

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.

Hospitals across the country that have established geriatric wards to provide free and convenient services to senior citizens

Province 1

BP Koirala Health Science Institute, Dharan
Koshi Hospital, Biratnagar
Mechi Hospital, Bhadrapur
Udayapur Hospital, Udayapur

Gandaki Province

Pokhara Health Science Institute, Pokhara Hospital, Pokhara
Dhaulagiri Hospital, Baglung

Karnali Province

Provincial Hospital, Surkhet
Karnali Health Science Institute, Jumla

Province 2

Narayani Hospital, Birgunj
Janakpur Hospital, Janakpur
Gaur Hospital, Rautahat
Gajendra Narayan Singh Hospital, Saptari

Lumbini Province

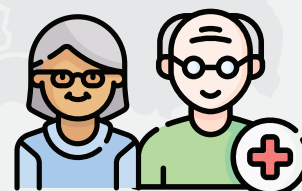
Bheri Hospital, Nepalgunj
Rapti Health Science Institute, Ghorahi, Dang
Lumbini Hospital, Butwal, Rupandehi

Sudurpaschim Province

Seti Hospital, Dhangadhi
Dadeldhura Hospital, Dadeldhura

Bagmati Province

Patan Health Science Institute, Patan Hospital, Lalitpur
Ayurveda Teaching Hospital, Kritipur
Bharatpur Hospital, Bharatpur
Bir Hospital, National Health Science Institute, Kathmandu
Hetauda Hospital, Makwanpur
National Trauma Center, Kathmandu
Sukraraj Tropical and Infectious Disease Hospital, Kathmandu



Source: <https://mohp.gov.np/attachments/article/97/Final%20Copy.pdf>

Nepal Update



Tested

PCR Tested: 1,926,477
Positive: 260,059
Active: 6,300
Deaths: 1847
Recovered: 251,912

NEPAL

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

Rumors & Facts



It is said that it is becoming difficult to identify the infected individuals due to differences in the address of the infected individuals. Is there no clear provision on this matter?

The government has instructed all hospitals and laboratories to mention the current address of the infected individuals as it is becoming difficult to identify the individuals who came in contact with corona due to lack of uniformity in the address. If any institution fails to do this, then anyone can lodge a complaint and the Ministry of Health and Population will take action on such complaint.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/2jeK8Mg>



It is heard that all the procedures to go for foreign employment can now be done through the online medium.

Anyone who has once obtained a labor permit by doing biometric from the online system of the department, can again fill the application form online and obtain labor permit online again. Along with this, the amount of life insurance and welfare funds can also be paid through an online provider without paying any additional fee.

Source: <https://dofe.gov.np/DetailPage.aspx/id/169/lan/ne-NP>



It is said that the number of people going for foreign employment has skyrocketed during the pandemic. Is there any official data on this?

During the Corona pandemic, about 26,000 people have reissued the labor permits to go abroad. According to the data of the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security, 25,754 individuals who tried to return abroad after coming on leave until 8 Poush have received reissued labor permits. The government had started reissuing labor permits from 18 Ashad 2077. Similarly, more than 7,000 people have gone for foreign employment since the government started issuing labor permits on 14 Bhadra. According to the Ministry, 7,335 people have taken new labor permits including both institutional and personal level. Similarly, 1,421 people have made their status legal in foreign destinations.

Source: <https://moless.gov.np/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/2077-9-8-Progress-report.pdf>



Even though the night business is operating in Kathmandu, it hasn't complied with the safety standards set by the government. Doesn't any agency monitor this?

The Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation has implemented the health safety standards related to the operation of night business which was closed due to COVID-19. According to which, arrangements have been made to monitor if the standard has been followed or not. Accordingly, the District Administration Office, Kathmandu is monitoring such activities by forming a monitoring committee under the leadership of Assistant Chief District Officer. A complaint can also be lodged at the District Administration Office if any business is found to be operating against the standards.


Source: <https://cutt.ly/rjts9KD>

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.



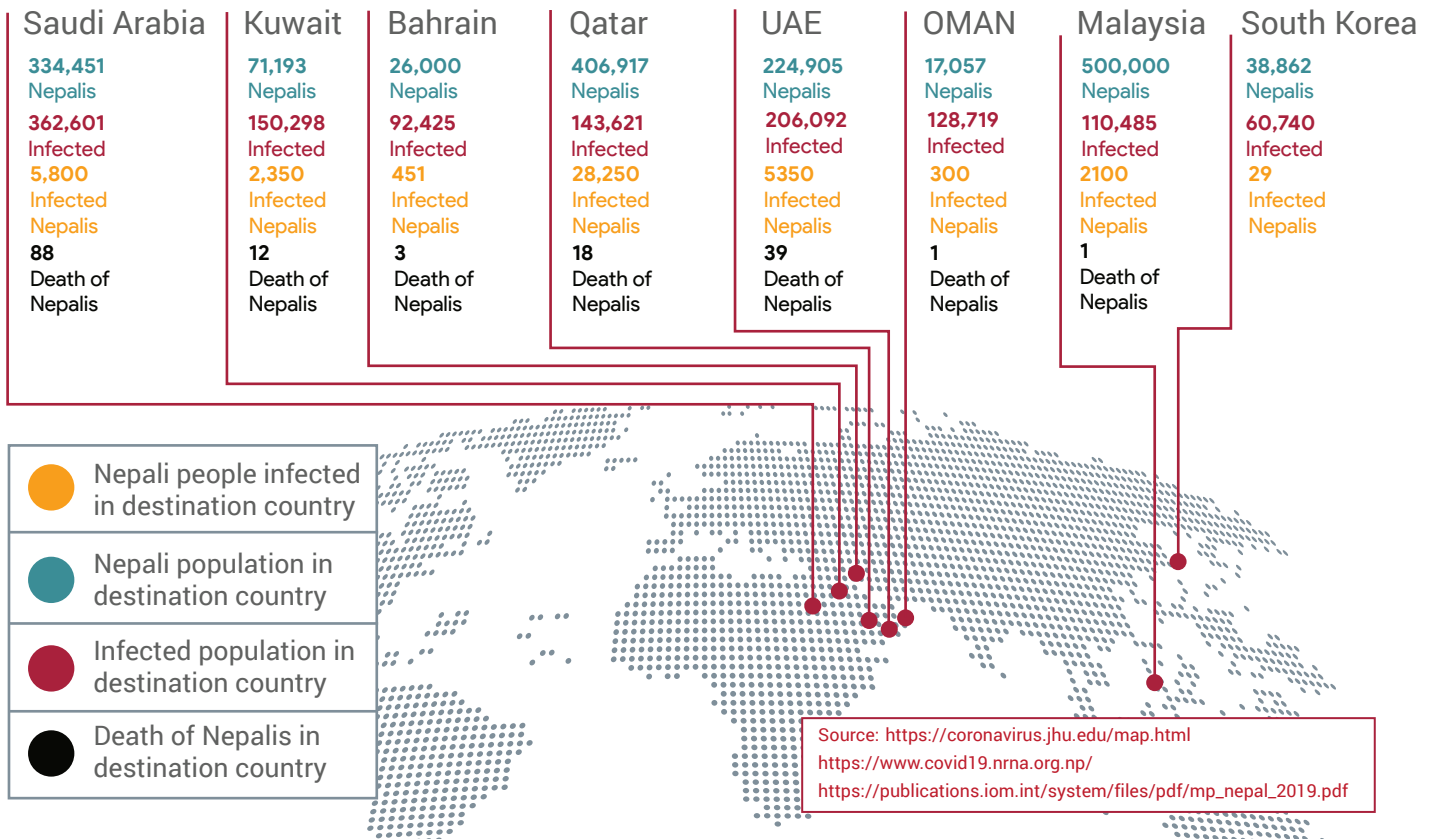
Toll-free **HOTLINE** on
COVID-19

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

Breaking News from Kuwait and UAE

Kuwait

- From 2nd of January all the checkpoints will be opened (airways, land and sea ports). However, the ban over 35 countries will still remain intact.
- The undocumented workers (those who were staying illegally) were provided an opportunity to fulfill the formalities and become legal by 31st December, 2020. Now, the deadline has been extended by a month i.e. upto the end of January 2021.

UAE

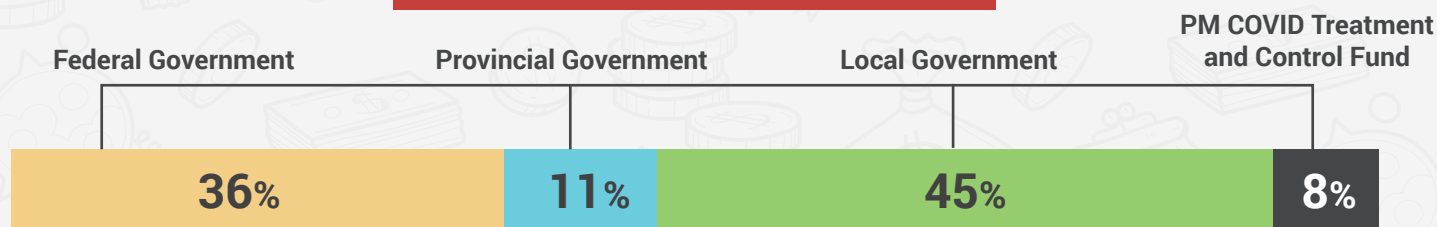
- The general amnesty of allowing migrant workers to return to their home country without any fine for migrants whose visa has expired before March 1, 2020 was doubled and extended till December 31, 2020. That time for the amnesty is almost over.
- For those on tourist visas and those whose visa has just expired or is about to expire, the visa period has been extended by one month (the expired tourist visa will remain valid for another month i.e. January 2021).
- Public bus service has started in Abu Dhabi from 31st December 2020. This facility which started after the long period of pandemic will be conducted with the capacity of 505. This service is available in all the cities under Abu Dhabi including Al Ain. This service is not available in Dubai, Sharjah and other emirates.

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


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

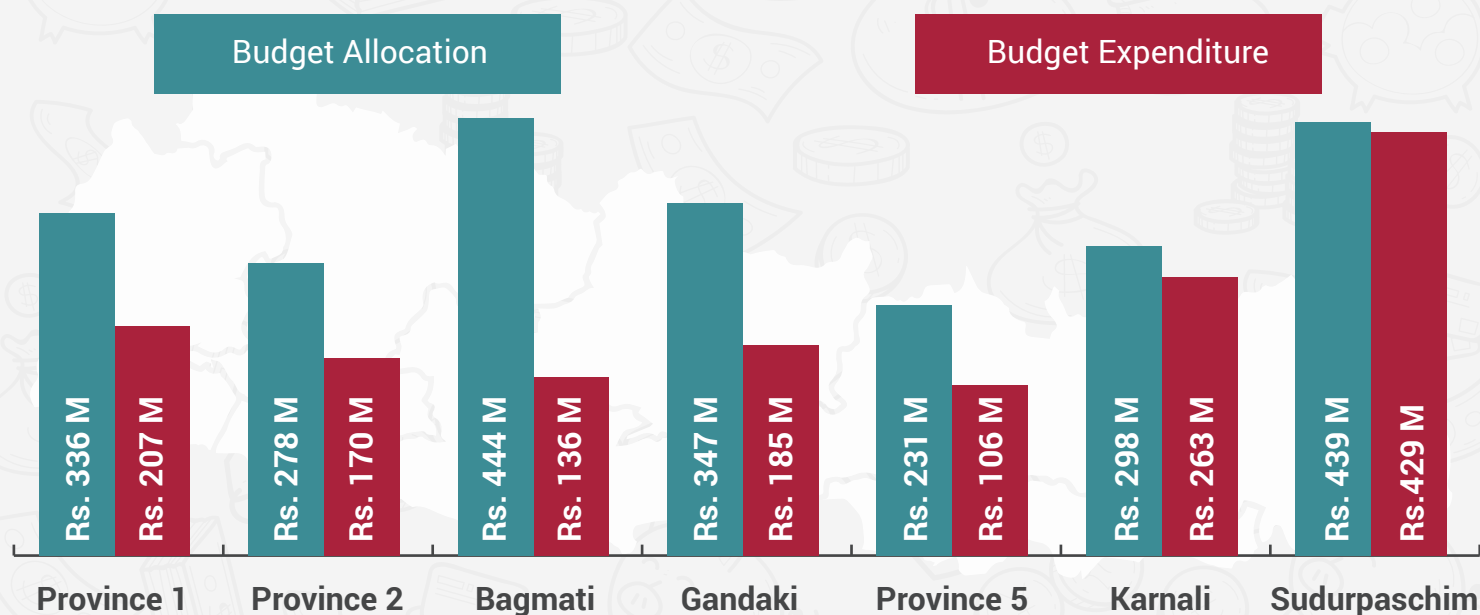

Quarantine Management
Rs. 46,946,000


Health Infrastructure
Rs. 2,938,896,000


Other Expenses
Rs. 12,473,000

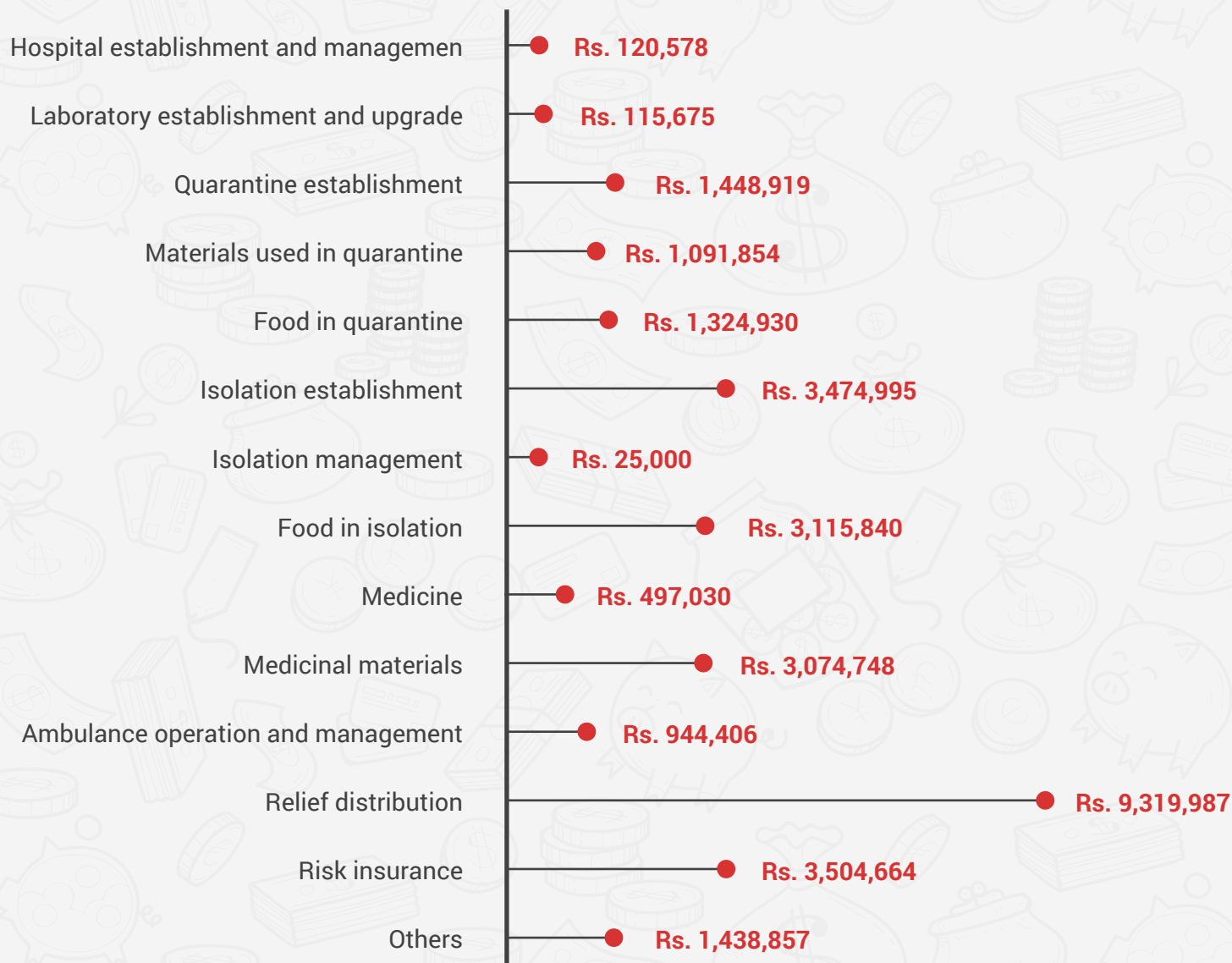

Human Resource Mobilization
Rs. 57,443,000

Expense made by Provincial Government



\$ Follow the Money

Expenses made by Dhangadhi Sub-metropolitan City related to COVID-19 till Kartik 2077



Dhangadhi sub-metropolitan city has released its expenses regarding COVID-19 until Kartik of 2077. The expense headings are quite detailed. Similar to most other local units, the highest expense heading is relief distribution, therefore, the government needs to properly evaluate whether or not the amount spent on relief is the best usage of limited government resources. The other high expenses are made on isolation establishment, quarantine establishment and management, and medicinal materials, all of which are valid and necessary spendings at the local level. Dhangadhi sub-metropolitan city sharing expense details on multiple headings shows a good sign of the local government moving towards transparency and building trust among the public.

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



Sudip Poudel

Chief at Health Department, Khajura Rural Municipality, Banke

"As it is said that a new event is an opportunity to learn new things in life, I learnt many new things from the Corona pandemic. As the corona was a new kind of infectious disease all the manpower we had was equal to zero. From this I learnt that one has to forecast and prepare accordingly. One cannot face the disaster alone and everyone has to support to come out of this. Right now corona is not normalized but the people's opinion towards it has normalized. Thus, I request you to acknowledge the risk and to adhere to the health guidelines when you are out for work."

Dhan Bahadur Buda

Chief at Health Department, Duduwa Rural Municipality, Banke

"People of different religions reside in Duduwa municipality, so even at the risk of corona transmission people continue to make places crowded while keeping with the religious values. Municipality and even the district administration is not in the state to stop it. The area is dominated by the publicity of negative information instead of the positive. In the past, patients with common cold and headache used to come to the health center. Today, however, more than half of them have stopped coming because of fear of getting corona positive at time of diagnosis. The risk of corona is present in every area of the community, but if the preventive measure is adopted it can be easily avoided. It is necessary to convey this message in the society."



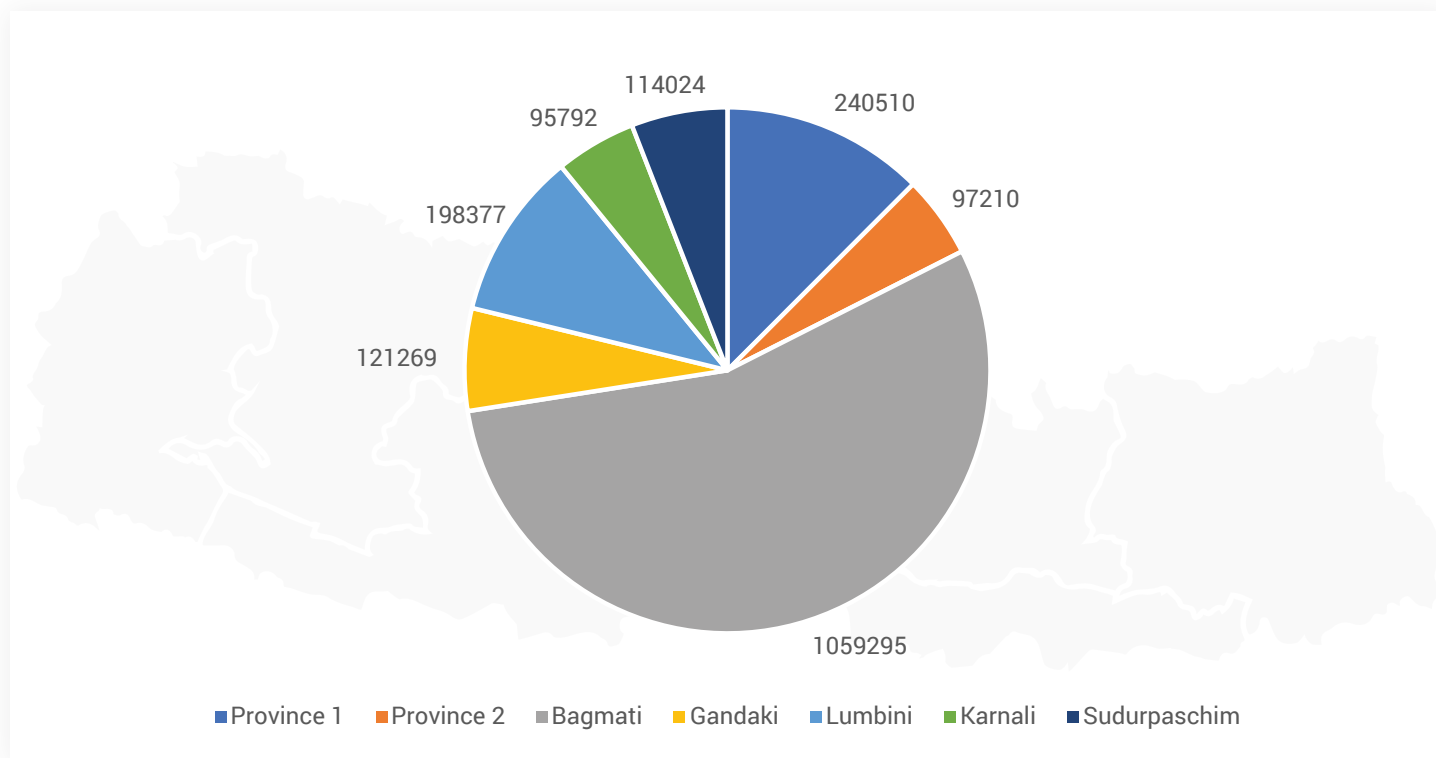
Suwash Khadka

Spokesperson and Deputy Superintendent of Police,
District police office, Banke

"Along with the start of corona, a new responsibility of managing it was added to the police department. Though we had the information about the preventive measures, with the shortage of protective equipment we had to face more difficult situations than we had expected. While we were working to ensure safety, corona infection was seen among the police

and different office personnel due to which we had to seal offices for certain time being. This added more challenge. Also, the situation is being normalized. More than people fearing the police, if the people become aware and come together to defeat corona and make the society corona free, the future risk can be prevented."

Total number of PCR tests conducted in all provinces of Nepal



The above pie chart shows total PCR tests conducted in different provinces for COVID-19. 54 percent of all tests are conducted in Bagmati province while other six provinces have done only 46 percent of PCR tests. This could also be due to the variance of population in different provinces, but there is also a clear gap of testing facilities in provinces outside of Bagmati. For example, Province 2 with the highest population density only had 9 percent of total tests conducted in Nepal. The government needs to properly allocate its resources to accommodate all provinces equally.

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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