



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 summary of the budget disbursed by Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security for the FY 2077/78

Employment Generation Program Total Budget: NRs. 31,41,00,000 (all grant amount from foreign donors)	Prime Minister Employment ProgramTotal Budget:NRs. 6,83,28,00,000Nepal Government:NRs. 56,33,00,000Foreign Loan:NRs. 6,26,95,00,000
Profitable Security and Health CentersTotal Budget:NRs. 2,14,00,000(all contributed by Nepal Government)	Total: NRs. 7,16,83,00,000 Nepal Government: NRs. 58,47,00,000 Foreign Donations: NRs. 31,41,00,000 Foreign Loans: NRs. 6,26,95,00,000

While observing the above statistics, it is seen that there is only an 8% contribution of the government in the budget allocated by the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security. For the other 92%, the government has been dependent on foreign donation and loans. This shows that the government should be careful in its national income management and in sustainable solutions.

Source: https://npc.gov.np/images/category/ADP.pdf

Nepal Update

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The females from marginalized Majhi community in Chandeni Mandan of Kavrepalanchowk district searching for potato seeds under the superzone of Prime Minister's Agriculture Modernization Project <u>Photo : Keshav Raj Poudel</u>

Tested PCR Tested: 1,813,204 Positive: 245,650 Active: 12,386 Deaths: 1663 Recovered: 231,601 NEPAL

Rumors & Facts



The government has said that if any government employee gets infected with COVID-19, then their isolation period will be considered a public holiday. What about the private institutions?

The Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration has issued a circular stating that similar provisions will be applied for the private institutions as well. According to which, the concerned office head needs to prove that one is in quarantine or isolation or has been admitted in hospital. It is said that the staff who have stayed in isolation will be considered for at most 14 days as public holiday and those who are admitted to hospital for treatment will be considered for the total number of days they remain in the hospital.

Source: https://cutt.ly/Khm9nWr



The government had said that it would start Antigen Test for the testing of COVID-19. Is it as effective as the PCR test?

The Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) has conducted an antigen test for Covid-19 in some of the pocket areas of Kathmandu. After the test whoever gets a positive test report is considered as the Covid positive. Among those who have got the negative test report and have shown symptoms will be tested for PCR. Those who have negative test report and no symptoms do not need to be tested. For the validation of the antigen test of Covid-19, PCR test was conducted in parallel. MOHP will soon make the reports public and have stated that the antigen test is equally effective as the PCR test.

Source: https://cutt.ly/ehT9L75



The Foreign Employment Board conducted a raid in the location where the interview for Qatar Police was being taken. Now, what about those individuals who had submitted money and passports for interviews?

Those people who have submitted passports or money for the employment for Qatar police to SOS manpower service Pvt. Itd Hope international Pvt.ltd, DD human resource Pvt. ltd or to the people related to these manpower or in any other manpower needs to file a complaint with evidence in the Department of Foreign Employment or the nearest labour and employment office or district administration office by 21st Poush 2077. Or one can also file a complaint through email to the monitoring department of the Foreign Employment board at monitoring@dofe.gov.np

Source: https://dofe.gov.np/DetailPage.aspx/id/166/lan/ne-NP



Has the Foreign **Employment Board said** that it will not take complaints from those who went for foreign employment on visit visas and are deceived or are stranded?

The Department of Foreign Employment had earlier published a notice that the Foreign Employment Act and Foreign Employment Rules 2064 will not be responsible for the services, agreement or the facilities of those who go for labor through visit visa and they themselves have to be responsible. But as the cases of those who went for foreign employment on visit visas being deceived or being stranded were more, the department has issued another notice as per which such people who were stranded and deceived in foreign employment or those who have submitted their passport or money for the visit visa can file their complaint along with evidence within 30 days.

Source: https://dofe.gov.np/DetailPage.aspx/id/167/lan/ne-NP

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1. Add +27 60 080 6146 to your contact list. 2. Send a message saying Nepal to the contact.



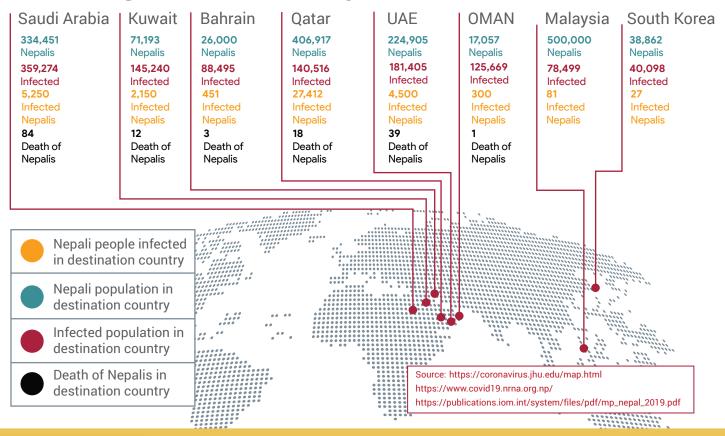


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Open Migration

Migrant workers in major destination countries



Shramik<mark>Sanjal</mark>

Nepali Embassy situated at Saudi Arabia will conduct a one day camp on 11th December (Friday) so that the workers who stay in Juwel area can easily renew their Visa where it will also be easier for them to get a new one if their passport was torn or lost.

Location: Everest Nepali Restaurant, Juwel

Services that you get here.

Photo service, fingerprints, signature and the name list based on the online forms filled.

Documents that you need to bring for the application of passport are:

- 1. Original Passport
- 2. A photocopy of the page of the passport that has your photo and that of page 31 (one each)
- 3. One Photocopy of your citizenship. The photocopy should have both the front and back of the citizenship on the same page

Application fee for passport: 200 Saudi Riyal, 400 Saudi Riyal in case your passport is torn or damaged because of

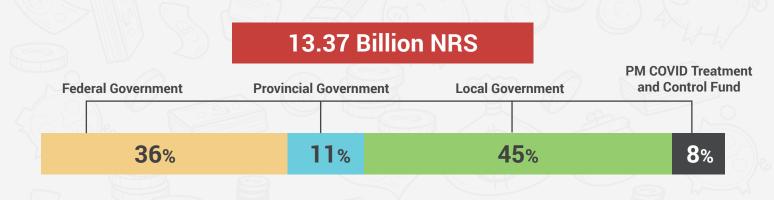
any reason or lost.

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).

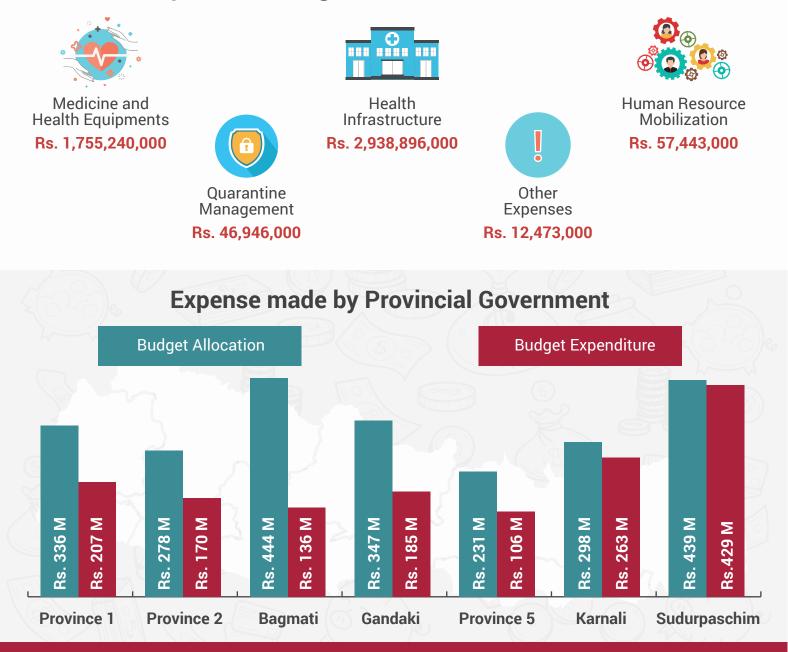


\$ Follow the Money

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



Expense Headings at the Federal Government



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\$ Follow the Money

Expenses made by Pokhara Metropolitan City for corona prevention, control and response till Ashar 2077



Information from Pokhara Metropolitan City shows that the total expense made regarding corona prevention, control and response was over 80 million NRS. The above graph shows the expenses made in different categories. Pokhara Metropolitan City has made good investments on building a sanitizer tunnel and aiding street children. Majority of other expense headings are self-explanatory with investments made on quarantine, isolation and medicine, equipment and PPEs. The total expense made on relief distribution, which is over 31.9 million, does raise questions of whether or not the amount could be better spent on medicine and supporting health equipment. A detail on relief distribution from all local units necessary to be made transparent to ensure public trust among these government units.

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.

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Covid-19 at one end took away the job and in the other end drowned us in debt



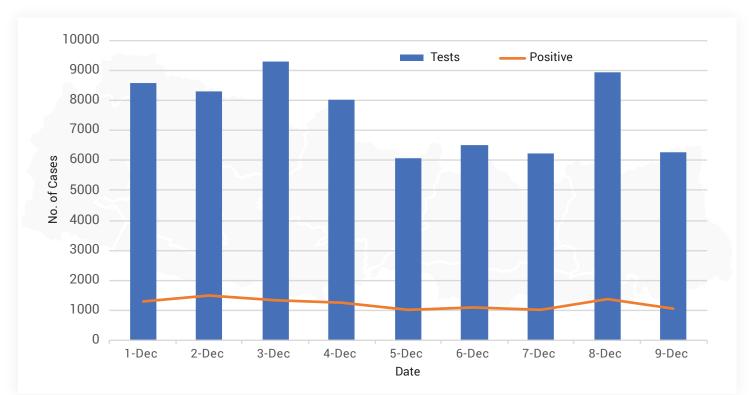
8 months ago I went to Kuwait for foreign employment with some of my friends. I stayed there for 3 months. The work and salary was not as it was said. My salary was only 50 Kuwaiti Dinar per month (sums up to Rs. 20,000). I had to manage food and stay with that money. The company that we worked for was Chinese. The company was sealed because some of the workers of the company contracted Covid. Later the company was shut down.

Among all the workers who worked with us, 8 of them died. I raised my voice about that. I was vocal that the company has to compensate their family. Right after that, the company wanted to kick us out but the environment was not conducive. As staying there was not favourable we returned to our own country even at this time of pandemic.

I had taken the loan hoping I would earn some money abroad. Forget about the earning, I had to ask money for the tickets from home while returning. We had gone for the foreign employment after fulfilling all the required procedures. So, after coming to Kathmandu we filed a complaint for compensation at the Department of Foreign Employment. In the beginning, the department did not pay any attention. When they were pressured they filed the complaint but there has been no hearings yet. We even visited the ministry for compensation. There were no hearings from them as well. Now I am staying at home. I do not know what to do. Covid took away our job and also drowned us in debt.

Matrika Sharma Bheriganga Municipality-1, Surkhet





Daily PCR Tests and Positive Cases in December 2020

The above graph shows the number of daily PCR tests in December 2020 so far. It shows that despite the fluctuating volume of tests, the number of cases that are positive is static over this period. It means that COVID-19 is still prevalent in high numbers and continues to spread in communities. Also after almost nine months into the pandemic in Nepal, the number of daily tests are not satisfactory.

Source: HEOC, MoHP, SitRep

DISCLAIMER

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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**.



CivicActionTeams

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