

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 criteria for Ambulance Operation Permit as per the Integrated Ambulance Service Operation Guideline, 2077

1. Submit an application to the concerned local unit by clearly stating the category of the ambulance to be procured.
2. The ambulance will be given permission for two years.
3. Submit an application to the concerned Provincial Ambulance and Pre-Hospital Management Committee for renewal with the recommendation of the local unit/province 30 days before the expiration date.
4. The ambulance operating in the "C" category needs to be upgraded within two years of the implementation of the directive.
5. The ambulance service should be kept ready for operation 24 hours a day.
6. While operating an ambulance in rural areas, it is mandatory to have a four-wheel drive and use a power steering and suspension chain system.



Source: <https://www.mofaga.gov.np/uploads/notices/Notices-20201202123325253.pdf>

Nepal Update



The tourist movement seen at Halanchowk, Pokhara despite COVID-19

Photo : Narayani Sigdel

Tested

PCR Tested: 1790,739
Positive: 241,995
Active: 12,948
Deaths: 1614
Recovered: 227,433

NEPAL



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

Rumors & Facts



The government had promised to provide free testing and treatment to COVID-19 patients. But, the hospitals have been collecting money from the patients?

The Ministry of Health and Population is bearing the cost of testing and treatment of the symptomatic patients of COVID-19. The hospitals listed for treatment are not allowed to charge for such patients. The Ministry of Health and Population's Incident Command System has decided to monitor and take action if the hospitals are found to have both charged patients and reimbursed the amount

Source: <https://cutt.ly/Khm9nWr>



Is it true that the students who missed the class 12 exams will be allowed to take the exams again?

Only those students who were infected with COVID-19 and couldn't appear for the entire examination or exams of a few subjects will be allowed to participate in the re-examination. For that, the positive report of COVID-19 taken from the laboratory recognized by the Government of Nepal has to be submitted to the concerned school by 26 Mangsir 2077.

Source: <http://www.neb.gov.np/uploads/photos/SCSPW5Hx7t201203013643.pdf>



When claiming corona insurance, every institution asks for different documents. Which is the official body to help us understand this?

A lot of decisions and news about corona insurance have recently come out. This has also added to the confusion of the ones who have done corona insurance. Keeping this situation in mind, the Insurance Committee has launched toll-free number 1660-01-56789 for information, consultation and hearing of grievances about insurance claims. Similarly, three contact persons have also been allocated for it. Further details with regard to it are given in the link below.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/ahm50Cu>



It is heard that individuals who have returned from foreign employment at their own expense due to COVID-19 will also get back the money spent on air tickets from the government. Is this true?

Yes. Those individuals who fall within the government's rescue criteria, but returned home at their own expense before the government rescued them, will receive a refund. For that, the documents and application should be submitted to the Department of Foreign Employment as per provision 3 of the directive, Rescue and repatriation of Nepali workers stranded abroad due to coronavirus, 2077 (you can see the directive in the link below).

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

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.



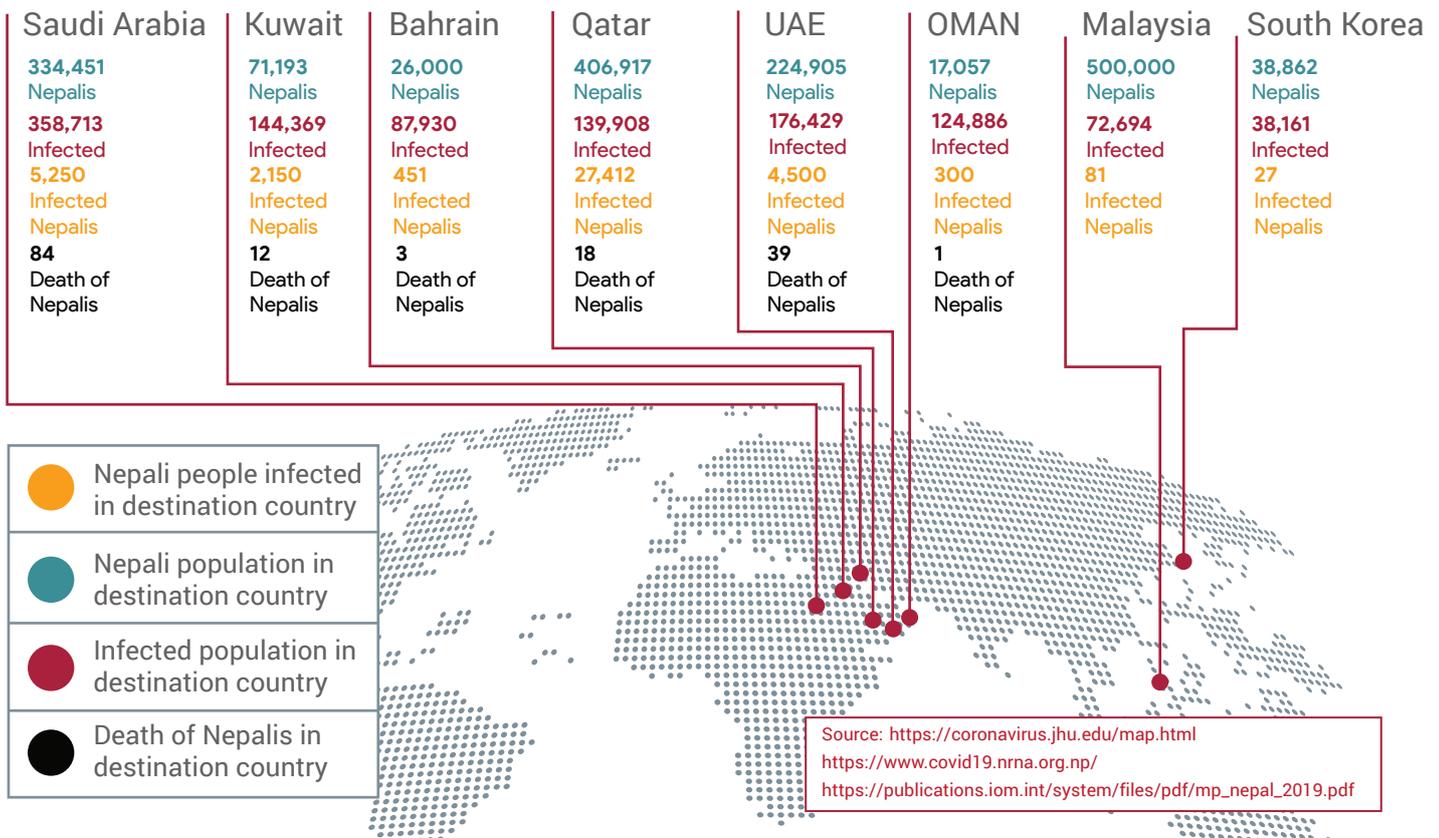
Toll-free **HOTLINE** on
COVID-19

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

Information related to PCR test in UAE, Visa centre of Qatar in Nepal and Amnesty in Bahrain

UAE

The cost for the PCR test in Abu Dhabi is only 85 Dirham. This facility will be provided by the governmental hospitals.

Qatar

Qatar Visa Centre Nepal has announced to provide their services from 10th of December. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, Qatar Visa Centre (QVC) was closed along with the closure of the new visa for Qatar.

Bahrain

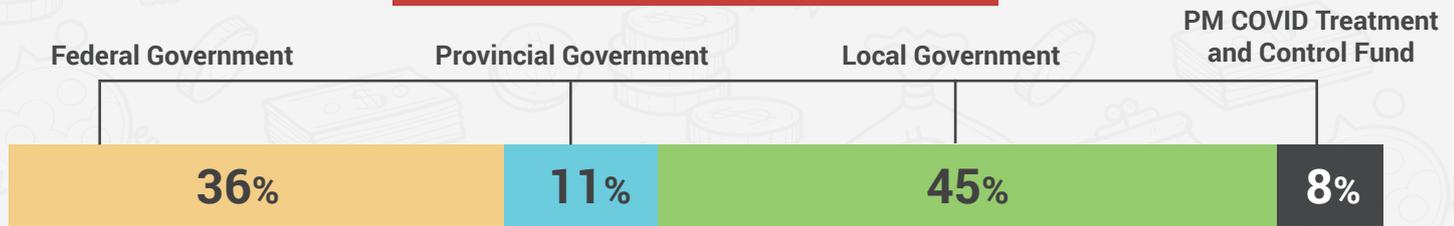
A general amnesty is announced in Bahrain. Under this amnesty, those who have been staying illegally in Bahrain can return to their own country. Also, they are provided with the opportunity to turn their stay into legal. This opportunity is valid till 31st December 2020.

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).**

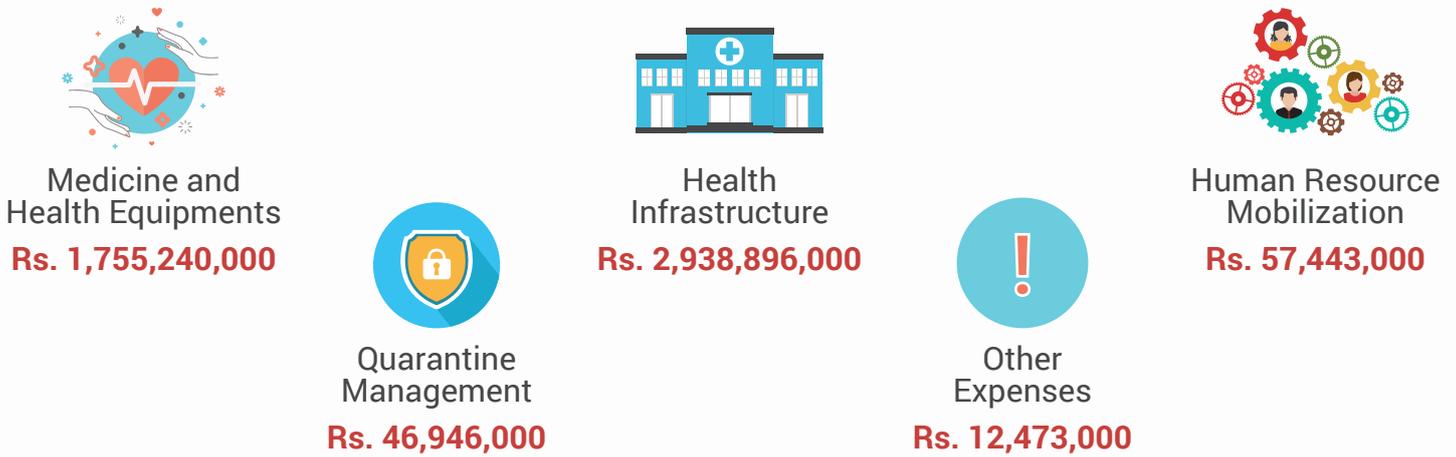
\$ Follow the Money

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

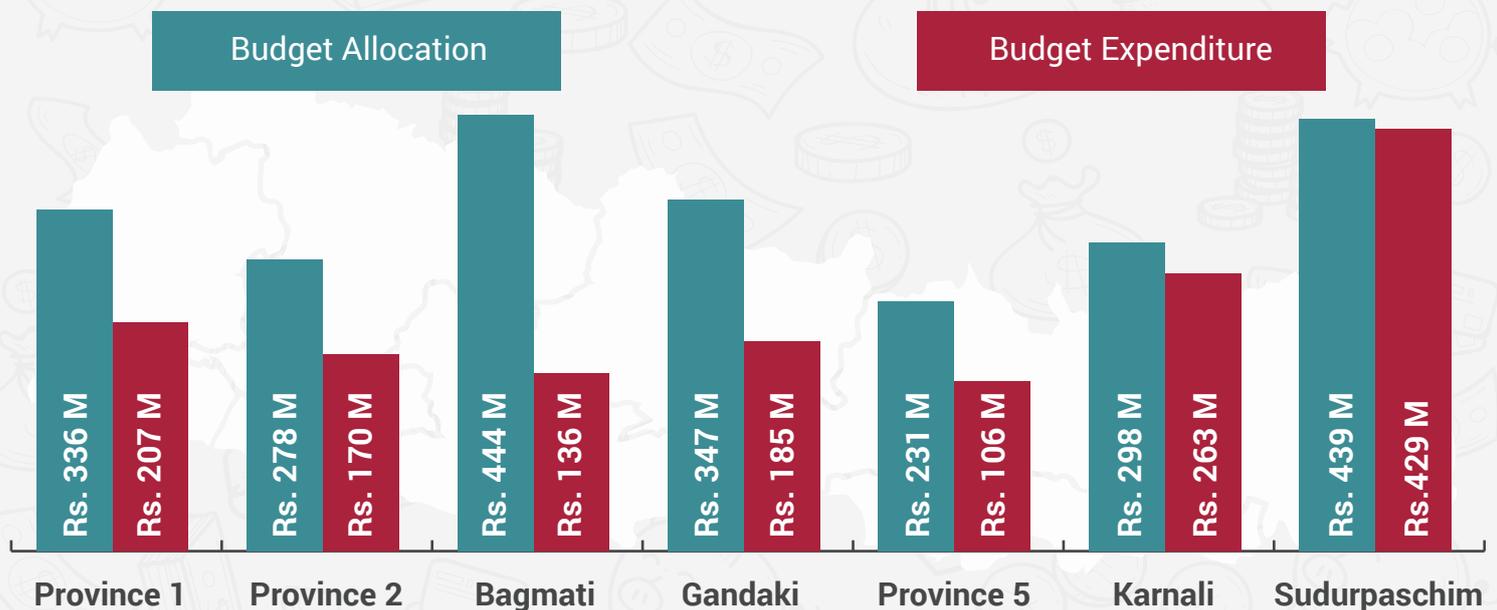
13.37 Billion NRS



Expense Headings at the Federal Government

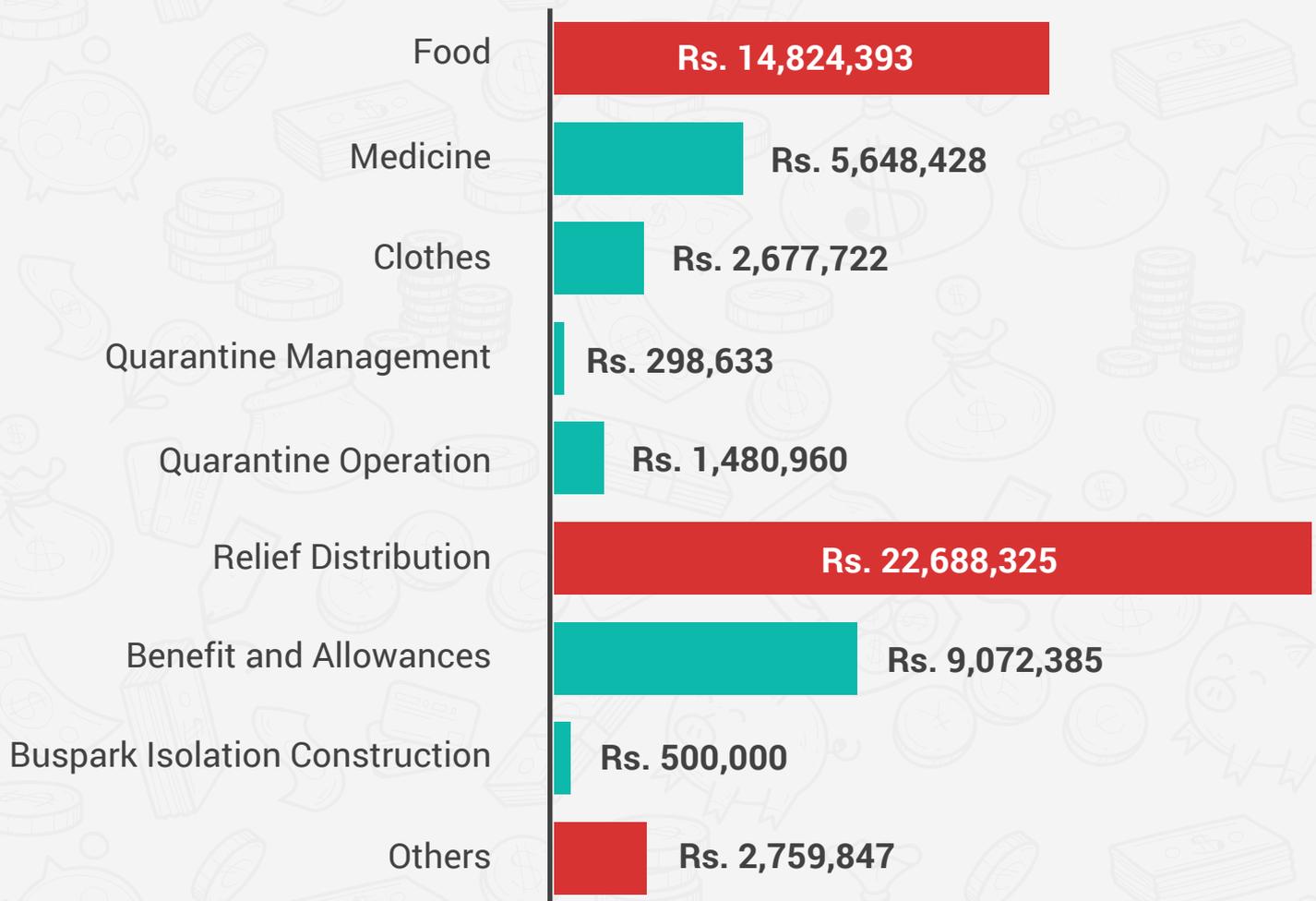


Expense made by Provincial Government



\$ Follow the Money

Expenses made by Birendranagar Municipality for corona prevention, control and response till Ashar 2077



Information from the Birendranagar Municipality shows that the total expense made regarding corona prevention, control and response till Ashar 2077 was almost 60 million NRS. The above graph shows the expenses made in different categories, which raises a few questions. The expenses made for quarantine's management and operation along with isolation and medicine are comparatively very low compared to food and relief distribution expenses. The total expense made on relief distribution is over 22.6 million NRS. When we compare this with the government's average of Rs. 1250 per household, over 76% of households in this local unit would have received relief, which is astronomically high. Details on the number of people who have received these relief and the amount each individual has received need to be made transparent by the government to explain these high expenses. Similarly, the expenses categorized under "Others" is higher than that of quarantine management, operation and isolation construction and therefore, a much clearer expense details might be necessary for evaluation.

*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.*



Manju Devi Gurung

Deputy Mayor Pokhara Metropolitan City

"In this situation of crisis, I worked as someone who is in charge and has responsibility than as a common citizen. I visited each quarantine on a daily basis. Especially, I prioritized the pregnant women in the female quarantine centre or the new mothers in the community. I even provided and distributed the packages of essential goods. Even in this difficult situation, I went door-to-door and provided individual counselling. Despite all the prevention, I too contracted corona. Let's not take corona lightly. Its effects are very painful.

Aarati Gurung

Staff Nurse, Gandaki Medical College, Pokhara

"The more we treated the corona patient the lesser I feared from the corona. As we had to take care of the COVID patient, it was challenging to take care of them and stay safe from developing corona. I felt that I myself would get sick when I did not get to go to the toilet for 12 hours or get food on time. At the beginning, due to lack of management and shortage of staff it was difficult. I am still staying at the quarantine centre of the hospital and looking after the COVID patient. I am thinking of going home, only if I get a negative PCR test report."

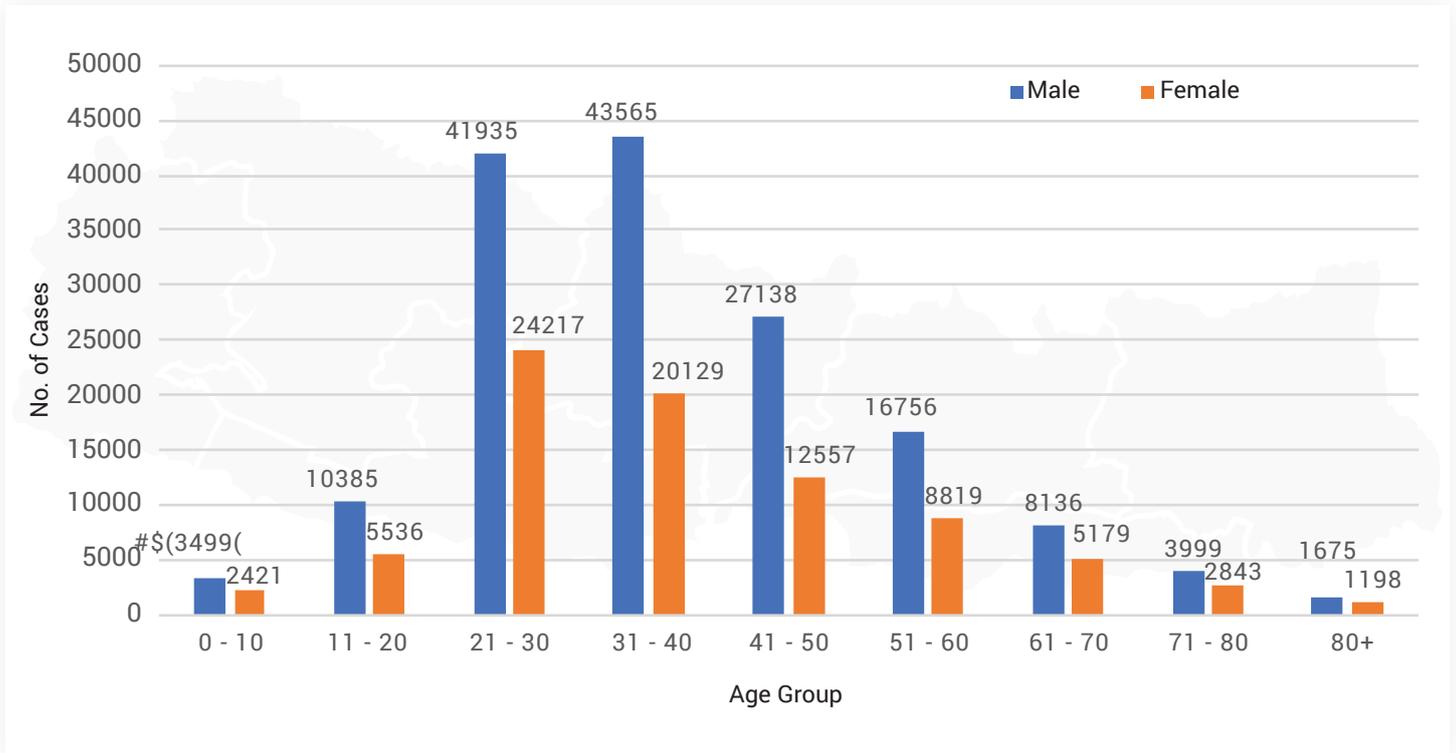


Sarita Kumari Tharu

Hospital sanitation worker, Nobel Hospital, Biratnagar

"During this time of this pandemic, especially at the beginning, I was scared of working. I had a fever once, but I did not give up going to work. I was worried about my little son and family. So, I stayed alone at that time. Fortunately, I did not suffer from it. Currently, I am working as usual but I have been receiving half of my salary. I do not have other options. I am finding it difficult to sustain my life. I do not know if the government or the hospital administration have made plans for workers like us."

Age-wise Distribution of COVID-19 Cases in Nepal



The above chart shows the age-wise distribution of COVID-19 cases in Nepal. Age groups between 20 to 40 years have the highest number of cases while females across all age groups have less number of infections. Data shows that high vulnerability groups like children and elderly are relatively less infected by COVID-19. So far, only 12 percent of total cases belong to the high vulnerability group (below 10 years and above 60 years), but with the high percentage of death cases in Nepal, these vulnerable age groups need to be kept even more safe.

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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