

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 program targeted at the workers affected by COVID-19 in the policy and program of the Foreign Employment Board for the FY 2077/78

The social and economic reintegration program to be implemented for the Nepali workers who have returned from foreign employment due to COVID-19 or other difficulties on the basis of the financial capacity of the Foreign Employment Welfare Fund

1. Compensation of the skill test of workers returning from foreign employment.



2. Free skill-based training for those who have returned from foreign employment



3. Entrepreneurship training for those who have returned from foreign employment



4. Psychosocial counseling services



5. Financial literacy training for those workers who have returned from foreign employment



6. Capacity building and monitoring at the local units



7. Coordination and facilitation for concessional loans from financial institutions



Source: <https://cutt.ly/jhVg2qK>

Nepal Update



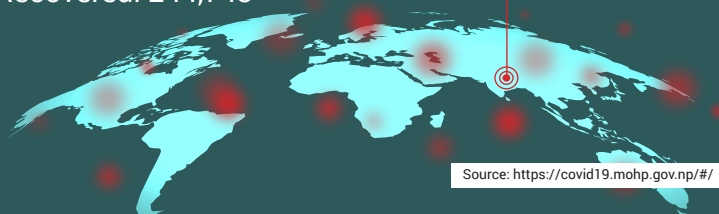
The senior physician, Suveshraj Kayasta being honoured with garland by one of the patients.

Photo: Ganga Bhandari

Tested

PCR Tested: 1,877,181
Positive: 254,514
Active: 7,976
Deaths: 1795
Recovered: 244,743

NEPAL



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

Rumors & Facts



It is heard that the government has introduced a program to provide loans to entrepreneurs at an interest rate of two percent for initial capital. For how long and for how much capital will this be applicable?

The new start-ups willing to work for innovation, entrepreneurship or business operation will get a loan of maximum 50 percent of the capital mentioned in the proposal or upto NRs. 50 lakhs at 2 percent. The repayment period will start within one year of receiving the last installment of the loan. Thus, within four years of the commencement of the repayment period, the entire installment and interest of the loan must be repaid.

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



Now even the ones who show symptoms of infection have stopped getting tested. Won't this further increase the risk of infection?

If someone is having difficulty staying at home due to symptoms of COVID-19, they have been requested to get in touch with the health worker as soon as possible. The Ministry of Health and Population has requested all the family members, neighbours, community members and locals to help individuals who need to be tested and go to hospital for treatment as the testing and treatment of COVID-19 is made free by the government.

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



It is said that the amount of remittance has increased this year compared to earlier years. Does this suggest that the number of people going for foreign employment has increased?

In the current fiscal year, the number of people going abroad for foreign employment with a labor permit has decreased by 96 percent compared to the previous year. In the first four months of the current fiscal year, only 3,463 people have gone for foreign employment. However, the number was 79,680 in the previous fiscal year. Similarly, the number of workers seeking to get the labour permits reissued for foreign employment during the period from Shrawan and Kartik has shrunk by 78.9 percent compared to the same period of the previous fiscal year. The number of workers getting their labor permits reissued has decreased from 80,891 to 17,108 in the current fiscal year.

Source: https://mof.gov.np/uploads/document/file/kartik%20Bulletin_20201215094854.pdf



The women under which conditions will get services under the President's Women Upliftment Program?

Under this program, the pregnant and lactating women at risk in 34 districts will get services. This includes the pregnant women who have difficulty in giving birth due to chronic respiratory pain, deliver a stillborn baby, experience excessive swelling during pregnancy, excessive post-natal bleeding, anemia, and those who are unable to seek treatment from the local health facility.


Source: <https://mowcsc.gov.np/pwup-program#>

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.



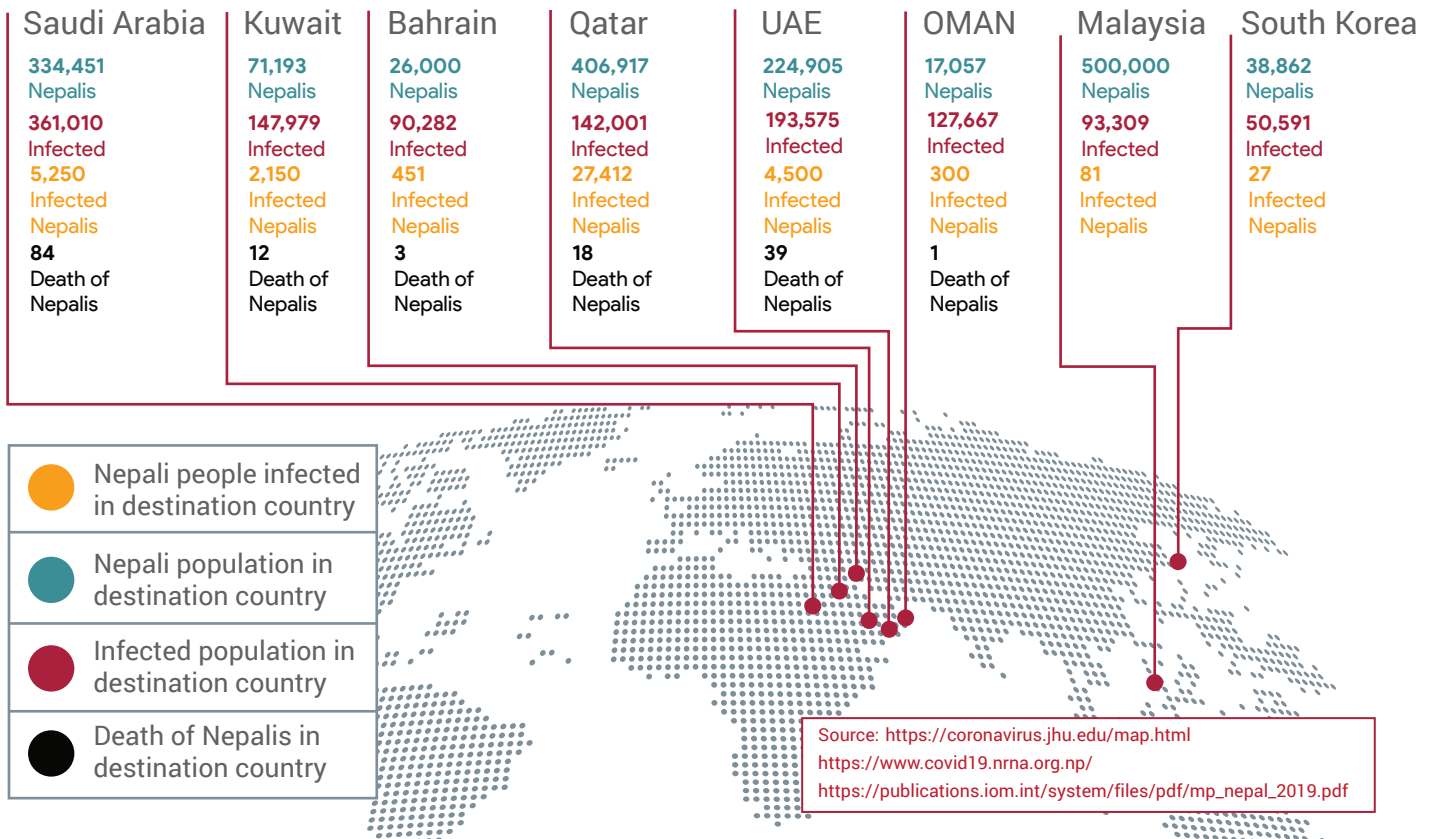
Toll-free **HOTLINE** on
COVID-19

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

“Sehhaty” mobile application to register for vaccine against COVID-19 in Saudi Arabia

If you are in Saudi Arabia, you can register your name for COVID-19 vaccine. For this, you need to download a mobile application called “Sehhaty” on your mobile.

Sehhaty mobile application can be downloaded from Android Play Store and Apple App Store.

How to register your name for Sehhaty mobile application?

1. Select the COVID-19 vaccine
2. Choose if it's for yourself or someone else. Then, click the next button
3. On the next page, you should mention the detailed information (mobile number, area and city where you live)
4. On the next page, you are asked about your profession, answer it.
5. Then, you will be asked about your health, to which you should answer in yes/no.
6. You can now click next and complete your application.

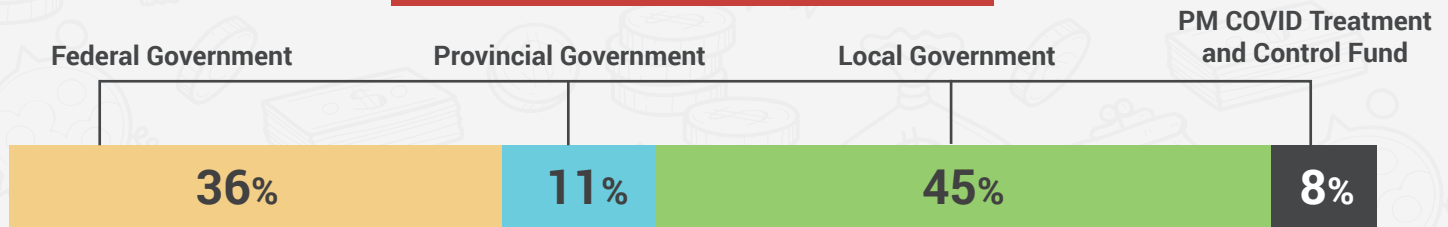


You can listen to our Facebook live at www.facebook.com/shramik.sanjal every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday evening **UAE time (8: 00 PM), Kuwait (7: 00 PM) and Malaysia (12 Midnight).**

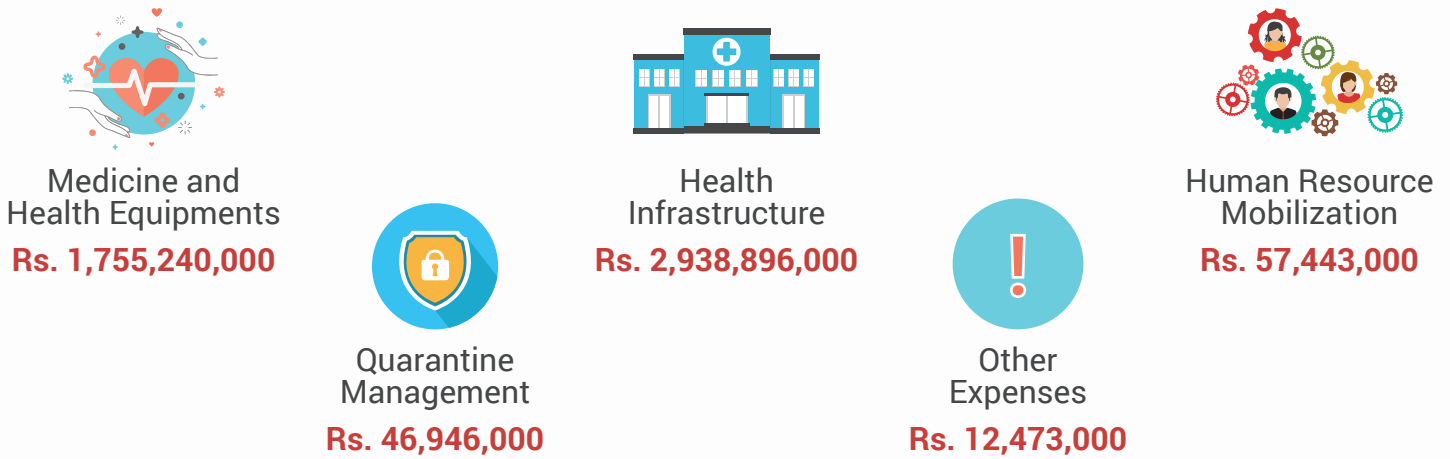
\$ Follow the Money

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

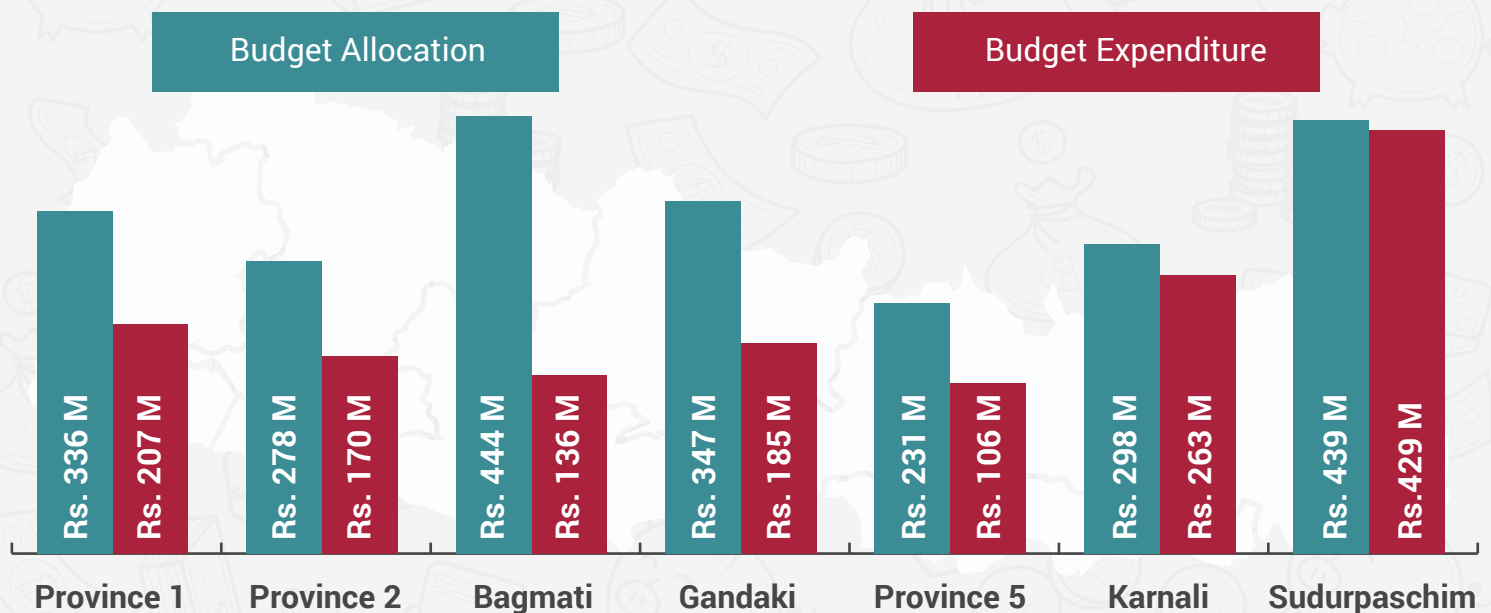
13.37 Billion NRS



Expense Headings at the Federal Government

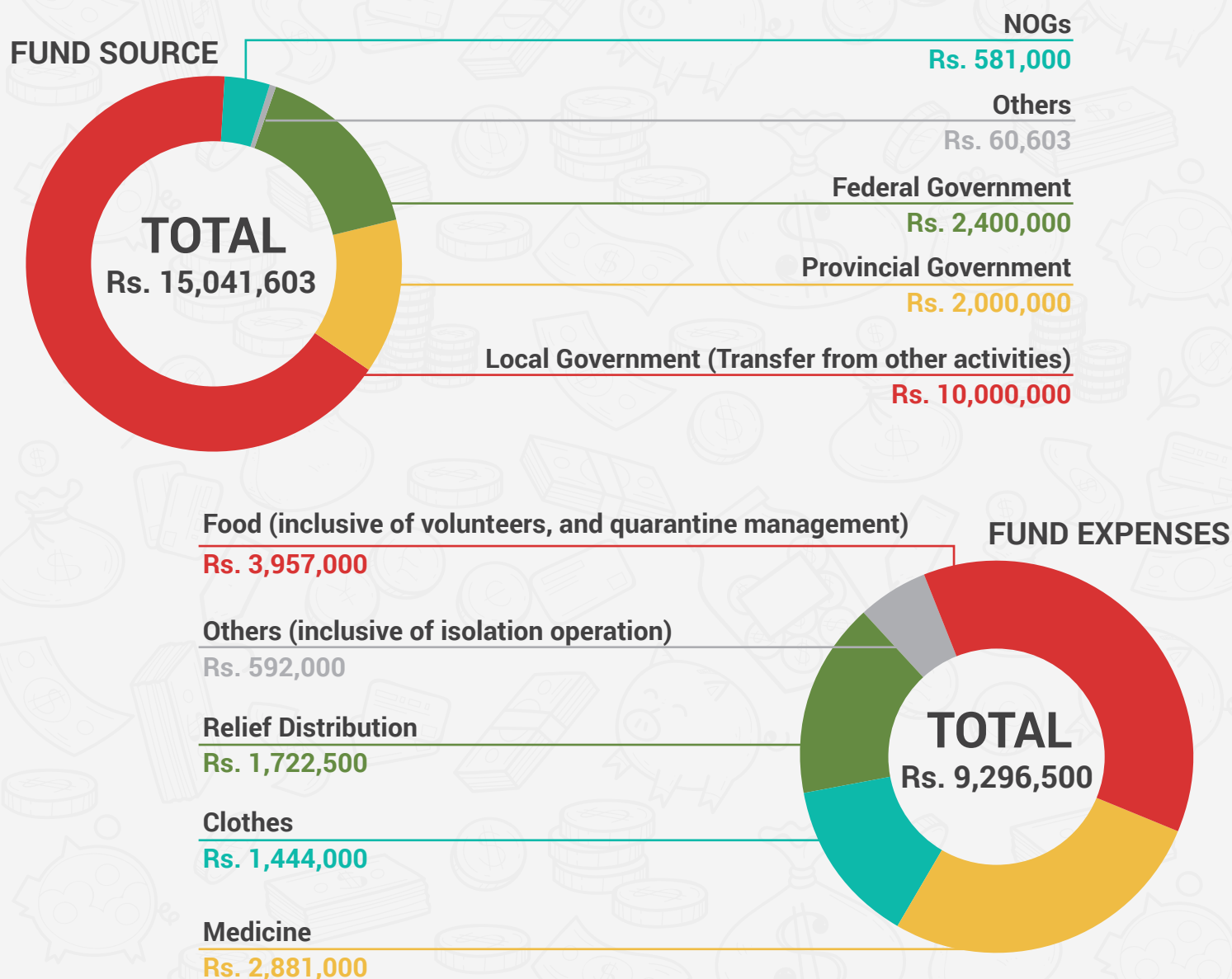


Expense made by Provincial Government



\$ Follow the Money

Fund Generation Sources and its expenses in Chingad Rural Municipality in Surkhet till Ashar 2077



Chingad Rural Municipality has shared its income generation and expenses made till the Ashar of 2077 regarding COVID-19. Not all local units have made their fund generation sources transparent, therefore, Chingad rural municipality sharing this information is a good start to building trust. The expense headings are not divided into specifics which makes evaluation difficult. Unlike other local level expenses covered prior to this issue, the relief distribution amount in Chingad Rural Municipality is not excessively high. The two highest expenses are related to quarantine operation and management, and medicine, which shows effective use of available funds. About 10 million NRS of the total 15 million NRS funds have already been spent, and a study of how to effectively use the remaining funds need to be conducted by the local unit.

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.



Frontliners Voices



Rahul Kumar Shah

Health worker, Jaleshwar Municipality, Mahottari

“After the Nepal-India border was closed to avoid COVID-19, I was assigned to the COVID health desk at Maliwara on the border under the instruction of the Health Branch at the Jaleshwar Municipal Office. There I used to measure the fever of Nepalis returning from India and those going to India. Following that, I was assigned to work in quarantine. When informed at home, my parents tried to stop me from going to work. But, I kept going to work. Neighbours would fear coming close to me when I would return home after quarantine duty. They wouldn't believe even if I say that I am not infected. I have not been infected yet due to regular handwashing, use of masks and following social distance.”

Nanu Kumari Das

Deputy Chairperson, Pipara Rural Municipality, Mahottari

“In last year's by-election, I was elected as the chairperson of the rural municipality. Within three months of being elected as the chairperson, the corona crisis began. Since I worked as the acting chairperson of the rural municipality for five months before the by-election, I was benefitted to work as a chairperson. Mainly, I used to reach out to the affected individuals in the quarantine and monitor their grievances. At present, I am constantly pressuring the rural municipality to allocate budget by giving priority to the health sector.”

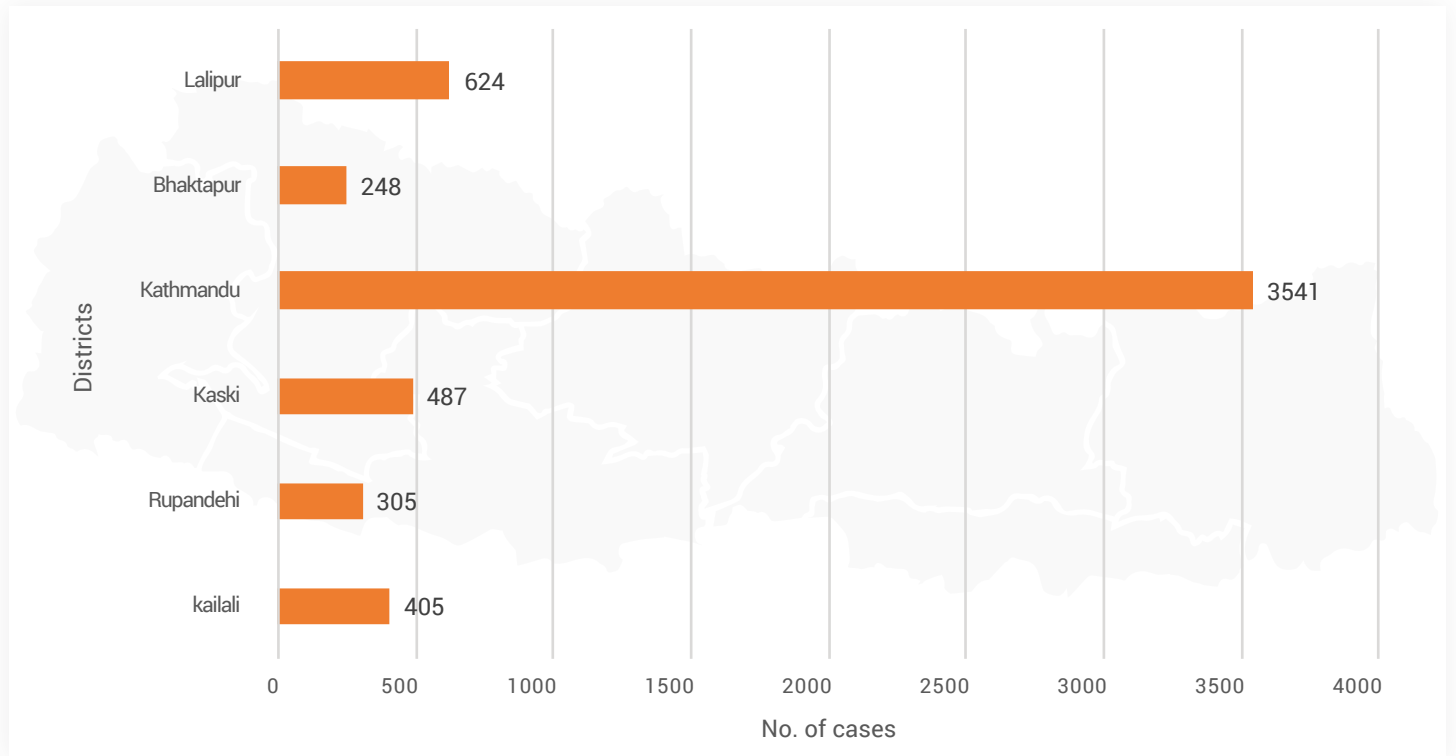


Ram Shankar Mishra

Chairperson, Jaleshwar Municipality, Mahottari

“We handed over the relief fund to the ward chairpersons and gave them the responsibility to work independently. In order to monitor the expenditure, we had formed a team also consisting of the ward chairpersons of the opposition party. We provided immediate relief to those who came to us with grievances of not receiving relief during COVID-19. Along with coordinating with Jaleshwar hospital, we also did swab testing of the employees. Many of the employees were also infected because they had to work among the public. Due to which the service itself was affected. However, in recent times, the risk has been reduced by working consciously and by maintaining social distance.”

Districts having 200+ Active Cases of Covid-19 in Nepal

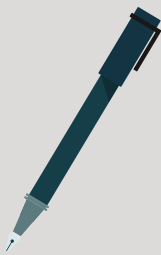


The above chart shows the districts with more than 200 cases in Nepal. Currently, six districts have more than 200 active cases, among which, three are from Kathmandu valley. These six districts hold more than 70 percent of total active cases in Nepal. This implies that these districts are having active community transmission and the safety of the public is compromised. The government needs to form a plan to reduce caseload in these districts with more robust community testing and imposing strict guidelines on isolation.

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.**



 @CivicActionTeams

 @civacts

 @CivActs