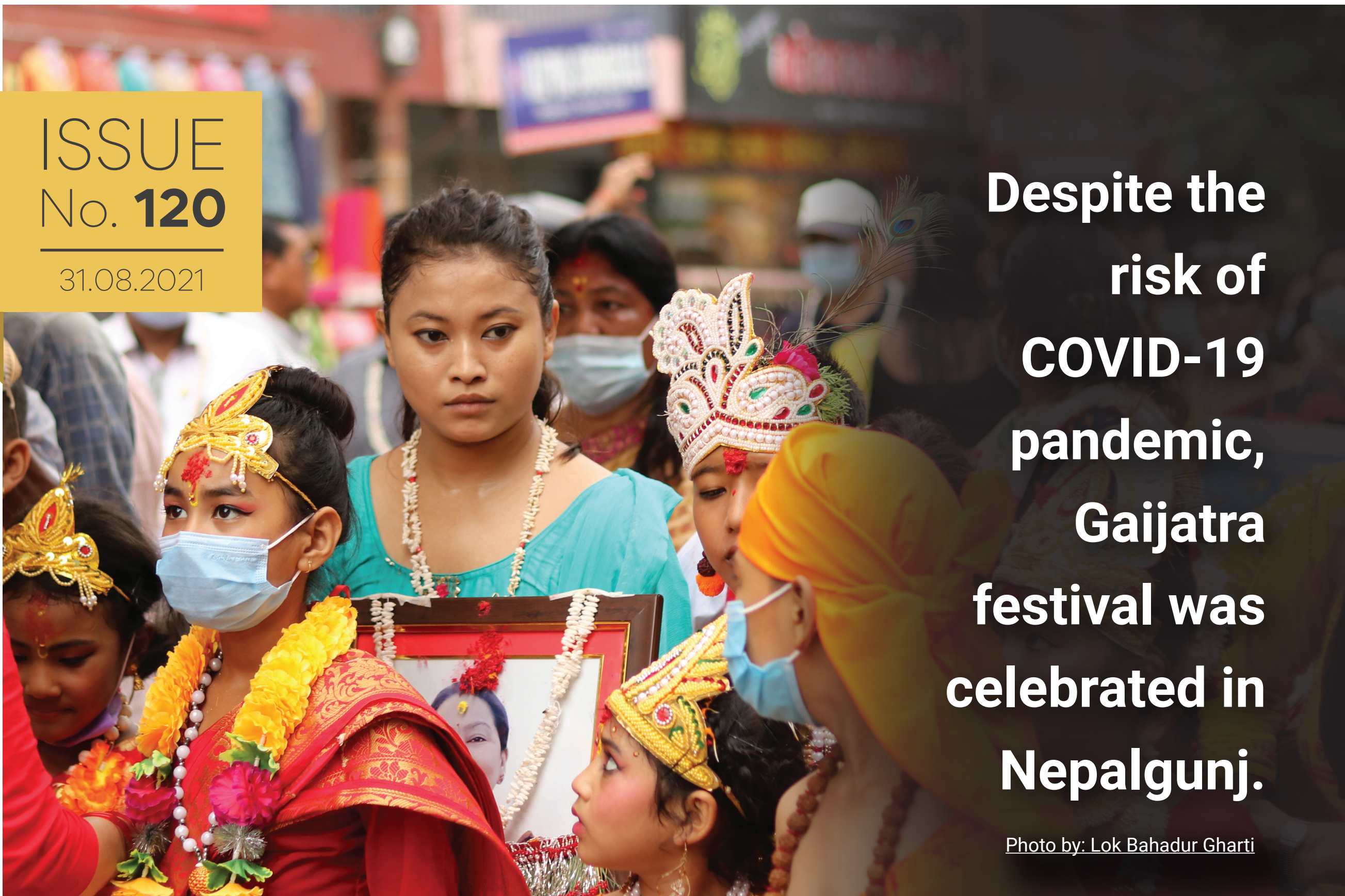


ISSUE
No. **120**

31.08.2021



Despite the
risk of
COVID-19
pandemic,
Gaijatra
festival was
celebrated in
Nepalgunj.

Photo by: [Lok Bahadur Gharti](#)

IN THIS ISSUE

Is the vaccine that we are getting really effective?

The antibodies were found in 80 percent of the people vaccinated with a single dose and in 90 percent of those fully vaccinated.

Doesn't the access to QR code vaccine certificates online make it more difficult for those who don't have online access?

The government has provided access to free QR code certificates to the concerned manpower online.

Many like Nirmala are forced to go abroad as even the daily labor work is not ensured.

Neither she has money to go abroad, nor is there anyone to take care of her daughter at home.



mRNA vaccine against COVID-19 produced in China has been allowed to be tested in Nepal.

[Click here for more information](#)

FACT SHEET

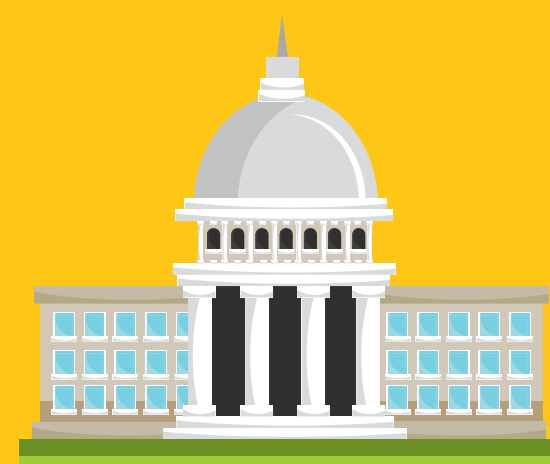
High arrears at the local level plant seeds of worry in the public.
Is the decentralized government failing?

Total amount audited by Nepali Government in 2076/2077
Rs. 5,327,910,000,000

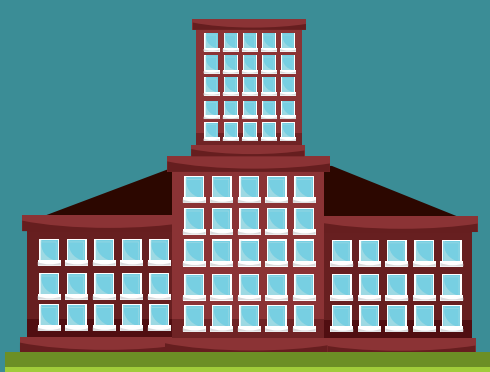
3079 federal institutes

Total audited amount:
Rs. 1,555,810,000,000

Arrears Amount:
Rs. 44,390,000,000
(2.85 %)



1019 provincial institutes



Total audited amount:
Rs. 237,410,000,000

Arrears Amount:
Rs. 6,500,000,000
(2.74%)

699 local units

Total audited amount:
Rs. 815,990,000,000

Arrears Amount:
Rs. 40,830,000,000
(5%)



स्रोत: Source: <https://cutt.ly/FWgiDCS>

RUMORS & FACTS

?

There are reports of corona infection in the vaccinated people as well. It is still unknown as to how long the vaccine will work. Does the vaccine work for real?

Recently, the Ministry of Health and Population collected samples and tested a total of 13,161 people over the age of six months. The preliminary results showed that 68.6 percent of the samples carried COVID-19 antibodies. The antibodies were found in 80 percent of those vaccinated with a single dose and in 90 percent of people fully vaccinated. This clearly shows the vaccines being distributed are effective.

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

?

There is a rumor that the vaccine against corona will be tested in Nepal as well. Who really participates in the test?

According to the standards of the World Health Organization, the first stage will be tested on healthy young individuals. In the second and third stages, the vaccine will be tested on the basis of the age groups for which the vaccine is being prepared. Following that, the vaccine is deemed safe only after testing in different geographical areas, among different caste, gender, age group and even the people who face high risk of COVID-19. Volunteers are publicly invited to participate in the test.

Source: <https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/>

?

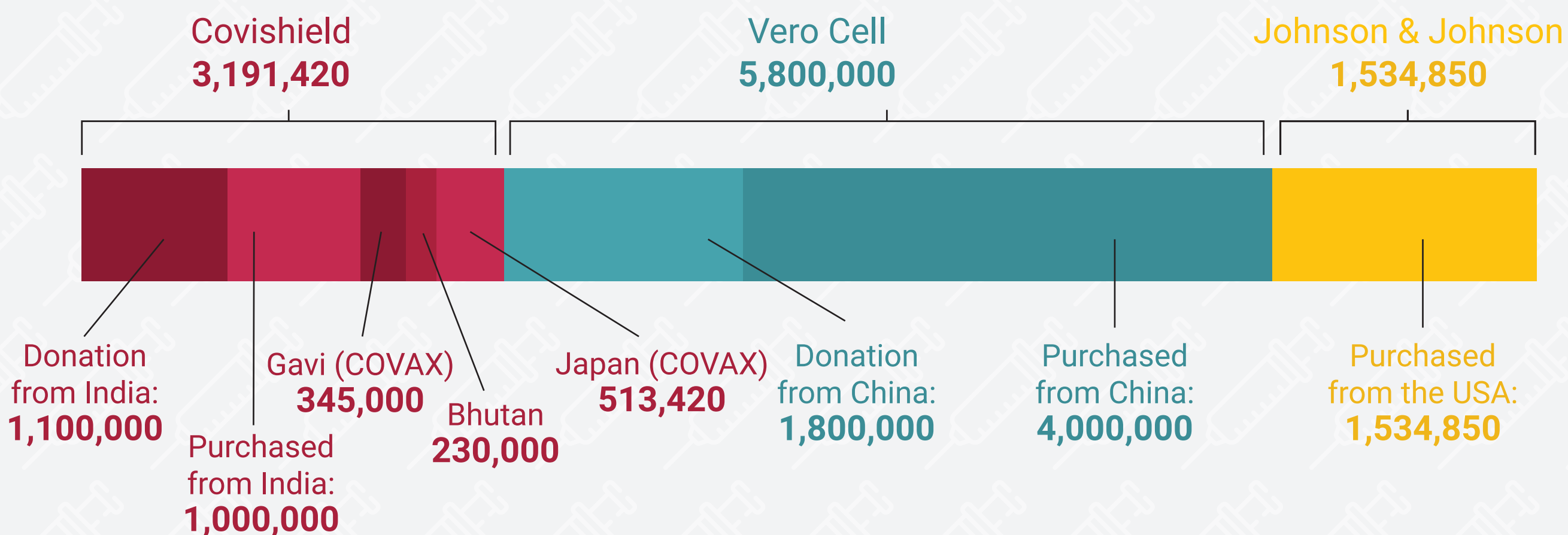
Although the certificate of vaccination against COVID-19 can be received with QR code online, did it create more difficulties for those who don't have online access?

The government has made new arrangements to address the grievances in this regard. If any individual wants to go for foreign employment through an institution, then the concerned licensed manpower has to arrange a certificate with QR code for free through online medium. However, in case of those going to foreign employment with individual labor permits, the government has made arrangements to seek support from the nearest health institution or health department for free if one is unable to get the certificate with QR code online.

Source: <https://dofe.gov.np/DetailPage.aspx/id/197/lan/ne-NP>

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
19.97%

3.5% increase from last week

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

WHAT'S THE FOCUS? **POLITICS?**
OR **PANDEMIC RESPONSE?**



512 political incidents

recorded between January and August 2021

Lifestyle in UAE returning back to normal

UAE

- Seha has opened a new drive through center, Al Ain.
- Tourist visa have been opened for people who have been fully vaccinated with vaccines authorized by the World Health Organization, to be effective from 30 August .
- Schools have reopened from 29th August after a long time.
- Anyone vaccinated with Synoform for 6 months in Abu Dhabi has been given a grace period till 20 September, 2021 for the third booster vaccination. For that, there should be a green signal in the Al Hosn app.



Kuwait

- Nepal- Kuwait Flight is still uncertain. You can go to Kuwait via Istanbul, Turkey, but you have to bear a long trip along with a hefty fare.
- 18,000 people are being vaccinated regularly in Kuwait. Mobile vaccination center going to the camps and providing people with vaccines.
- Qatar placed Kuwait in the yellow steam of the COVID classification.
- The suggestion of the Kuwait Ministry of Health to update Immune App before travelling to Kuwait.



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

Being deprived of even the daily wages push many Nirmala(s) to go abroad

Women in the Nepali society are assigned too much work inside the home itself. There isn't an environment to leave home and work outside as the society doesn't perceive it positively. However, when the burden of the family falls on them, then the financial crisis continues to amplify. There is no one to help. They have to go out to earn money regardless of what society says. An example of this is Nirmala Kumari Thapa of Birendranagar Municipality, Ward No. 1. Thapa, who got married at an early age, gave birth to a daughter shortly after she got married. As the daughter was growing, the husband stopped caring for them. After her husband remarried and disappeared, the entire burden of the house was on Nirmala. She had to educate her daughter along with sustaining their livelihood, but had no source of income.

After finding no option, she eventually moved to Saudi Arabia as a domestic worker. Leaving her young daughter at home and going abroad to work wasn't easy. But she had no other options left.

She worked in Saudi Arabia for two years despite challenges. She was earning enough to support the family. But gradually, the memory of her daughter began to haunt her. Nirmala, who was left alone after her husband disappeared, was also becoming distant from the family. She eventually left Saudi Arabia in two and a half years to connect with her daughter.



When she returned home, she stayed with her family, but she didn't receive any support. She gradually ran out of money earned abroad. Again, she had to find work to support herself. The work learned abroad wasn't available in the village. She began to work part-time. However, that hasn't been sufficient to meet the cost of her daughter's education. She again feels like going abroad now. However, she neither has the money to go abroad nor the person to take care of her daughter. She is beginning to feel that she hasn't received any daily wage work because she is a woman. Can't a single woman like Nirmala make a living in Nepal?

VOICES OUT LOUD

When the COVID-19 pandemic started my daughter was only 3 months and 15 days old. As I am a health worker and had to be involved in the risky tasks, I had to think several times before breast feeding my daughter. It was also not possible for me to take leave just for my daughter. I was terrified when my colleagues got infected by COVID. Vaccination camps were even more risky. People in camps neither wore masks nor maintained physical distancing. There were challenges in making them understand. We had expected love and respect from the people for the care and work during the pandemic but that is not the case yet.

KALA KUMARI CHAUDHARI

Staff nurse,
Jaleswor Municipality, Mahottari



SANTOSH POKHREL

Senior journalist,
Pokhara

I have been involved in the sector of journalism for the last 15 years. The challenges that I am facing now because of the COVID pandemic, is the biggest challenge in my career so far. It was difficult to collect data as most of the sectors were closed because of lockdown and nobody wanted to meet us because they believed that the journalists keep on visiting places. I could not do the reporting due to lack of personal protective equipment and because of fear of infection. As I am a tenant, in many cases I had to hide from the house owner. It was clearly evident that people tried to stay away from me when they said that I work in the frontline.

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.

REACH OUT TO US ON

-  @CivicActionTeams
-  @civacts
-  @CivActs
-  Civic Action Teams
-  /accountability_lab

Email: civactsnp@accountabilitylab.org

Phone: 9851203219

