


ISSUE
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A patient being taken to the hospital on a stretcher after the flood in the Indrawati river washed away the bridge along with the road.

Photo by:K eshav Raj Poudel

IN THIS ISSUE

COVID-19 Vaccination status of SAARC countries. Who is ahead and who is falling behind?

As of 14th August, 2021 Bhutan is ahead and Bangladesh remain at the bottom

Getting QR code online is more difficult than staying in a queue.

Senior Public Health Officer, Deepak Jha can be contacted at 9843284352 in case of any problem.

The government have not insured even the health workers

Forget about the salary and allowances, till date none of the health workers are insured.



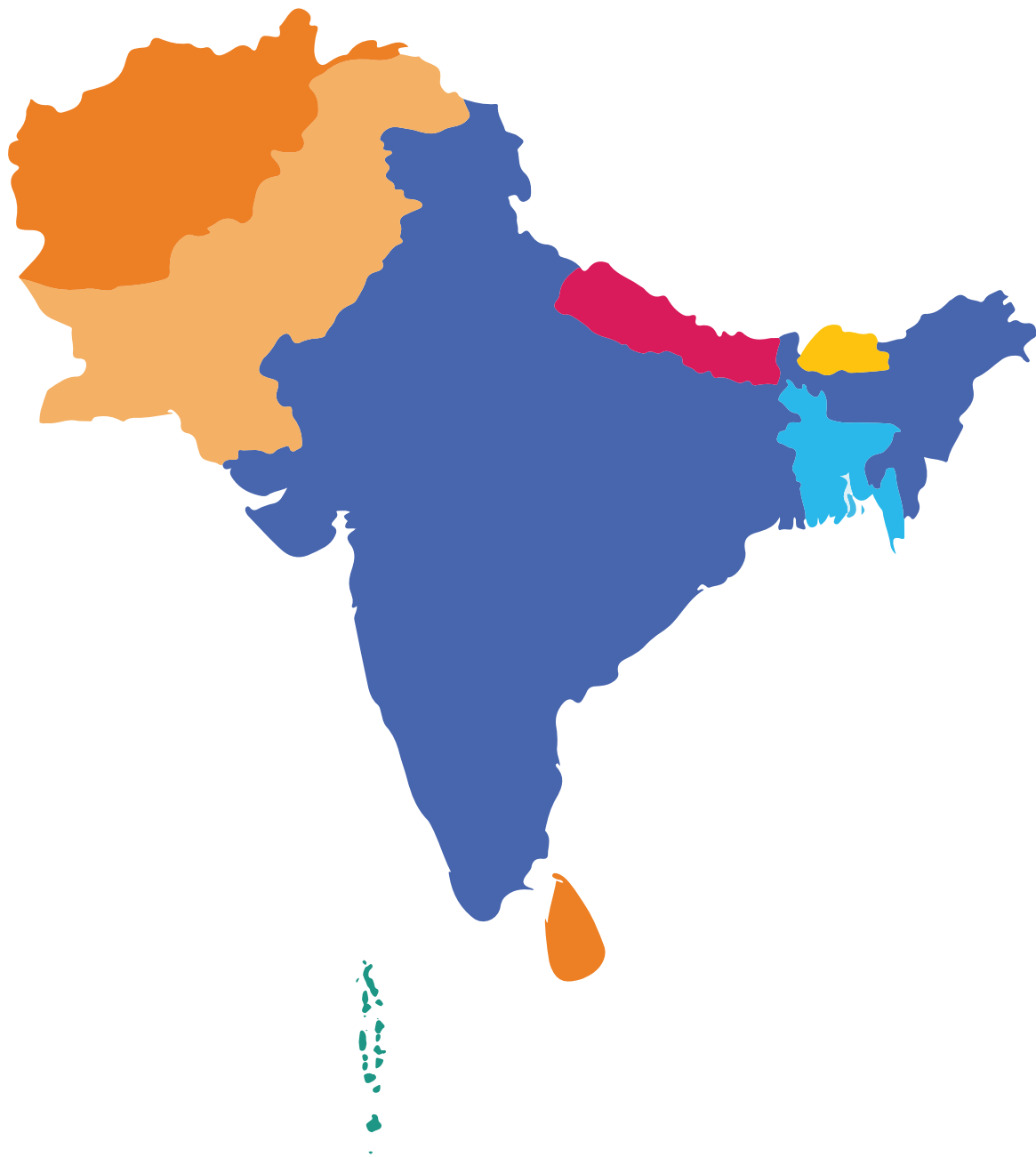
REGISTRATION FORM

The government of Nepal has issued a "Registration form for Nepalis in Afghanistan" to rescue the Nepalis in Afghanistan. You have to go to the link below and fill in the details.

[Click here for more information](#)

FACT SHEET

COVID-19 Vaccination Situation of SAARC countries.
Who is ahead and who is falling behind?



Bhutan

Fully Vaccinated: **61.65%**
Partially Vaccinated: **7.62%**

Maldives

Fully Vaccinated: **54.19**
Partially Vaccinated: **8.90%**

Sri Lanka

Fully Vaccinated: **17.63%**
Partially Vaccinated: **36.23%**

Nepal

Fully Vaccinated: **11.34%**
Partially Vaccinated: **4.70%**

Pakistan

Fully Vaccinated: **5.41%**
Partially Vaccinated: **9.94%**

India

Fully Vaccinated: **8.79%**
Partially Vaccinated: **21.83%**

Bangladesh

Fully Vaccinated: **3.17%**
Partially Vaccinated: **6.19%**

Source: <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations#>
Data last validated: August 14, 2021

The breakdown data of Afghanistan was not available, but according to WHO, as of 10 August 2021, a total of 1,809,517 vaccine doses have been administered there.

RUMORS & FACTS

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The government has promised to vaccinate workers going to South Korea. Do the workers going to the Gulf countries have to wait for the targeted age group?

That isn't the case. In case of workers going abroad for foreign employment, the government has already made a decision to vaccinate them on the basis of visa and air ticket if the vaccine has received approval in the destination country. For the workers travelling to Korea, the government has arrangements to vaccinate them with Janssen vaccine from Nepal Police Hospital, Maharajgunj and Army Hospital, Chauni.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/MQH6z9V>

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It is more difficult to get QR code through online than staying in a queue. I haven't received the code even after two days of filling the online form?

The Ministry of Health and Population has stated that one can get the code within 5 days of filling the form. The status of the certificate can be ascertained by entering your registration no. and date of birth at <https://vaccine.mohp.gov.np/-public-request-form>. If one fills the form with full details, it will be automatically verified by the online system and can be downloaded as per the turn. If there is any problem in this regard, you can call Senior Public Health Officer, Deepak Jha at 9843284352.

Source: <https://www.moha.gov.np/post/press-release-2056>

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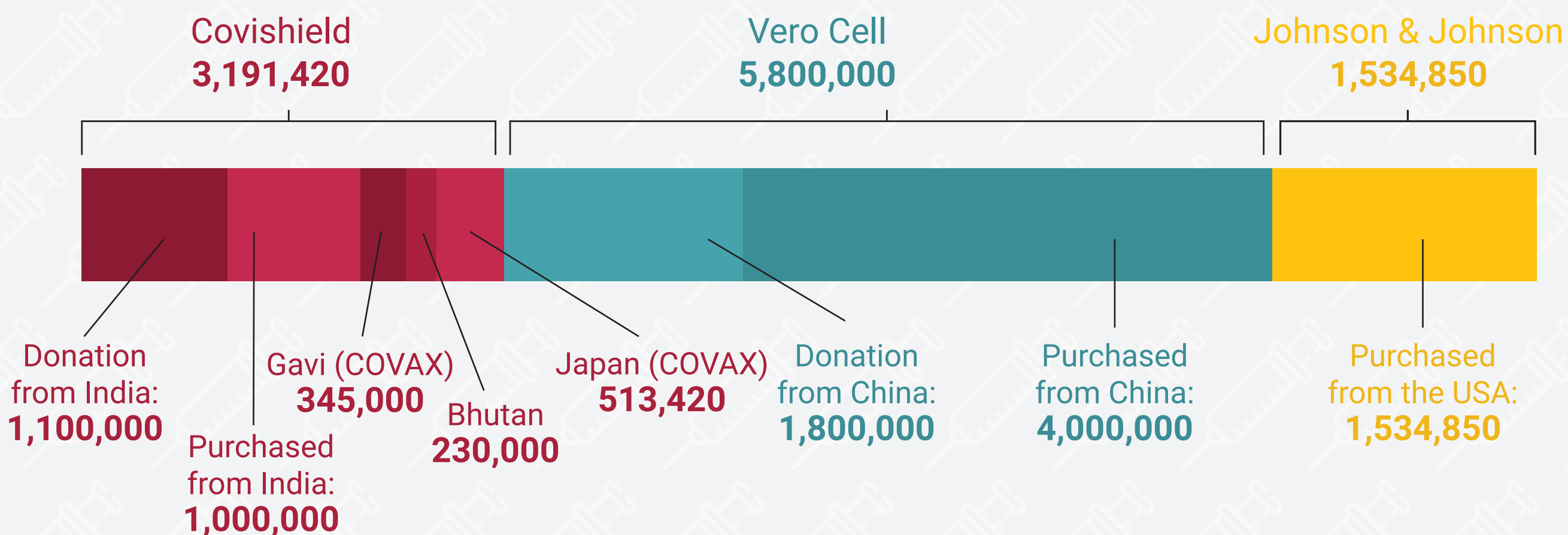
It is said that the vaccine doesn't work when the second dose is received after 5 months from the first dose.

According to the Ministry of Health and Population, the vaccine still works even when there is a long gap between the first and second dose. Initially, the second dose was said to be given at an interval of four weeks after the first dose. However, some studies suggest that the second dose may be more effective 12 weeks after the first dose. However, research is still being carried out to find out the exact facts.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/mQJQNo9>

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
16.57%

4% increase from last week

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

Vaccine Related Incidents



Rampage in vaccination centers

Disregarding priority list during vaccine administration

Mistreatment of employees in vaccination centers

Favoritism during administration of vaccines

The UAE will allow entry to a person who is currently on leave from a foreign employment and willing to return to the UAE for employment on the following conditions:

- Both vaccines must be administered in the UAE (this information will be recorded in the Alhosan mobile application).
- Those who have a visa from Dubai and other emirates should first get the permit.
- Those who have a visa of Dubai should get the permit after completing the form. For those who have a visa from other emirates, green or the red status is shown for the approval or disapproval of travel after entering the emirates id and passport number.
- If one has a red status, then you have to wait till there is a green status. In case of green status, you have to fill another form called arrival.
- You will get an email from arrival, which will have a permit with a barcode. Then you can prepare for the trip.
- Once you have the tickets, you need to have the negative PCR report done within 48 hours prior to departure.
- In addition, you should have a rapid test done at the Nepal airport.



Useful links

- Form for the approval for those who have a visa of Dubai. bit.ly/2VEIYy8
- In order to check the status for those who have visas from other emirates. bit.ly/2Vvbi6b
- Form that should be filled once your status is green. bit.ly/37iF8gt



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

The government itself hesitates to provide health insurance to health workers

Gauriphanta is a border to India for two districts Kailali and Kanchanpur. Even under the normal circumstances, a crowd of Nepalis entering India for employment and returning Nepal from employment can be seen at this checkpoint. With the onset of the corona pandemic, this border point became popular throughout the country. The reason was lack of government's preparation which made many Nepalis to be stuck unsafe at the border point. Later, when the government set up a health desk for testing, the situation became somewhat easier. From then to now, one of the health workers who has been working at the border is AHW, Ganesh Bahadur Saud.

It has been almost a year and half since he started working there. Four to five thousand Nepalis used to return home from India daily through the checkpoint. The people kept returning from morning till night. While the number of returnees was in thousands, there were only four staff members including Saud at the health desk. On the one hand, there was a compulsion to work 24 hours a day in the hot weather of March and April inside a plastic hut with PPE, and on the other hand, the heavy wind would blow away the hut. On top of that, everyone would be in a hurry to go home. Gradually, the number of employees increased to eight. Only eight staff members would test more than five hundred people on a daily basis. They didn't even have time to drink water and breathe.

Sometimes the report of two people who come together for the test would differ i.e one would be positive and the other negative. Then, they would even throw stones at them asking "why did my report confirm positive while my friend's is negative"?



The Saud team still managed to fulfill all the responsibility amidst the fear of getting infected while staying in contact with hundreds of people daily and uncertainty about who might come and throw stones at their team.

Sometimes his own family members would say rude things like " Now we don't have to go out to get infected from corona"? According to him, the government didn't pay much attention to the hard working employees. The government still hasn't done the health insurance for the health workers, let alone the salary allowance. Is the government ignoring the service-providers who risked their lives to save the life of others?

VOICES OUT LOUD

Although we had some knowledge of previous pandemic, the COVID-19 pandemic was new to us. On the one hand, the old superstitious beliefs prevailed among the locals. When we tried to collect a sample of potentially infected people, we were told that nothing would happen and god would save them. On the other hand, we did not have protective equipment. We cut the tent of the greenhouse and made PPE out of it, after watching a YouTube video. Similarly, we created a fever center from plastic. We promoted public awareness. Gradually the locals started wearing masks. People started getting tested when the symptoms were seen, and the situation started becoming normal. To conclude, this situation taught me about how to deal with other pandemics.

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DIPESH GHIMIRE

Medical Laboratory Technologist,
Kavre

I remember we tested COVID first time on 30th Chaitra 2076 with the people returning from foreign employment. From that day, till today this white PPE set has not left my body. I used to destroy the PPE after the use in order to prevent infection. My confidence boosted after getting both the doses of the Covishield vaccines and I felt that there is less probability to be infected again. But, when I started seeing symptoms of COVID-19, I got tested again and the test result was positive. It was very difficult. One has to follow the health guidelines to be safe even after the vaccination.

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.

REACH OUT TO US ON

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