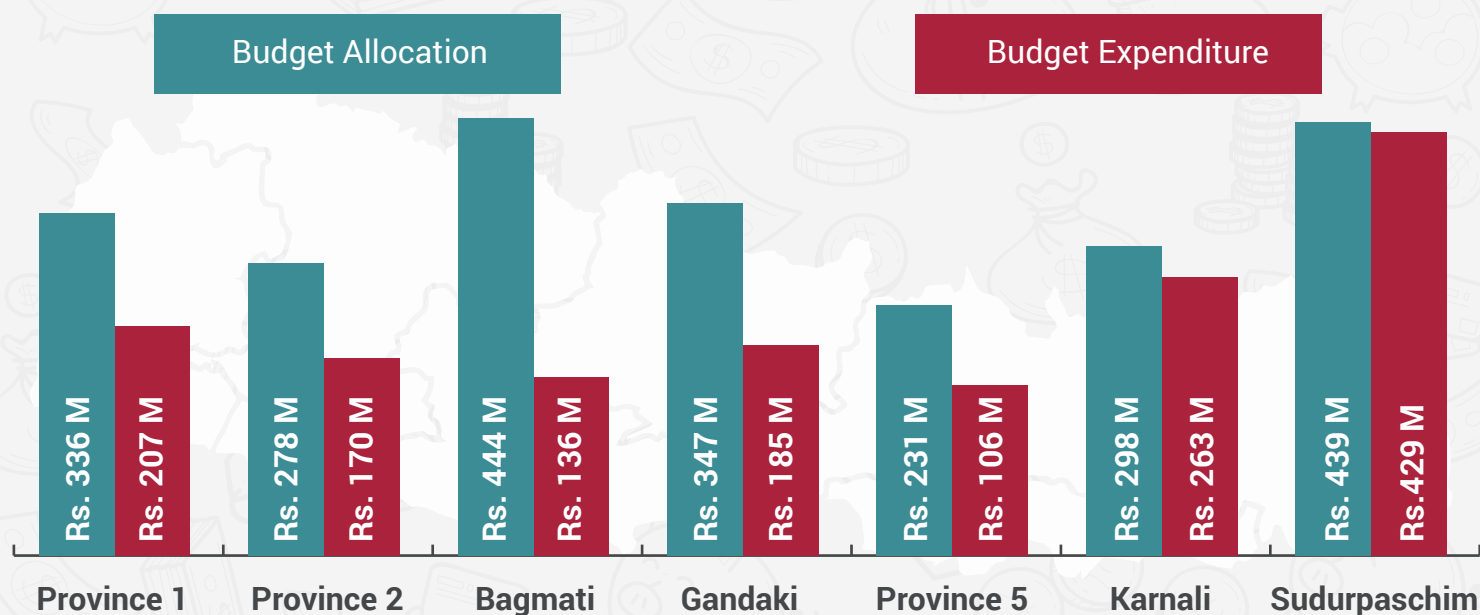
  
Quarantine Management  
**Rs. 46,946,000**

  
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



# Digital Rights



Every sector of human life be it health, education, occupation or so on has now become linked with the internet. Thus, all those human rights which are used through the internet or have become associated with the internet can be considered digital rights. The Internet has also lately become a place for association or networking. It is being used as a platform to establish political and social discourses. One side of the digital rights deals with people's right to freedom of expression and opinion while the next

deals with online privacy, e-governance among others. The dimension of digital rights is also evolving with the increasing use and interaction in the digital platforms.

Some of the major rights and provisions that constitutes digital rights are Right to Access (access to physical and technical infrastructure to stay informed), Right to Freedom of Expression and Opinion on the internet (the freedom to voice the opinions in online platforms as well), Right to Online Privacy, Online Data Protection ( protection of personal and professional data, communication materials) and Freedom of Association (associate in terms of demography, political values or so on through digital groups)

## Digital Rights and COVID-19

COVID-19 has brought all digital rights, human rights and civil liberties in a very difficult stage. We had also observed in the earlier incidents like September 11 attacks or civil wars around the developing world that crisis and fear increases the state regulation. Moreover, the public is also likely to accept the regulation and avoid revolting against the state during the crisis. The report published by Freedom on the Net has highlighted three major trends of government behaviors seen during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- i. Political leaders have used pandemic as an opportunity to limit public access to information. At least 13 countries have been reported of imposing internet shutdowns and keeping their population at dark.
- i. The governments have increased their surveillance powers and deployed new technologies using COVID pandemic to justify its importance. At least the government of 30 countries have reported tapping into the telecommunication data for mass surveillance.
- ii. Each government is imposing their own digital regulations in a manner that restricts the flow of information across nation borders. The countries have started becoming vocal about the concept of Cyber Sovereignty.

Freedom of Net 2020 has also reported that the COVID-19 accelerated a decline in free speech and privacy on the internet for tenth consecutive years. In Nepal as well, there has been a surge in the number of tracking mobile applications; along with state agencies like Nepal Police and Nepal Army, other institutions were also seen developing such applications. A report of the Press Council suggested that 17 websites were punished and blocked for access through Nepal for reporting false information. Similarly, 37 news media were summoned to clarify the content of their news.

*This content is prepared on the basis of the discussion held with Advocate Santosh Sigdel, President, Digital Rights Nepal.*





### Is Foreign Employment the Last Option for the Unemployed?

Kalpana Tamang, a 33 years old resident of ward 5 of Jawalamukhi Rural Municipality has basic reading and writing skills. It had become difficult for her to sustain her family as she could not start the business because of weak financial status and she did not have a proper education background for a job. In addition to that, her husband too did not have a proper job which had created a situation that their 2 children had to stop their education. Foreign employment was the option left for her. To fulfill the dream of ensuring the education of her children she went to Kuwait for foreign employment in 2071.

In the beginning, for a few months Kalpana who had gone for housekeeping received facilities as per the agreement. But after a year the owner started complaining that she did not take care of the child and stopped giving her salary. Anyway, she returned home after spending 2 year and 6 months in Kuwait. Kalpana who had opted for foreign employment for meeting the household expenses and children's education was shocked to find that her husband had married another woman. She then decided to look after her children and their education by working within her locality. Now, her daughter is studying in class 7 whereas she is not capable of providing higher education to her son who has completed SEE. It is not that she hadn't sought help to arrange for work-study for her son in the city. Unfortunately, because of the COVID-19 pandemic this option was closed as well.

Now again the only option is to send her son for foreign employment. But she doesn't want to do that. She is alert and does not want her son to repeat her fate. She is hopeful that the local government will help her. But, *"Who does the local government provide employment? What is the procedure for applying?"*, Kalpana is unknown about it.

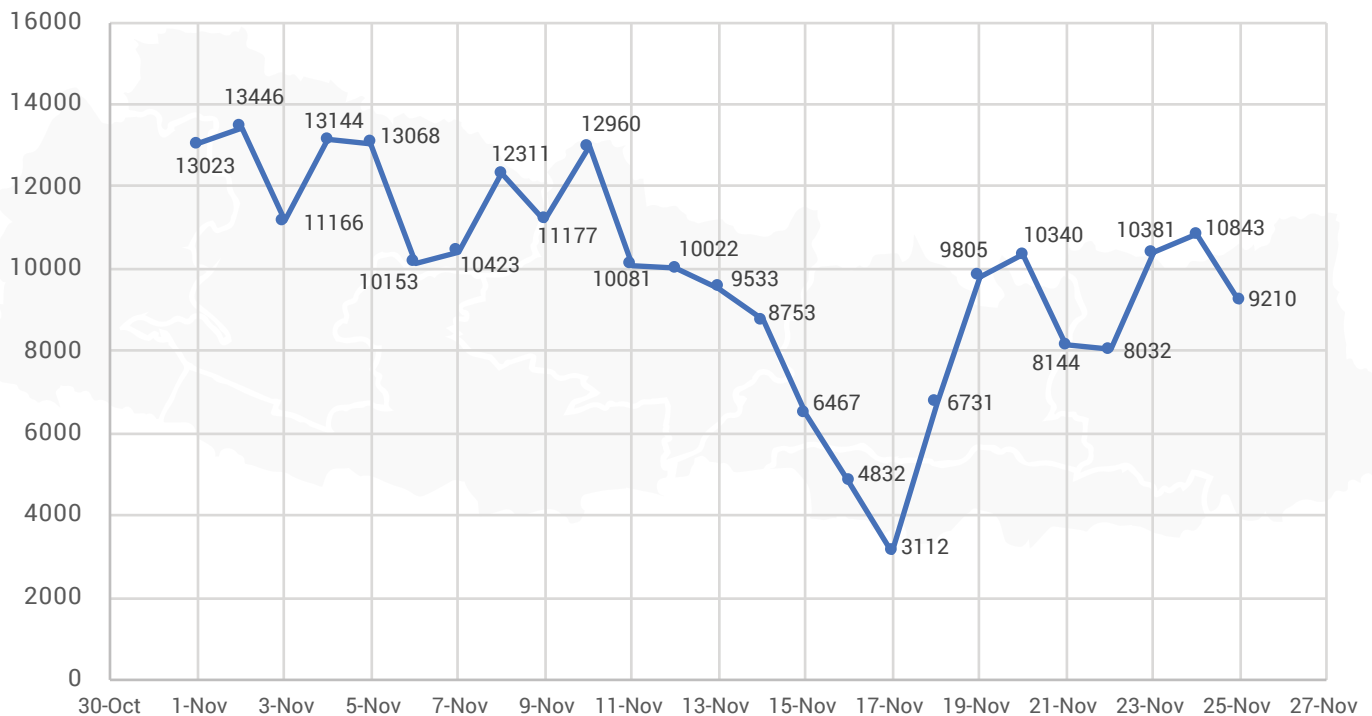
Won't people like Kalpana with low economic status be included in employment programs brought by the government? What should people like Kalpana who have least economic status do to get opportunities from the employment program brought by the government?





# Decrease in daily number of tests paints a worrisome picture in Nepal

## Daily PCR Tests Conducted in Nepal in November 2020



The above line chart shows the number of daily PCR tests conducted in Nepal in the month of November. As we know from various news and previous data that on average, 20 percent of tests conducted have resulted in positive COVID-19 cases in Nepal. But, we can see from the above chart that the total number of tests being conducted have actually decreased a bit. To better control the situation of COVID-19 in Nepal, there is an urgent need to increase the number of tests as unidentified cases have a higher risk of transmission.

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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