

NEPAL

# GOVERNANCE

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## About 25 % of Eligible Nepali Voters Living Abroad Deprived of Voting Rights

WEEKLY

On 21 March 2018, the supreme court issued an order to ensure the voting rights of Nepalis living abroad. Following that, the election commission has conducted six studies at different times and prepared reports. But, neither the commission nor the government has shown any willingness to ensure the voting rights of migrants during elections to date.

An estimated four hundred thousand Nepalis are residing abroad, which constitutes 25% of the total electorate. Two modalities; establishing voting centers in embassies, and online voting have been briefly discussed, but no concrete steps have been taken for execution. The remittance sent by the migrants contributes to 30% of Nepal's GDP and is considered the backbone of our economy. But the majority outside Nepal who are handling the economy is deprived of their constitutional rights?

Read more: [Onlinekhabar](#)

### Governance Issues of the Week

1. The Municipal Association has awarded seven local government units for their exemplary work across different categories. Waaling and Putlibazar Municipality of Syangja were awarded for their performance on institutional development, service delivery and financial governance, Nilkantha Municipality of Dhading for urban planning, infrastructure development and disaster management, Illam Municipality of Illam for forest, environment and climate change, Hariwan Municipality of Sarlahi for local economic development and, Tilottama Municipality of Rupandehi for social development.  
Read more: [Naya Patrika](#)
2. The election commission has proposed a ceiling for local-level elections expenses. The mayor/deputy mayor of a metropolitan city, sub-metropolitan city, and municipality candidates can spend up to NRs. 7 hundred thousand, NRs. 5 hundred thousand and 4 hundred thousand respectively. But, the amounts are considered unrealistic compared to the expenses made by candidates in past elections.  
Read more: [Nepal Press](#)
3. The Ministry of Finance has appealed to the stakeholders for suggestions to prepare the budget for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2079/80. The suggestion can be sent through the budget suggestion tab on the ministry's website or through an email at [budgetsuggestion@mof.gov.np](mailto:budgetsuggestion@mof.gov.np). The budget of the current fiscal year should be presented in the parliament on May 30.  
Read more: [Ministry of Finance](#)
4. The 10th session of the parliament has been prorogued without tabling a single ordinance. With this, the impeachment motion filed against the Chief Justice, Cholendra Shumsher JB has remained lingering. The impeachment motion is likely to be tabled during the budget session which will start at the end of April 2022.  
Read more: [Annapurna Post](#)
5. The Chinese Foreign Minister, Wang Yi will emphasize the BRI implementation during his upcoming visit on March 26. Since BRI was signed in 2017, the only progress made so far is the list of nine projects that Nepal has finalized. The Chinese side is exerting pressure on Nepal to accept soft loans while Nepal is seeking grants, and that is causing the delay.  
Read more: [Kathmandu Post](#)
6. In order to minimize Nepali laborers traveling on visit visas, the UAE has agreed to reinforce the recruitment of laborers as per the labor agreement and ensure punishment to the companies who take laborers on visit visas. Both Nepal and UAE have agreed to pilot the recruitment of laborers in 3 to 5 areas for free of cost.  
Read more: [Kantipur](#)

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