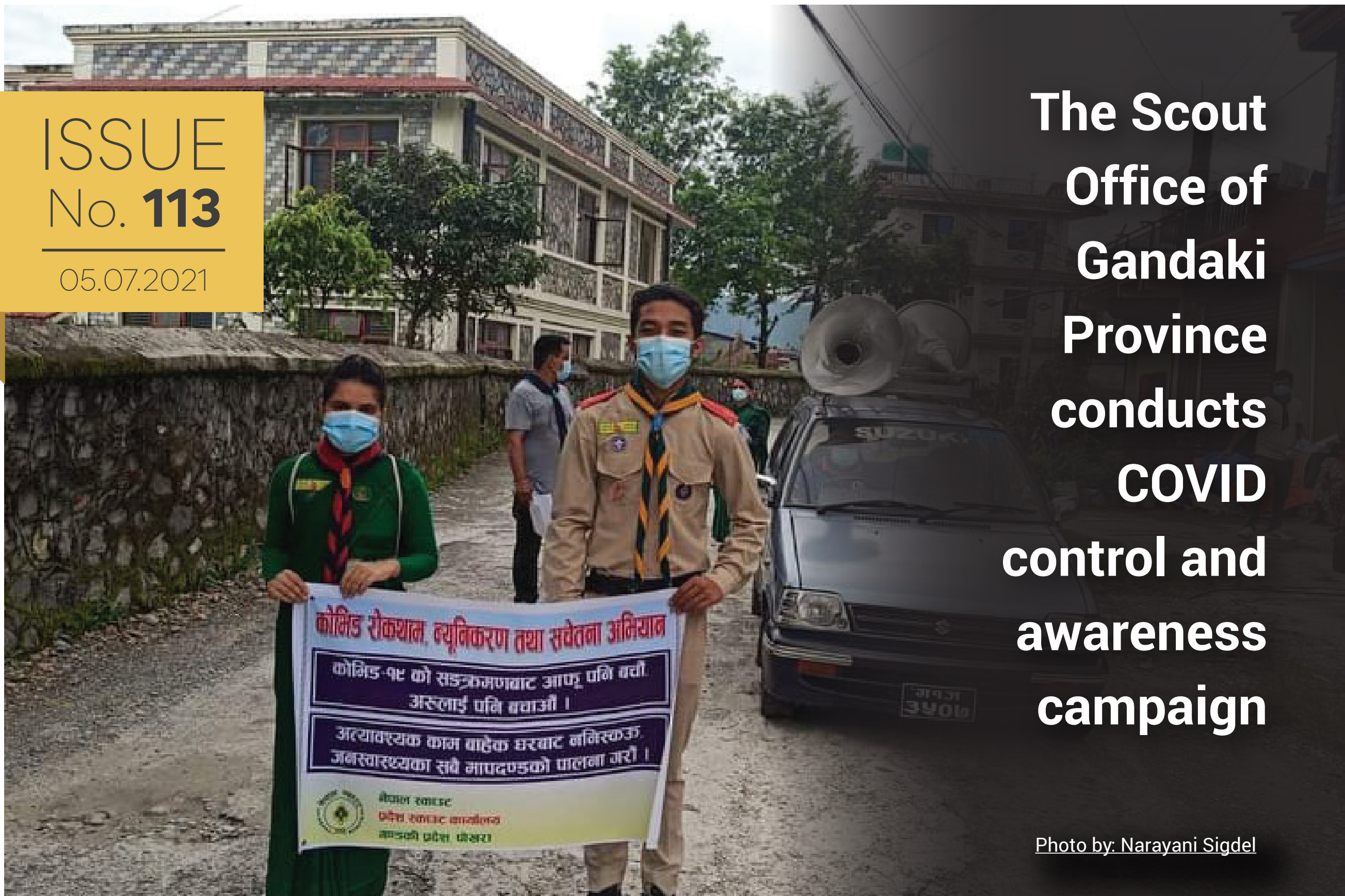


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## The Scout Office of Gandaki Province conducts COVID control and awareness campaign

Photo by: [Narayani Sigdel](#)



Only the vaccinated immigrant workers will get the permission at the major foreign employment destination country.

[Click here for more information](#)

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### **There is no hope that the government will bring vaccines**

The vaccination campaign will start on 8th July 2021 with the supply of 3 million vaccines.

#### **No one should lose their loved ones because of carelessness**

Only news like "The patient from the next bed died, so and so person is critical, some other person died without even reaching the hospital" was heard at the hospital.

#### **The low budget allocation in the health sector raises questions on the local government's commitment in COVID response**

The municipalities have allocated only 3.4%-6% of the budget for the health sector.

# FACT SHEET

## Low budget allocation in the health sector raises doubt on local government's commitment towards COVID recovery



### Pokhara Metropolitan City

Total Budget:  
**6.277 billion NRS**

Allocation to health sector: **215 million NRS (3.4%)**

### Birgunj Metropolitan City

Total Budget:  
**3.553 billion NRS**

Allocation to health sector: **213 million NRS (6%)**

### Biratnagar Metropolitan City

Total Budget:  
**4.1 billion NRS**

Allocation to health sector: **180.1 million NRS (4.4%)**

Pokhara, Birgunj and Biratnagar metropolitan cities have recently passed the budget for the fiscal year 2078/2079. These cities have allocated only around 3.4% to 6% of their total budget to the health sector. Other metropolitan cities are yet to disclose their annual budget details but they all have already passed their budgets as well. These budget allocations can be taken as examples of how local governments are treating the COVID-19 pandemic response and their commitment towards improving the health sector. Besides allocating the budget for health facilities and procurements, budget allocation on other important issues like generating awareness and economic recovery for COVID affected is very marginal.

# RUMORS & FACTS



There is no hope that the government will bring vaccines.

The government has received 42 lakh 48 thousand vaccines so far. Out of which 25,74,715 have received the first dose and 7,537,380 have already received the second dose of vaccine. The government has announced that the vaccination campaign will start on 8th July 2021 with the supply of 3 million vaccines as per the purchase agreement with the Sinopharm company of Beijing China.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/1ml20Gs>

The passengers coming from abroad on their arrival are permitted to go to their destinations without staying in the hotel quarantine only if one has received both the doses of vaccine and COVID test report is also negative. However, self-quarantine is mandatory. The concerned local level will monitor and report to CCMC if the person has stayed in quarantine or not.

Source: <https://www.mofaga.gov.np/news-notice/2423>



Is it true that those people who have been vaccinated abroad do not have to stay in quarantine here?



Is it true that public vehicles to Kathmandu Valley from the other districts are allowed? Can the public go to Kathmandu without hesitation?

Only public vehicles for urgent works are allowed to enter the Kathmandu Valley. To do so, the approval of the district administration office is required. Thus, not all means of transport will be allowed to enter Kathmandu.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/gml3tjX>

## UNFAIR PAYMENT DURING COVID-19

# Agitated teachers protest over non-payment of their salaries



IMPROPER  
EDUCATION



POOR  
EDUCATION SYSTEM



UNHAPPY  
PARENTS



20 protests recorded

Feb 2020

June 2021

*Disclaimer: This is disaggregated data collected by compiling published reports of protests made by teachers in online media, national dailies, district-level newspapers, and police websites. Therefore, the data reflects a trend rather than the actual prevalence of teachers' protests during the period.*

The issues of teachers not receiving full or any payment during the lockdown started as early as July 2020. Teachers, professors and other education institute employees took to the streets to voice their concerns about not receiving fair payment. In other news, parents have also been complaining about schools charging full fees for students, either directly or in the form of donations, during the lockdown. This provoked a negative reaction from the masses. During this time, all education institutes were closed and students were taught online. So, the expenses of these institutes were cut lower. During the worldwide pandemic, it is even more important for the education system to continue. For this, teachers need to be properly compensated. The government should not only ensure this for governmental schools but they need to mandate and properly evaluate private institutes to be more accountable towards their students and staff.

Source: <https://nepalmonitor.org/>

## Department of Foreign Employment to open everyday except for public holidays

The office of the Department of Foreign Employment, Tahachal will now open everyday except on public holidays. However, for now only the ones who do not have the biometrics will receive the service. Those who have their biometrics registered in the system can receive their work permit

### UAE:

- The ministry of health has approved the Moderna vaccine for emergency purposes. A total of 5 vaccines has been approved including this one.
- 72.1% of the residents have received both the dose of vaccine in UAE. This makes UAE one of the most vaccinated countries in the world.
- The flight between UAE and Saudi has been postponed until further notice.



### Kuwait:

- After the COVID was seen among the staff, the Nepali embassy will remain closed from Sunday until further notice. For urgent services contact the hotline number: 98869121.
- A new application named "My Identity" is launched in Kuwait. From this app, you can get your civil ID, details in COVID vaccine and some other government facilities.
- There will be two flights of Jazeera air on Tuesday and Thursday from Kuwait to Nepal. One has to wait till 1st August to fly to Kuwait from Nepal. The passenger however has to have at least one dose of the vaccine approved by Kuwait. However, domestic workers with work permits can go to Kuwait just with the PCR negative test results even without the receiving vaccine.

### Qatar:

Qatar Railways has announced that the metro will be closed every Friday between July 9 and August 13 and from July 21 to July 24.



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



# GROUND NARRATIVES

## No one should lose their loved ones because of carelessness

Tara Rokaya of Nepalgunj has been involved in social service for a long period. The first wave of COVID affected Nepalgunj in a very unexpected manner. Almost everyone was locked inside the house like a prisoner. Some were afraid of the infection while some of them were worried about their meals. Tara Rokaya during this period was busy collecting and procuring health equipment and providing food to the poor. She was also afraid of getting infected, but she was more worried about how to protect society. However, she was safe in the first wave.

There was the second wave of the pandemic. Banke was again the hotspot. This time the situation was more difficult compared to the first time. There was scarcity of health equipment everywhere. Rokaya worked all day and night to import and make the health equipment accessible. At home, her two sons and husband used to remind her to not go outside in such a situation.

At home, her two sons and husband used to remind her not to go outside in such a situation. However, she could not just remain a bystander to this extreme shortage of healthcare. While working for the betterment of others she and her husband got infected from COVID-19.



When the health of her husband who was 60 years old worsened, he had to be admitted to the hospital. He was admitted to Bheri hospital where the news in the hospital were like “The patient from next bed died, so and so person is critical, some other person died without even reaching the hospital” was heard. Tara used to get anxious when she heard of such news. It is not that the health workers did not try their best, but eventually, Tara who selflessly worked for others at this time of COVID lost her husband to COVID itself.

Tara who could not bear the state of society, how could she bear her husband's demise? Only she has an answer to this question. Tara, who is gradually returning to social service forgetting her personal pain, is certainly the role model and inspiration of the social workers. Now, she also shares the message that no one should lose their beloved ones because of carelessness.

# VOICES OUT LOUD

As the first wave of covid pandemic started getting normal, we had never imagined that there would be a second wave of it. When the second wave arrived, we thought that all of us who work in the hospital will be infected and none of us will survive. But we kept our willpower high, risked our lives and dedicated ourselves to the service of patients. Even during the treatment, we had to lose many of the patients. We also lost the family and relatives of our colleagues. Now, the situation at Nepalgunj has returned to normal and it seems that the general public has stopped adopting the safety measures. If we cause the third wave of COVID by our own mistake, the situation might be more dreadful than the second wave.

## URMILA JOSHI

Staff nurse, Isolation Ward,  
Bheri Hospital Banke



## SABNAM KHATUN

Staff nurse,  
Jaleswor Hospital, Mahottari

It has been two months that I have been serving COVID-19 patients. When I came to this hospital there were 9 COVID patients. For the very first time, I learned how to use the PPE and how to take care of the COVID patients and many other small details here. I felt scared as well as proud when I first got the opportunity to provide nursing care to the COVID patients. Even though the patients have a positive approach towards us, their relatives pressure us at times and that makes it difficult for us to work.

# FAIR FACTS

is a product of:



**FAIR FACTS** is an open platform that connects citizens, leaders and institutions; and exchanges authentic information to tackle misinformation and popular myths around Covid-19 in Nepal. The ongoing crisis of the Coronavirus pandemic demands quick, scientific and fair information around health services, livelihoods, and social security. With FAIR FACTS we build an ecosystem of changemakers and use the power of real stories and voices from all corners of the country for a disaster response mechanism that is fair and equitable.

Covid-19 is not just a health crisis but also exacerbates a lack of integrity and accountability in governance systems. To help beat this virus effectively, we track facts, share helpful information, and build unlikely networks.

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## 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.

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