

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.

According to the Insurance Committee, corona insurance claims are being delayed due to the following reasons:

1. The files with complete documents prescribed by the Corona Insurance Standards 2077 have to be sent to the Insurance Bridge Manager Shikhar Insurance Company for the payment of claims. The delay has occurred as the files have incomplete documents.



2. Some corona test reports have to be sent to the Epidemiology and Disease Control Division under the Ministry of Health and Population for further verification.

3. Some of the insurance claims could be repeated, so it will take some time to verify and control double payments.

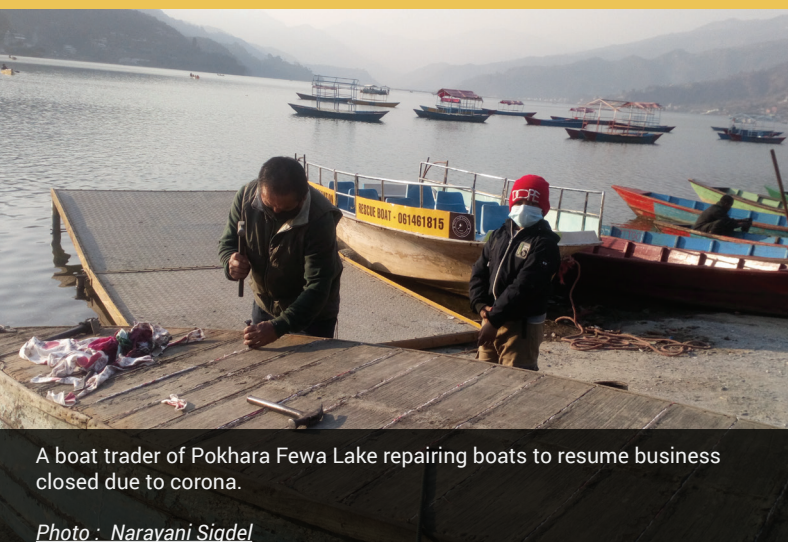


4. Due to the high number of infections in Ashwin and Kartik and the infection confirmed among the employees working in insurance companies and insurance committees at the same time, the payment process was hampered in the month.

Since insurance is a companion during loss, everyone who has done insurance will receive the claim payment.

स्रोत: <https://cutt.ly/Vh1zoWp>

Nepal Update



A boat trader of Pokhara Fewa Lake repairing boats to resume business closed due to corona.

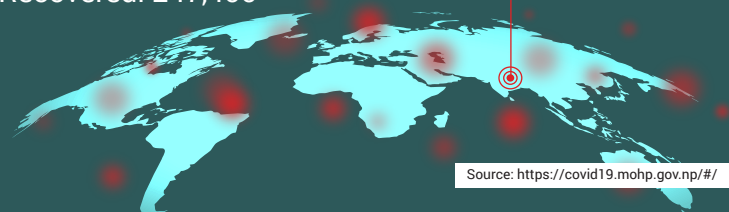
Photo : Narayani Sigdel

Tested

PCR Tested: 1,896,250
Positive: 256,592
Active: 7,384
Deaths: 1808
Recovered: 247,400



NEPAL



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

Rumors & Facts



It is heard that a new form of coronavirus has appeared in the United Kingdom. Is it true that it is even more dangerous than the earlier one?

Yes. Citing the appearance of a new form of coronavirus in the United Kingdom that is even more contagious than before, the European Union and other countries have cancelled direct flights to and from the UK for a time being. Thus, Nepal has also asked not to allow the passengers arriving in Nepal directly from the UK and those arriving through the transit from the UK until further notice. This is not applicable for those who are in transit until 7 Poush.

Source: https://ccmc.gov.np/key_decisions/key%20dication%202077.09.07.pdf



It has been said that all the unemployed at every local level in Karnali Province will get employment. What is reality?

The Karnali Province Chief Minister's Employment Program Steering Committee has directed the municipalities to send the details of the unemployed immediately as per the wards. As the budget has been allocated for employment as per the wards, the committee has asked to send the details of the unemployed from the ward level itself. It has been prepared to provide a budget of NRs. 50 lakhs to each ward for the implementation of the Chief Minister's Employment Program. Under the Chief Minister's Employment Program, works on temples, footpaths and roundabouts won't be carried out. Following the criticism last year, the government has said it will run development programs such as roads, drinking water schemes, irrigation and building constructions this year.

Source: <http://ocmcm.karnali.gov.np/node/507>



It is heard that many industries haven't been able to operate also because they couldn't bring skilled workers from outside. Has the government still been strict to allow the foreign workers to come to Nepal?

As the impact of COVID-19 hasn't subsided yet, the government has paved a way for bringing foreign workers by implementing the "Procedure on Bringing Foreign Workers for Productive Industries, 2077". For that, the productive industries should submit applications in the official body for the purpose of bringing the required number of workers. The application should be accompanied by the certificate of industry registration, document revealing domestic or foreign investment, copy of the tax paid certificate, country of the worker along with justification of bringing the worker from abroad, details about point of entry and place of residence of the worker and the number of workers being brought, their name and document revealing their identity. Similarly, the industries should also facilitate the workers in obtaining a labor permit.

Source: <https://moics.gov.np/public/uploads/shares/procedure/abbbbbbbbbbbbb.pdf>



Does the government mean we can't go to Saudi again?

The Ministry of Interior of Saudi Arabia has suspended all the movement through air and land routes to Saudi Arabia for a week. The Ministry has said that the decision was taken as a precautionary measure to ensure the health and safety of the passengers. The Saudi government has also issued another notice prohibiting the gathering of more than 50 people in one place to control COVID-19 infection. It has also mentioned that the violation of the rule will result in a fine of up to 15,000 Saudi Riyals.


Source: <https://cutt.ly/Vh0TxlB>

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.



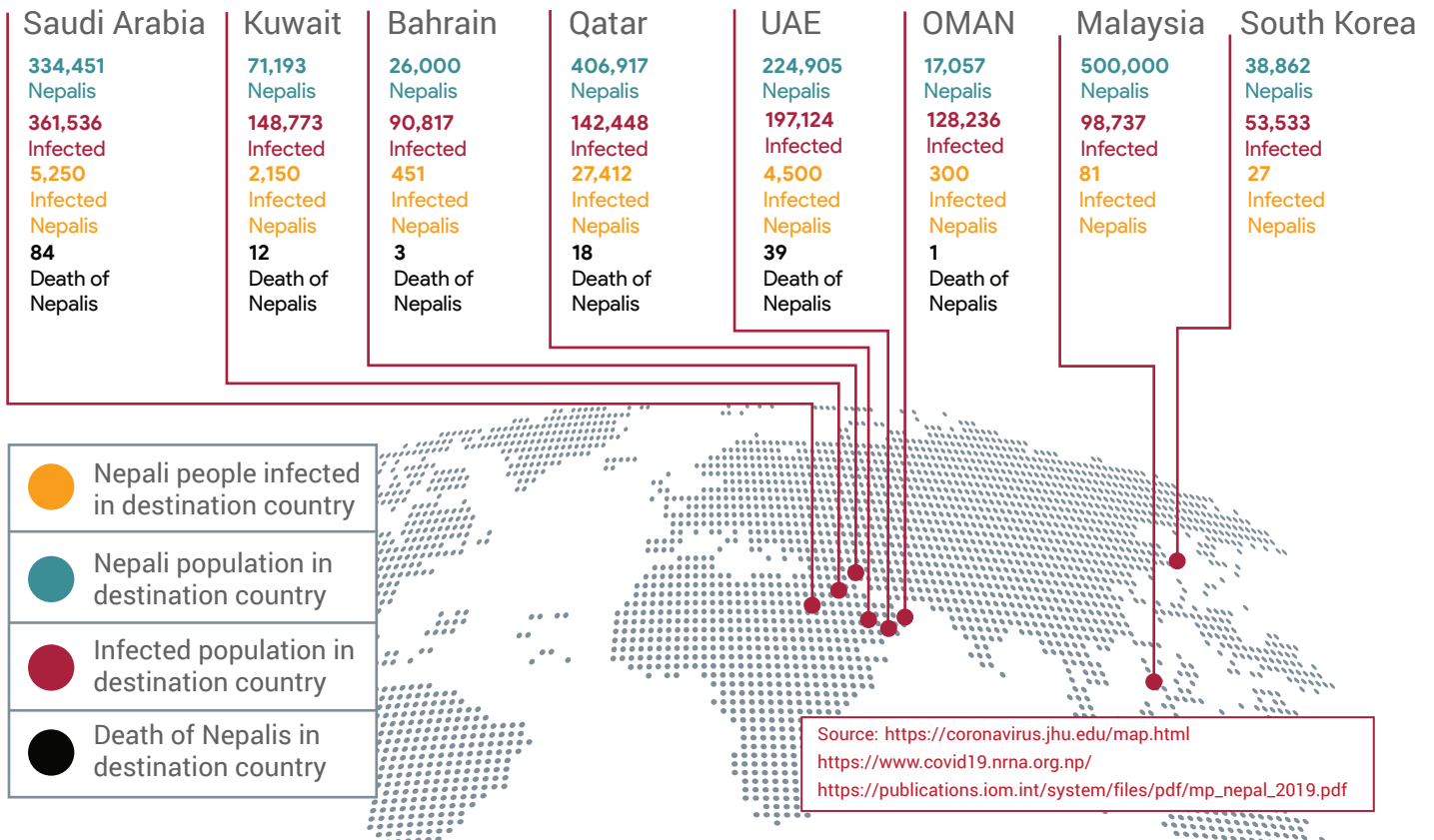
Toll-free **HOTLINE** on
COVID-19

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

Vaccine against Covid-19 in Qatar

Vaccines against Covid-19 have started in Qatar as well. In this first phase, the government is providing vaccine from 7 health centres.

Health centres where the COVID-19 vaccine is available are:

- Al Wajba Health Centre
- Leabaib Health Center
- Al Ruwais Health Center
- Umm Slal Health Center
- Rawdat Al Khail Health Center
- Al Thumama Health Center
- Muaither Health Center



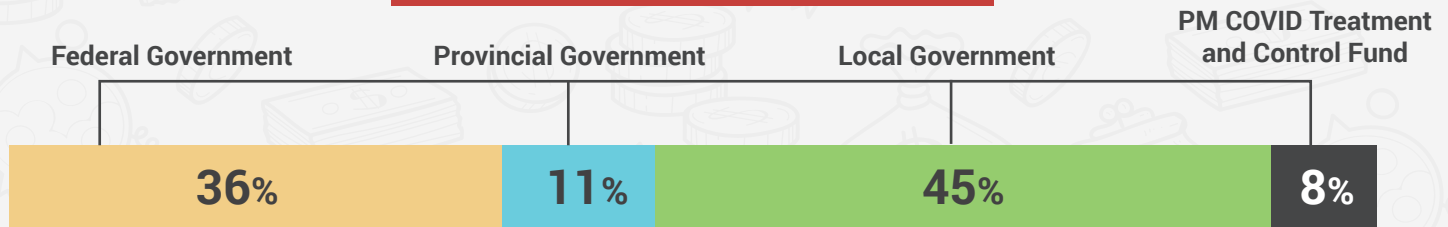
In the first phase, the vaccine will be provided to those who are highly affected. The Qatar government is planning to provide a vaccine to all in 2021.

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).**

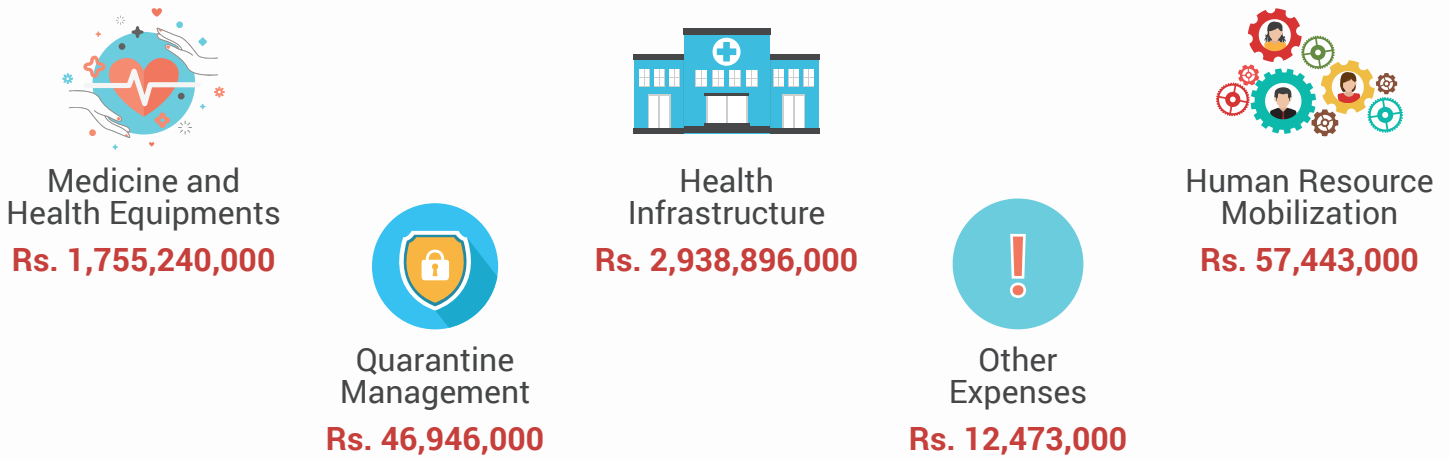
\$ Follow the Money

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

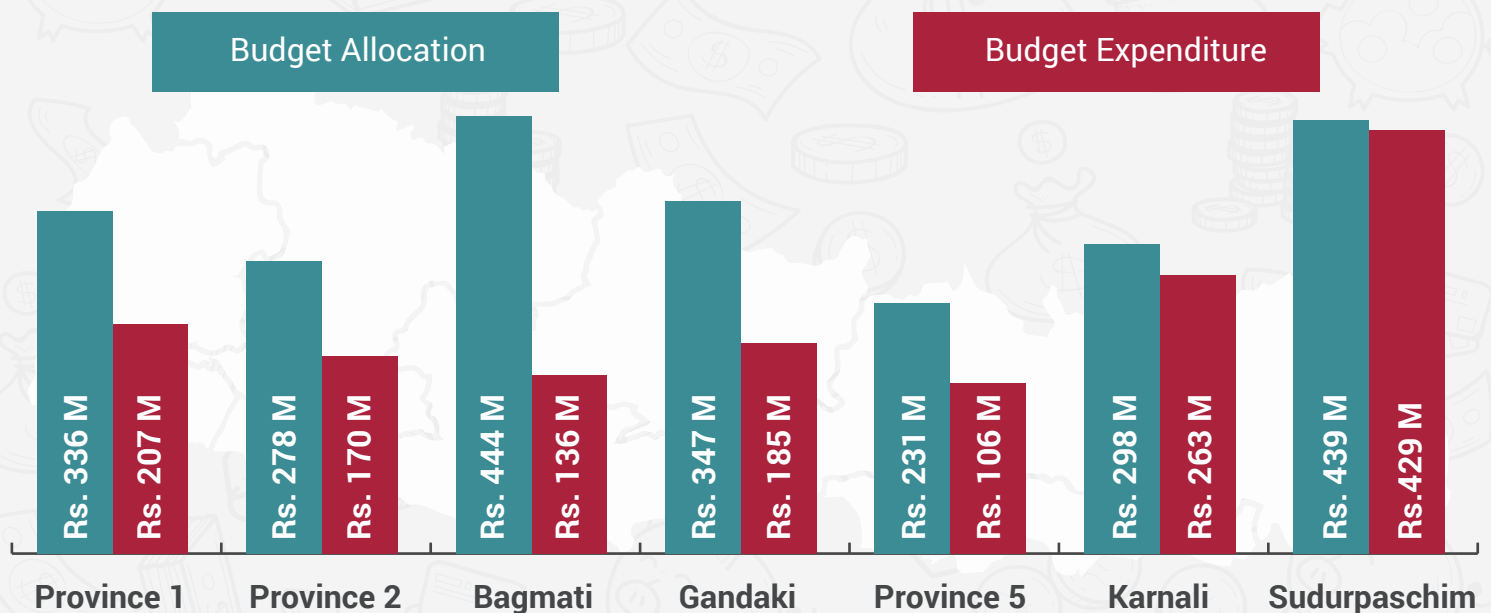
13.37 Billion NRS



Expense Headings at the Federal Government

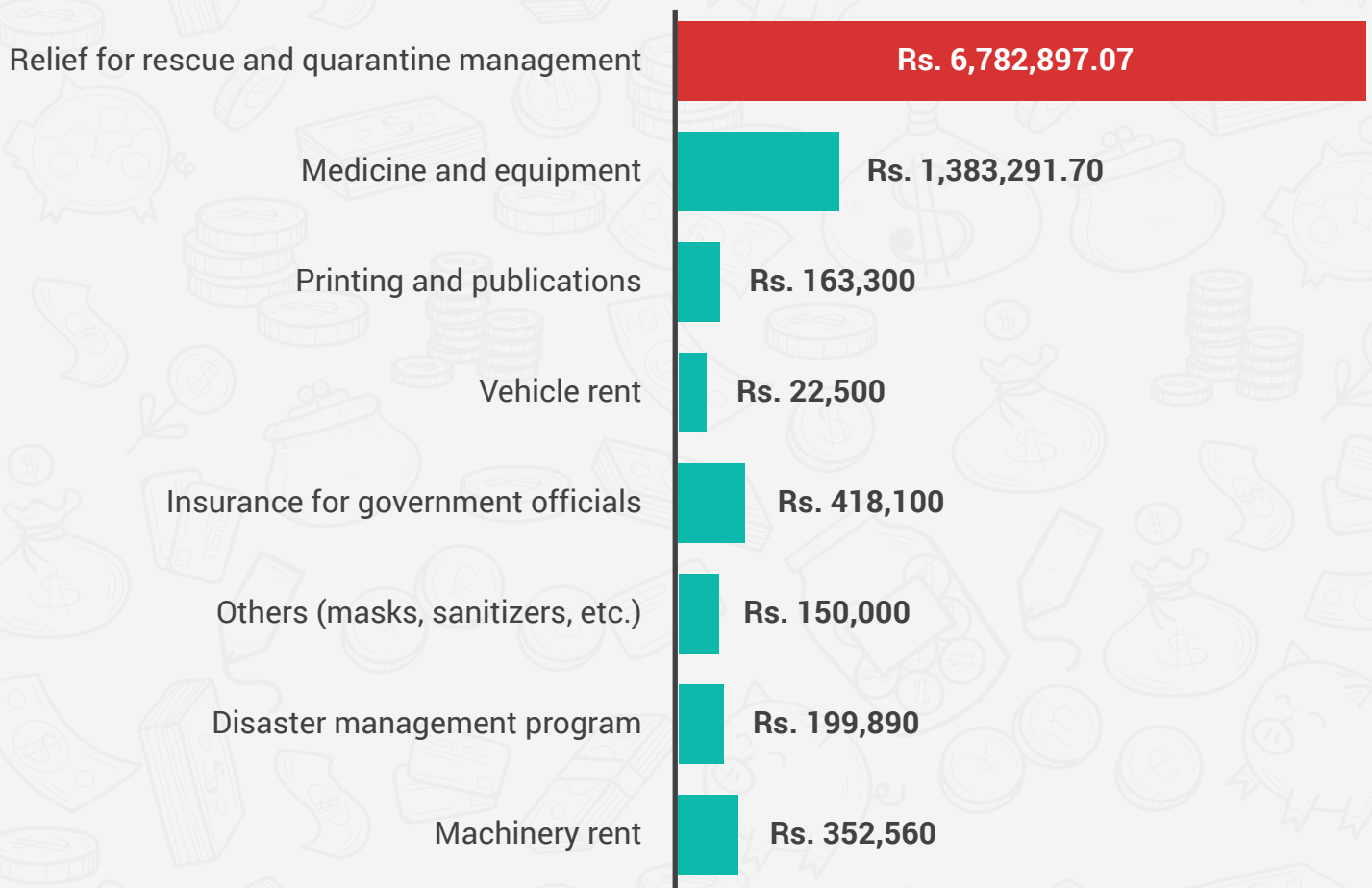


Expense made by Provincial Government



\$ Follow the Money

Expenses made by Hetauda Sub-metropolitan City related to COVID-19 till Ashar 2077



Around 9.5 million NRS has been spent by Hetauda Sub-metropolitan city till Ashar of 2077 regarding COVID-19. This number, when compared to other local units in Nepal, is very low, especially considering Hetauda is a sub-metropolitan city and needs to cater to a higher population than other lower sized local units. The highest expense made is on quarantine management and relief expenses for rescue, but a more detailed explanation for this expense is needed for proper evaluation. It can be seen from a glance the other expense headings are very clear and do not amount to high expense numbers to raise any questions. It can also be seen that the expenses shared by Hetauda sub-metropolitan city does not include relief distribution which is surprising considering it is one of the highest expense headings in most other local units. A follow-up of expenses from the local unit is necessary to properly evaluate new expenses and understand the reason for low spending from 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.



A business learned through labour



Kavrepalanchowk, Panauti Municipality-3 Dinesh Ghimire of Kushadevi had to earn anyhow for the survival of his family. There was a high school near his village but because of his financial status he could not continue his study. There was no employment opportunity in his village because of political instability and educational qualification. He left his education in the middle and went to India for labour work. He returned to Nepal at the age of 15 after 3 years of labour work in India. He then developed an interest in going to other foreign countries

for employment. So, he tried to apply for citizenship but found that he was not eligible because of his age. Then he acquired citizenship after adding two years to his real age.

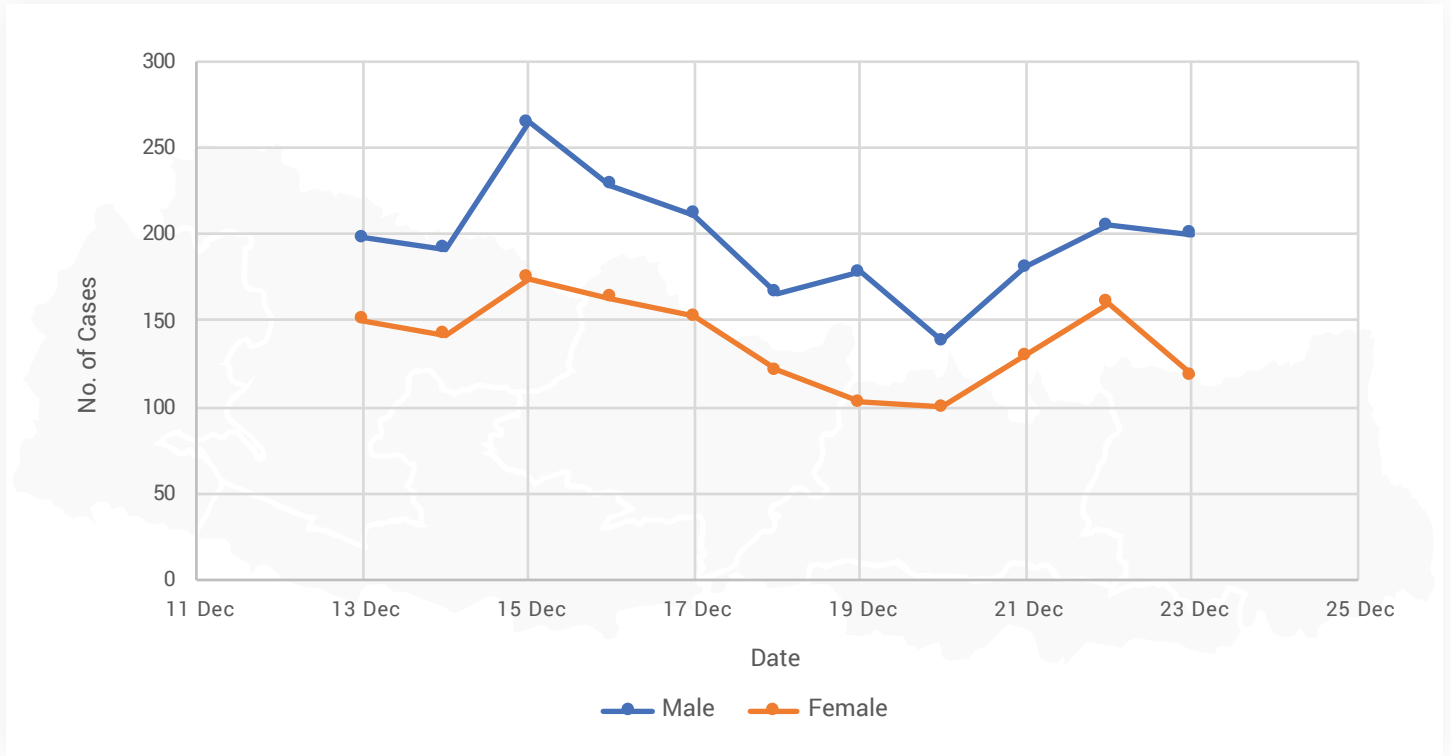
Dinesh was actually 18 years old when he went to Qatar for the first time, but it was mentioned as 20 in his passport. His only wish was to earn money. There he got a good opportunity at a department store. He worked at that place for 11 years.

His stay in Qatar taught him to work hard. Returning after 11 years of foreign employment he did not think of anything other than commercial farming and animal rearing. He made a shed for cattle rearing and coops for poultry in his village. As he thought of investing in agriculture and to moving forward in a commercial way so he registered his farm as "Gaukhureshwor krishi and pashu farm". He registered the farm in the Department of Cottage and Small Industry, District Livestock office, Agriculture Knowledge Centre, Panauti municipality in 2075.

He complains that even though the government has brought very nice and supportive programs and grants for the youths who are involved in commercial farming it seems that the actual farmers do not get the facility. He feels that those who are clever and can manage the paper works easily get the grant but the real farmers are deprived and victims here. He acknowledges that Panauti Municipality are bringing programs for the farmers but there is a need to add more programs for the commercial farmers like him.

After returning from the foreign employment, he took a loan of 20 lakhs in minimal interest from the Prime Bank, Banepa. His farm has 1000 hens and 23 cattle. He sells milk to the local buyer and sells the meat at Kathmandu. He is earning as much as he has thought but still hopes for support from the government. He suggests that the local government should encourage enterprise and business along with the employment programs that it has brought.

Covid Cases in Kathmandu Valley for the Last 10 Days disaggregated by Gender

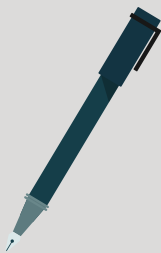


Kathmandu valley has been the biggest hotspot for COVID-19 infection in Nepal for a while. The above graph shows the daily infection rate in the last 10 days in Kathmandu valley. Interestingly, the ratio of male and female infection in this period is consistent in the valley as males have consistently had higher rates of infection. The valley has almost half of all active cases in Nepal, but the number of new infections is relatively low despite cold weather and little or no restriction on mobility.

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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