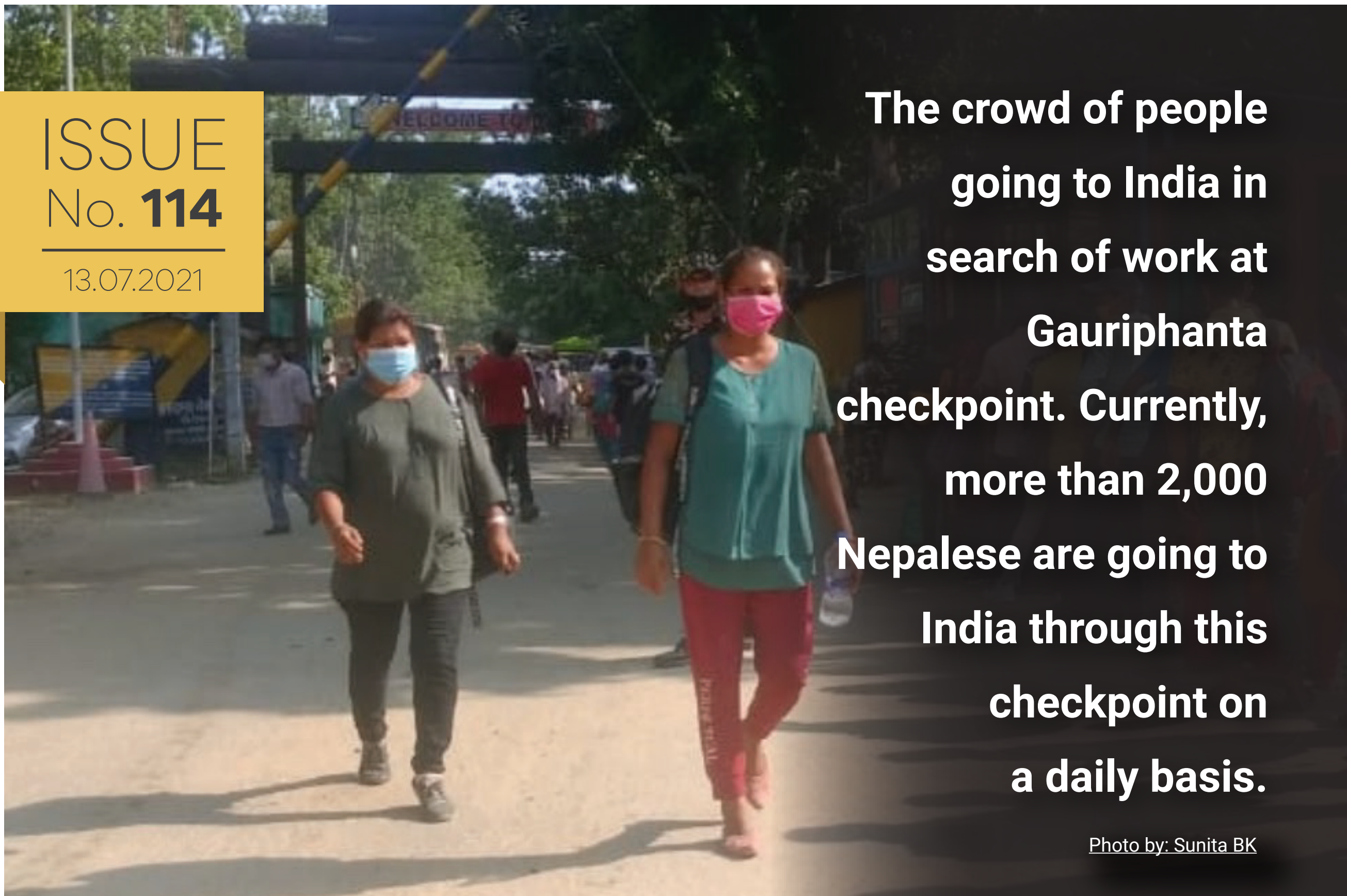


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The crowd of people going to India in search of work at Gauriphanta checkpoint. Currently, more than 2,000 Nepalese are going to India through this checkpoint on a daily basis.

Photo by: Sunita BK



IN THIS ISSUE

Contribution from the NGOs and INGOs for COVID response

282 organisations have contributed around 2 billion 575 million 600 thousand.

The worker going to the Saudi Arabia does not have to make a payment while staying in quarantine

The institutional quarantine expenses of Nepali workers should be borne by the employers for those who are under Saudi labor system.

Bhusal, a real hero at the times of Covid crisis

His team tested twelve hundred samples per day even during the shortage of human resource and and equipment

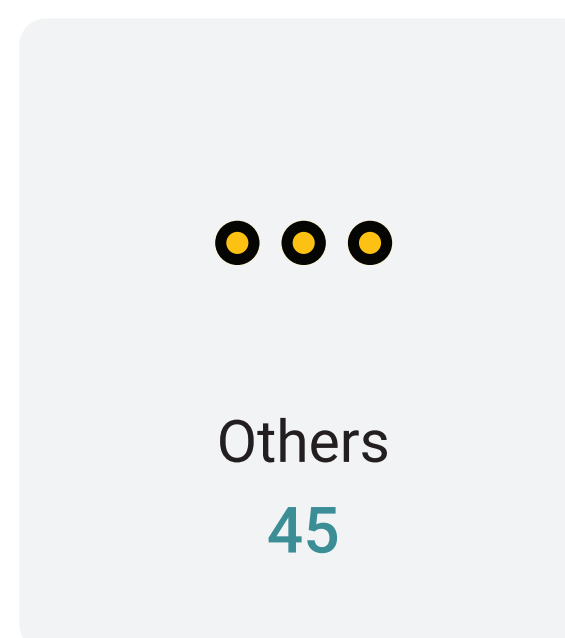
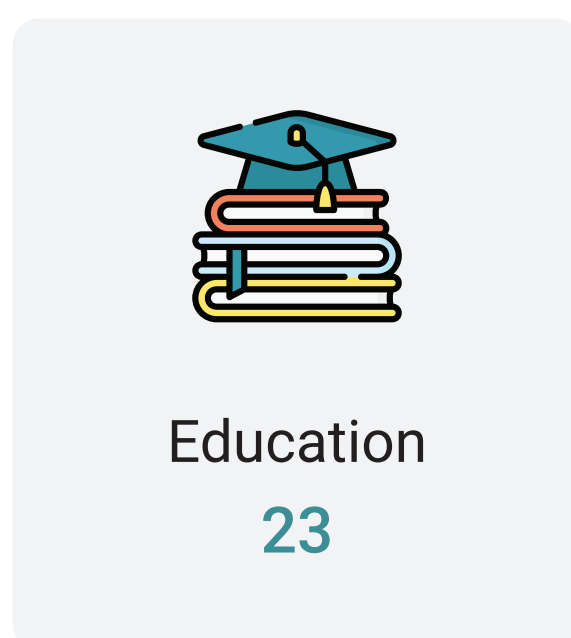
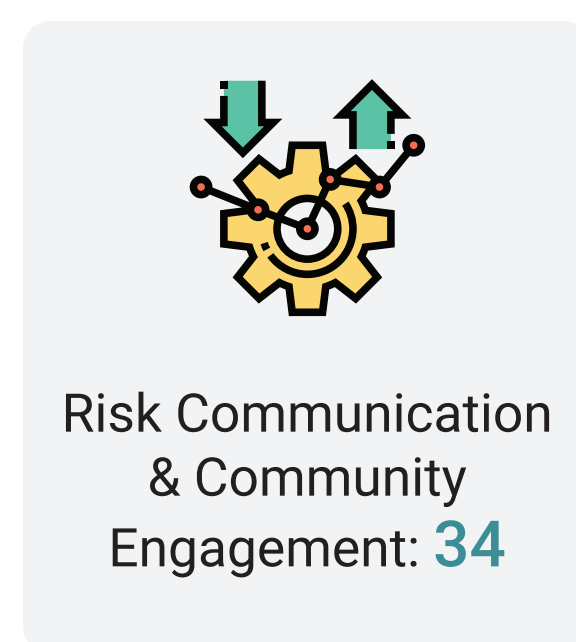
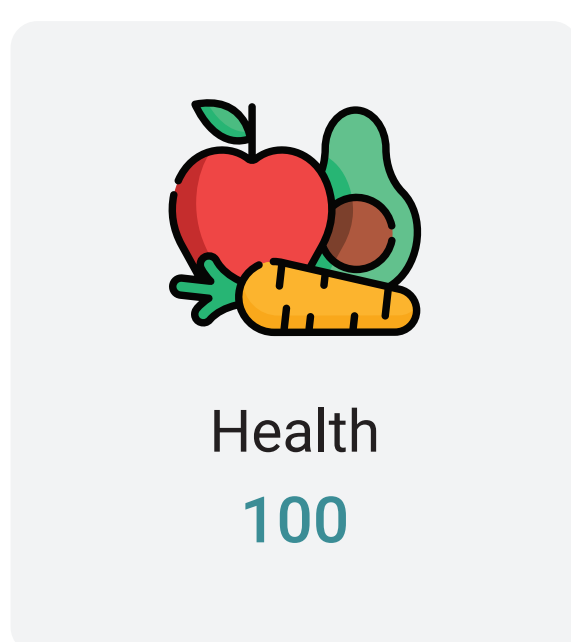
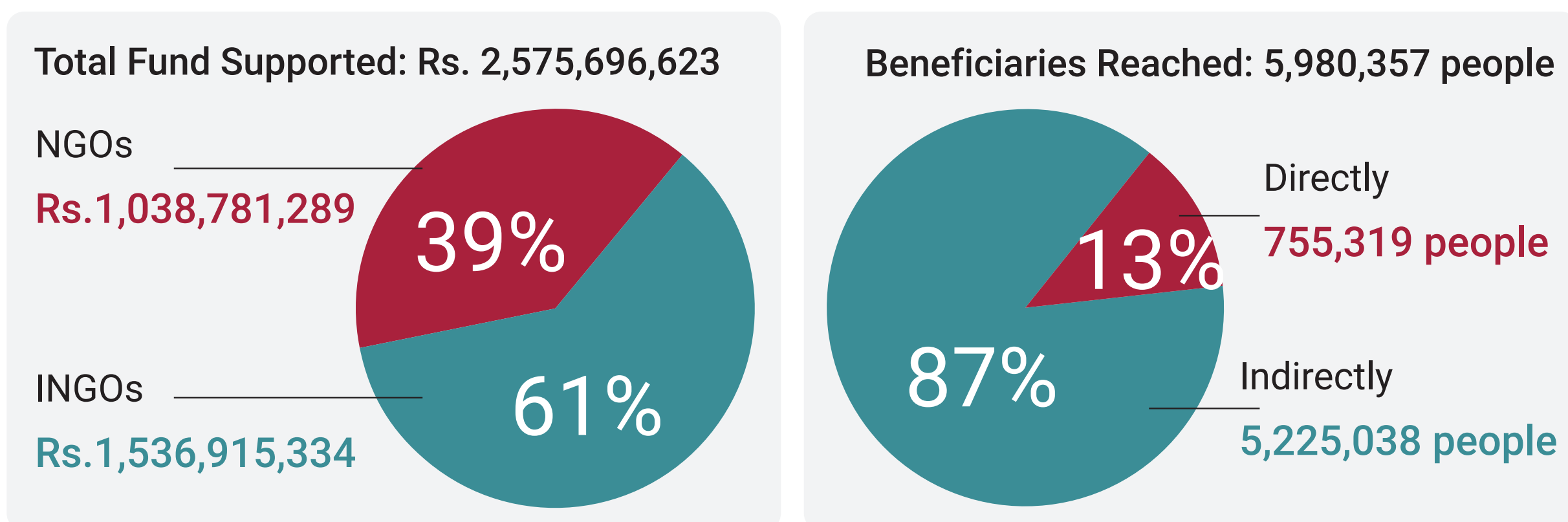


Out of the 30 lakh doses of Verocell vaccine 8 lakh has arrived in Nepal. The vaccines will be provided to the targeted population as per the vaccine planning.

[Click here for more information](#)

FACT SHEET

NGOs and INGOs contribution for COVID response



The Social Welfare Council has documented support from NGOs and INGOs for COVID Response. A total of 282 organizations have funded Nrs 2.575 billion reaching more than 755 thousand people directly and 5.225 million people indirectly. These contributions are in the forms of both money and equipment/kits which have played a major role in helping Nepal control and respond to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Source: https://www.swc.org.np/sites/default/files/suchana/FlashReport_infograph_July%209.pdf

RUMORS & FACTS

?

It is said that after vaccination, we need to stay in the vaccination centre for half an hour. What is the reason behind it?

Yes, the vaccinated people should stay in the vaccination center for half an hour after being vaccinated. This is done to make it easier to treat any immediate reaction shown by the individual's body. Especially, the blood pressure is checked twice - immediately and after half an hour from the vaccination. The vaccinated individual is then allowed to go home after ensuring that the level of blood pressure is fine.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/5m0iZZZ>

The foreign nationals who haven't received the complete dose of vaccines against COVID must remain in the institutional quarantine for seven days after landing in Saudi Arabia. The cost of which is about US dollars \$ 1,000. But from now onwards, the institutional quarantine expenses of Nepali workers should be borne by the employers for companies under Saudi labor system. In the same way, the cost of quarantine should be borne by the concerned recruiting agency for domestic workers.

Source: <https://dofe.gov.np/DetailPage.aspx/id/184/lan/ne-NP>

?

It is heard that the workers travelling to Saudi Arabia do not have to pay the cost for quarantine.

?

The earthquake-affected locals were told to take the last installment by the end of Jestha for the reconstruction of private houses. The locals couldn't take it due to corona. Now it is heard that the amount won't be provided.

The earthquake-affected beneficiaries who haven't received a total grant to reconstruct and retrofit private houses due to corona will receive the remaining installment by the end of Kartik 2078 on the recommendation of the concerned local unit. The concerned beneficiaries should have submitted the application to their ward office by the end of Kartik 2078 to benefit from this provision.

Source: <https://www.mofaga.gov.np/news-notice/2435>

BORDER ISSUES DURING COVID-19

Citizens frustrated over closed borders with India



Workers who can't find a job in Nepal

Farmers who depend on seeds from India

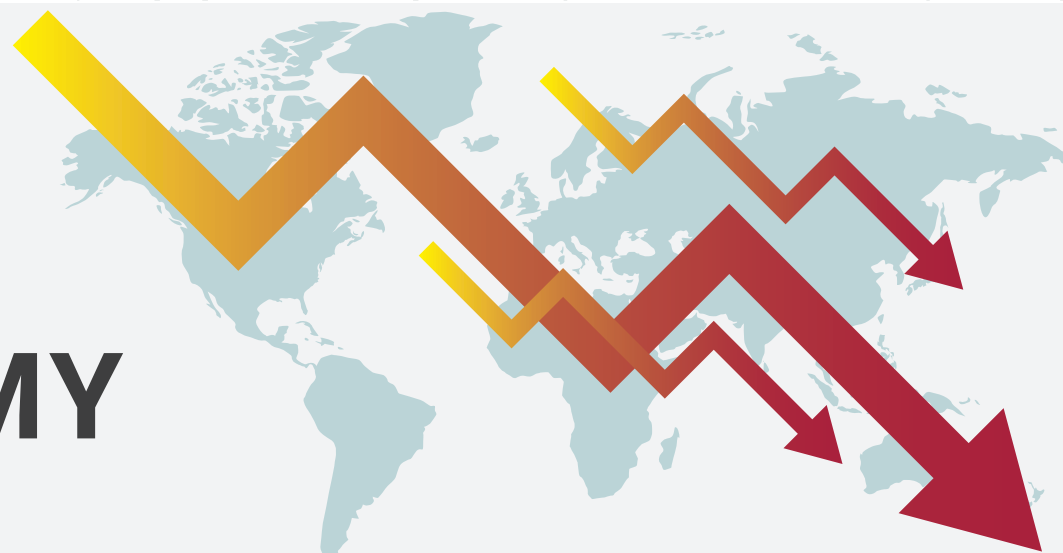
Businessmen who depend on trading

14 protests recorded demanding open borders

Nov 2020

June 2021

leading to the
**DOWNFALL OF
THE ECONOMY**



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.

Nepal closed borders with India early during the pandemic to control the transmission of the virus. But, when the government showed no signs of opening the borders, the public started to get agitated. Farmers complain about not being able to buy seeds from India. Migrant workers who had returned back to Nepal before the pandemic couldn't go back to work abroad. Business owners who depended on the import and export of products were severely impacted. Although closing down borders during the pandemic was a swift and correct decision by the government, their lack of providing alternatives to businesses and other citizens who depended on traveling to India sparked frustration among the public, leading to protests. This has also led to a big drop in Nepal's economy. The government had more than enough time during the 1st lockdown period to provide alternate solutions and put safety measures in place before opening borders, but their carelessness in this area lead to breaking the safety net of the citizens and a need to put up different forms of restrictions to Nepal's borders again, leading to unhappy citizens.

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

Those who have received full dose of prescribed vaccine aren't required to stay in quarantine upon landing in Qatar

Qatar:

- The citizens of countries including Nepal who have already received full doses of vaccine as prescribed by the Qatari Health Ministry will no longer have to stay in hotel quarantine. However, 12 hours before returning to Qatar, the individuals should go to the Athrai app website and fill up the details.
- Those who haven't received the full doses of the vaccine should mandatorily stay in the hotel quarantine. Hotel bookings can be made by visiting the Discover Qatar Website. The individuals should stay in a hotel for 10 days and in mechanic for 14 days.
- The tourist and family visas in Qatar will be open from July 12.
- The inaugural match of the 2022 World Cup will be played on November 21 at the Al Bayt Stadium in Al Khor.
- The individuals who walk in public places without wearing masks, do not maintain social distance and do not install Atraz apps on mobiles are being arrested.
- Qatar Airways and Nepal Airlines are flying to Qatar seven days a week.



Saudi Arabia:

- Everyone is requested to get the second dose of vaccine.
- The Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development is conducting an online survey to find out the awareness level of migrant workers in Saudi Arabia about their rights and duties. To participate in the survey, you can go to www.hrsd.gov.sa



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).



GROUND NARRATIVES

Bhushal a real hero at the times of Covid crisis

Similar to how the soldier goes to the war knowing that s/he could get shot by bullet, Ishwori Prasad Bhushal, lab in-charge of Dadeldhura Hospital, too knowing all the risk worked day and night, keeping himself and his family at risk. During the time of COVID pandemic, Bhushal and his team of 4 members worked in the frontline at Dadeldhura hospital.

The fear of COVID infection had entered Nepal, and gradually with the fear, the infection spread as well. At that time, the only reliable method for COVID examination was PCR. However, that test method was not available in Nepal. There was no chance of PCR examination in Sudurpaschim when it was not available in Kathmandu. Even the VTM used for the test of COVID was not available in Sudurpaschim. In such a difficult situation, the hospital collected COVID samples in 10 VTMs that were kept for influenza and sent them for testing.

Even at the times of shortage of manpower and equipment, his team tested twelve hundred samples in a day. The government has provided the facility to work for 12 days and stay in isolation for 12 days to the health workers but his team did not take any holiday to ensure a maximum number of tests. While examining the patient's sample, Bhushal even forgot to examine COVID test of his co-workers.



One of his co-worker, who is diabetic, did not have time to go to the toilet. As an alternative he worked around the clock with pads. On top of that, the hotel did not allow him to eat when they found out that he was a health worker. But his motivation to work did not waver.

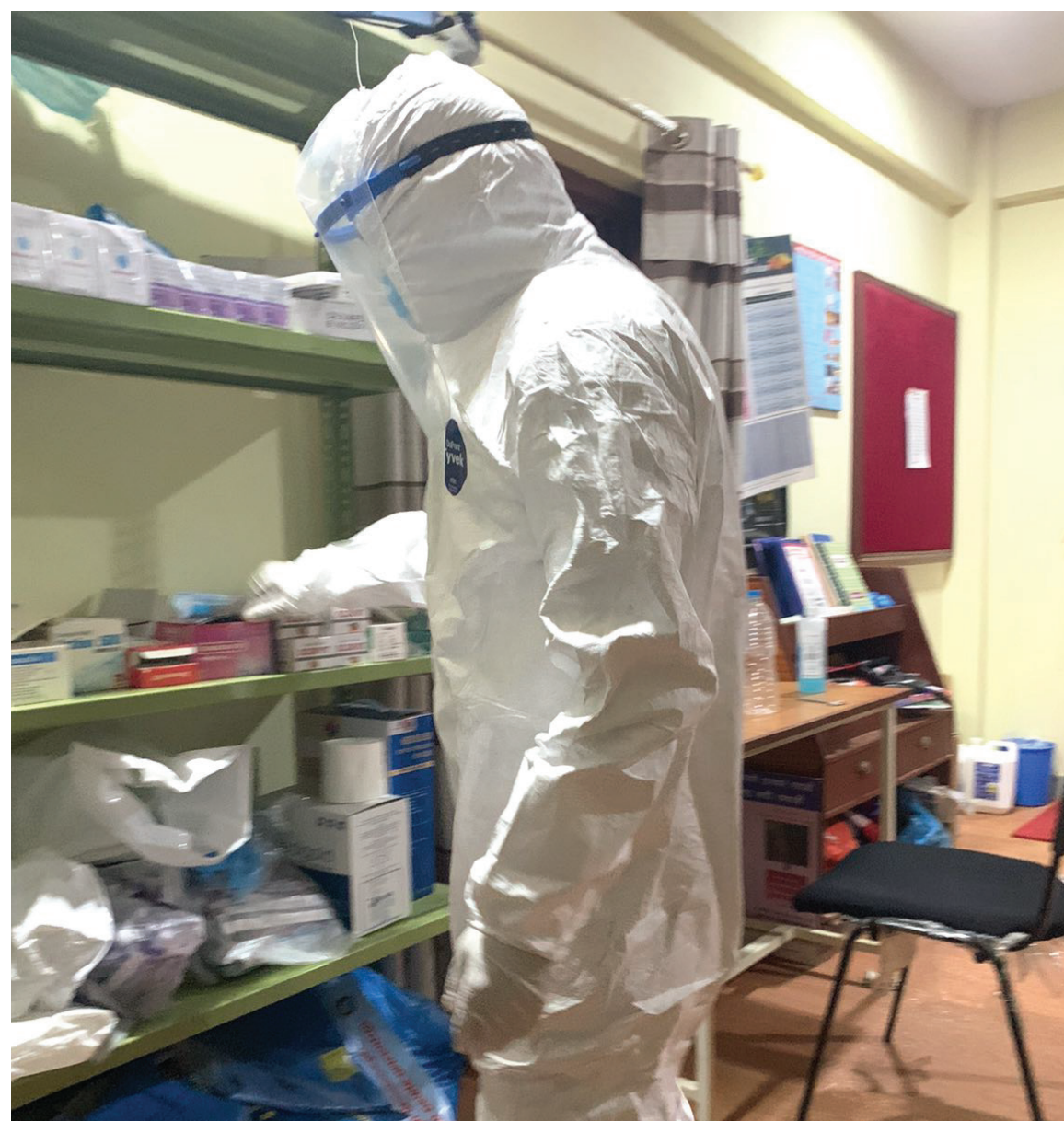
His wife is also a staff nurse at Dadeldhura Hospital. They have an 8 year old son. As both of them were working in the health sector at the time of the COVID pandemic, they sent their son to the maternal home in Mahendranagar so as to prevent him from COVID infection. He had no other choice as well. Now he is working to establish a laboratory with BSL and a negative pressure system within a month and a half. After the operation of this lab, the people here will not have to go out for testing for COVID and other deadly diseases.

VOICES OUT LOUD

In the first wave of Covid, the hospital I worked in had a total of 29 ICUs and 10 ventilators. That seemed enough. However, in the second wave even the allocation of 56 ICUs and 19 ventilators was not enough. I do not know how horrible the situation will be if the third wave comes. I do not know if our preparedness will be adequate or not. There is no chance that all the citizens will be getting the vaccine any time soon. So the wise move will be not to invite the third wave, which is on our hands. There is no other option than following the health guidelines.

TU MAYA GHALE

COVID Focal Person,
Gandaki Medical College, Pokhara



KRISHNA BAHADUR ALE MAGAR

AHW,
Dhulikhel Sanjeevani Isolation, Kavre

The COVID patient would come with a sad face in the isolation. At that time, they needed motivation. I myself became infected while working at the isolation centre. I gave my own example during counseling. Looking at it now, no one seems to think and acknowledge that there is suffering and it is painful. One will only know how painful it is, once you have experienced it. Imagine for a second that you got infected because of your own carelessness, there is shortage of medicine and equipment everywhere, no space at hospital. What will happen in that situation? So, let's be aware and let us stay safe.

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.

Brought to you by:



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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