

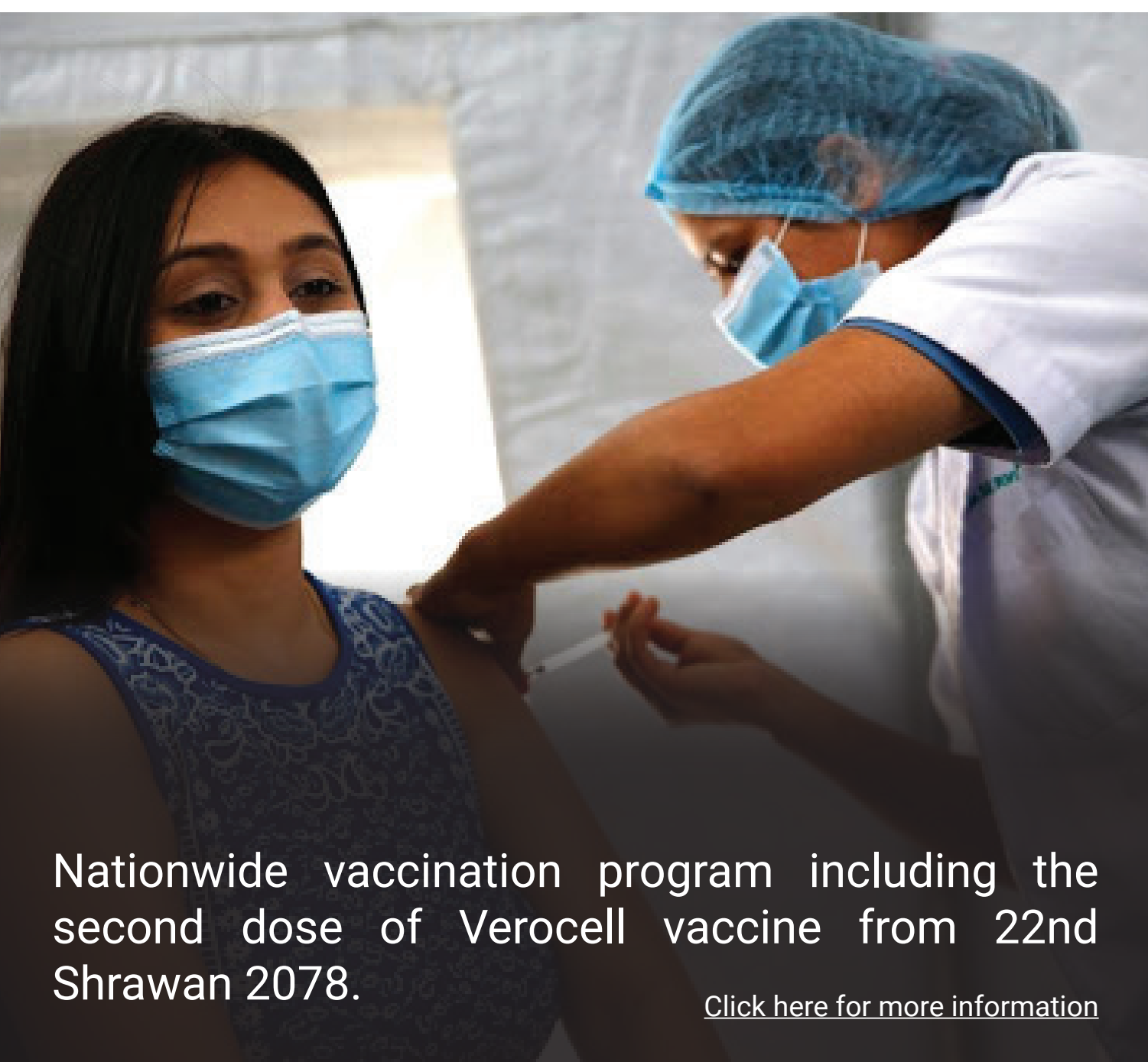
ISSUE  
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**People getting  
their 1st dose of  
Verocell vaccine  
at the vaccine  
centre in Ward  
no. 9 of  
Dhangadhi  
Sub-Metropolitan  
City**

Photo by: [Ganga Bhandari](#)



Nationwide vaccination program including the second dose of Verocell vaccine from 22nd Shrawan 2078.

[Click here for more information](#)

## IN THIS ISSUE

### **Budget allocated by the metropolitan cities of Nepal for combating COVID-19**

The average budget allocated for health by the metropolitan cities is 4%. But the budget related to the COVID-19 response is 1% of the total budget.

### **Those who are going for foreign employment have to fill online form for vaccination card with QR code**

Now the vaccine certificate with the QR code can be obtained by uploading required documents online

### **The painting business did not work but bringing the life in paintings with his brush continued**

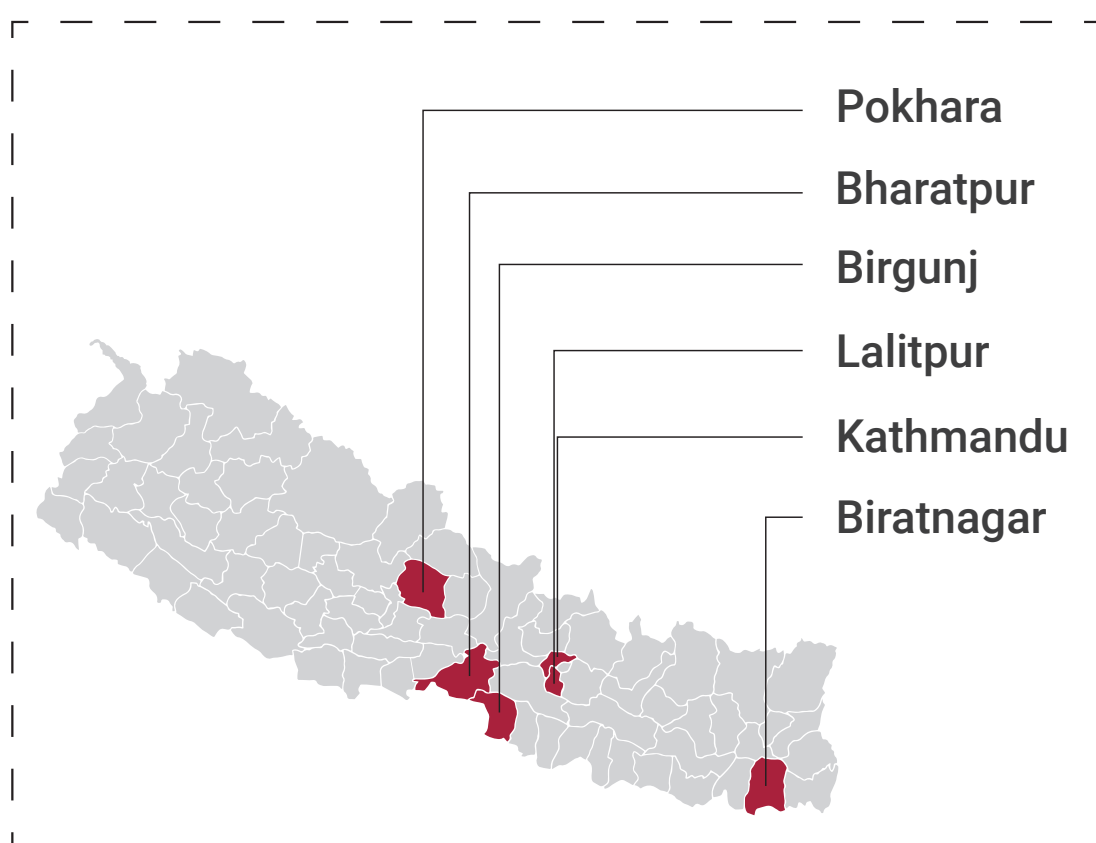
The colours of Shah, who has spent 50 years in painting, have faded by the effects of COVID-19.



# FACT SHEET

## Financial response of Metropolitan Cities across Nepal against COVID-19

### 2078/2079 Fiscal year budget allocations



#### Pokhara

Total budget: **6,277,500,000**  
Health Sector Allocation: **215,000,000 (3.42%)**  
COVID-specific Allocation: **38,500,000 (0.61%)**

#### Bharatpur

Total budget: **4,811,200,000**  
Health Sector Allocation: **90,000,000 (1.87%)**  
COVID-specific Allocation: **24,000,000 (0.50%)**

#### Lalitpur

Budget not published

#### Kathmandu

Kathmandu  
Total budget: **18,957,700,000**  
Health Sector Allocation:  
**701,602,000 (3.7%)**  
COVID-specific Allocation:  
**22,000,000 (0.12%)**

#### Birgunj

Total budget: **3,553,900,000**  
Health Sector Allocation: **213,000,000 (5.99%)**  
COVID-specific Allocation: **Not specified**

#### Biratnagar

Total budget: **4,100,300,000**  
Health Sector Allocation: **180,100,000 (4.39%)**  
COVID-specific Allocation: **30,000,000 (0.73%)**

Local governments are very important actors in the fight against COVID-19. Each of the local governments have specified "fighting corona" as one of the major priority areas, however, none of the governments seemed to have paid attention to allocate sufficient budget to fight COVID. Budgetary allocation will become very important as the cases have started to rise and local governments will be the first agency to respond. While the overall allocation for the health sector averaged 4% for the majority of metropolitan cities, their budgetary allocation for COVID specific activities is less than 1% of the total budget. This implies that in the case of the significant rise of COVID cases and the economic distress it can bring, metropolitan cities in Nepal are not financially prepared.

# RUMORS & FACTS

?

It is heard that now those going for foreign employment have to fill an online form for a vaccine card with QR code. What about those who don't have access to the internet?

Yes, now those who go for foreign employment can get a vaccine card with QR code by uploading the required documents as asked in <https://vaccine.gov.np/public-request-form>. For this, passport, vaccine card and recent passport size photo should be uploaded. However, those who don't have access to the internet can receive the vaccine card with QR code by submitting original and photocopies of the above mentioned documents in National Ayurved Research and Training Center, Kirtipur.

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

?

This isn't true. Anyone who shows symptoms of COVID and has come in contact with an infected person is recommended to contact the concerned local level or district hospital for a free antigen and PCR test provided by the Government of Nepal. This is to prevent crowds and to ensure effective adherence to health standards.

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

Anyone who shows the symptoms of COVID-19 and has come in contact with the infected person should now be tested only after informing the ward. Now, can't you go to the hospital yourself and get tested?

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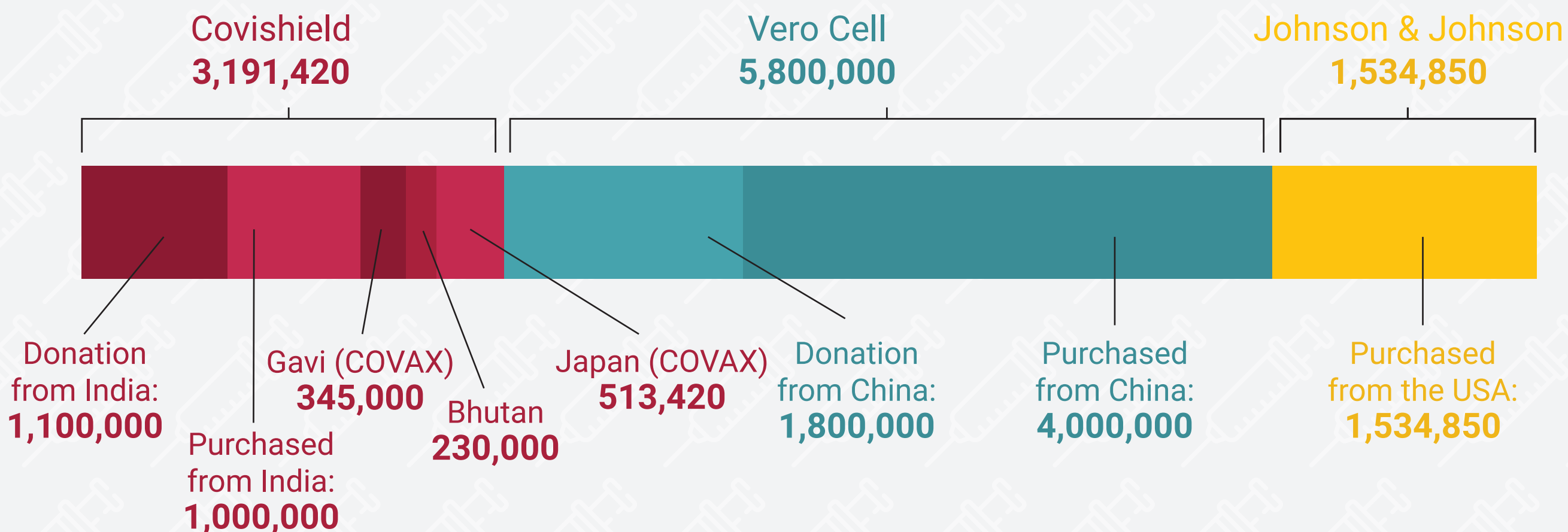
The news related to long-term health problems of COVID are also being heard. Is there any evidence as to why and what kind of patients suffer from COVID for long?

The long-term health problems of COVID aren't seen on everyone but a small portion of individuals who were once infected. Such individuals have shown persistent and long-term problems related to heart, lungs, skin, taste, smell, sleep and brain. However, it is still early to say the further details of the long-term effects and problems of COVID. It will take more research and multi-layer studies to be fully aware of the topic.

Source: <https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/risk-comms-updates/>

# COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE

Total doses of the vaccine received **10,526,270**



Total population over 18 years (eligible population)  
**20,291,254**

Percentage of 18+ years of people fully vaccinated  
**12.28%**

Total doses of vaccine required to vaccinate 18+ population  
**37,512,808**

## Protests by different groups demanding COVID-19 Vaccines



Teacher

Student

Transportation Sector

Tourism Sector



## COVID-19 infections slowly declining in the UAE

### UAE

- Public holiday on August 12 on the occasion of Hirji New Year.
- The PCR test will only cost 65 dirhams. Complaints can be made if more than that is charged.
- One should be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to go on meetings, programs and exhibitions.
- The malls, hotels, cinemas can now operate with 80% capacity. In addition, programs can be conducted with 60% capacity by following complete health standards.
- In August 2021, the lowest number of COVID-19 cases was seen in 3 months. This shows that there is a decline in the number of infected individuals.



### Kuwait

- August 9 is a public holiday on the occasion of Islamic New Year
- Nepal has started giving QR code certificates for vaccination card verification. This can be taken through both online and offline mediums. Since the date of birth in some certificates is on B.S, please register your name only after looking at your full details.
- All the government offices will be operational during normal hours from August 15.
- Vaccination has also been started for those above 12 years of age. One lakh people will be vaccinated in one day.

Nepal, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh are on the high risk list of Kuwait. Those who were vaccinated in Kuwait can directly come to Kuwait. However, those who are vaccinated outside Kuwait will have to stay in quarantine in a third country and enter with a proof.

### Saudi Arabia

- Workers travelling to Saudi Arabia have to stay in quarantine for 7 days even if they are vaccinated.

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



# GROUND NARRATIVES

## The painting business did not work out, but his work of bringing out the life in paintings with his brush continued

There is a Shah Kalaghar in front of the Mahadev Temple in Jaleshwar, which is the district headquarters of Mahottari. Ramekwal Shah, a painter there, always has a paint brush in his hands. Anyone who comes to the temple premises is drawn by his paintings. He has sustained his life by selling those paintings. His paintings have reached Kathmandu, Pokhara and even New Delhi and Mumbai of India. COVID-19 has faded all the colours for the painter Shah who had spent 50 years in the painting. That means his only source of earning has been harshly affected.

In the meantime, he did a virtual exhibition of his paintings, but he has not been able to turn his hard work into monetary value.

After the market came to a halt, his painting business did not work, but his work of bringing out the life in paintings with his brush continued. He does not know how long the effects of the pandemic will last, but he does not want to curb the amazing potential he has.



Even though his three sons had knowledge of painting, they chose another profession because they did not see a future in this painting business. But at this age of his life he does not have another choice.

For his contribution to the field of arts, 15 years ago he was awarded with the Gorkha Dakshin Bahu member fourth class. The government should be protecting national talents like Shah. However, he is enjoying painting rather than expecting from the government. Secondly, he could have gone to bigger cities to widen the horizon of his skill and earn name and fame but he turned his birthplace into a workplace. He introduced his city to the national and international level and he is content in it. COVID might have affected his business but it has not been able to affect the colourful dreams he portrayed in his picture.





# VOICES OUT LOUD

As I had to treat COVID patients, I had to send my one and half year old child to my in-laws' house overnight at Sindhuli in between the prohibitory orders to prevent him from COVID infection two months ago. Seeing the condition of the patient who came for treatment to the hospital I felt that I would not survive but there was no other alternative than to treat them. Nowadays a trend of posting unverified materials and photos in social media has increased. This decreases the morale of the COVID patient and their relatives. Thus prohibiting posting of content that creates fear among the people can prevent the infected from developing psychological fear.

## PABILA THAPA

AHW,  
Hetauda hospital



## ANITA THAPA

Staff nurse,  
Nepalgunj Medical College, Banke

I believe all of us who worked in the hospital cannot remain untouched from the COVID. We got infected even after following the health guidelines and after recovering again treated the patients. Patients from the third wave of the COVID infection have also been seen. Therefore, it is important for everyone to be aware and strictly adopt the health guidelines. Many people in the rural areas are still not vaccinated and some do not even know about the vaccine. Therefore, there is also a need for targeted vaccination awareness programs.



# 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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