

ISSUE
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**Officials
preparing to
head towards
the polling
stations
carrying all
the
necessary
equipment.**

Photo by: [Rojan Tamang](#)



As per the Election Commission, the current local level election is estimated to be less expensive than that of the local election of 2074.

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IN THIS ISSUE

The family members can cast the vote on behalf of those who cannot indicate the election symbols!

One who gets the permission to cast the vote at this condition is just the helper and not their heir.

The candidates spend a lot more money during the election campaign, more than the ceiling provided by the election commission!

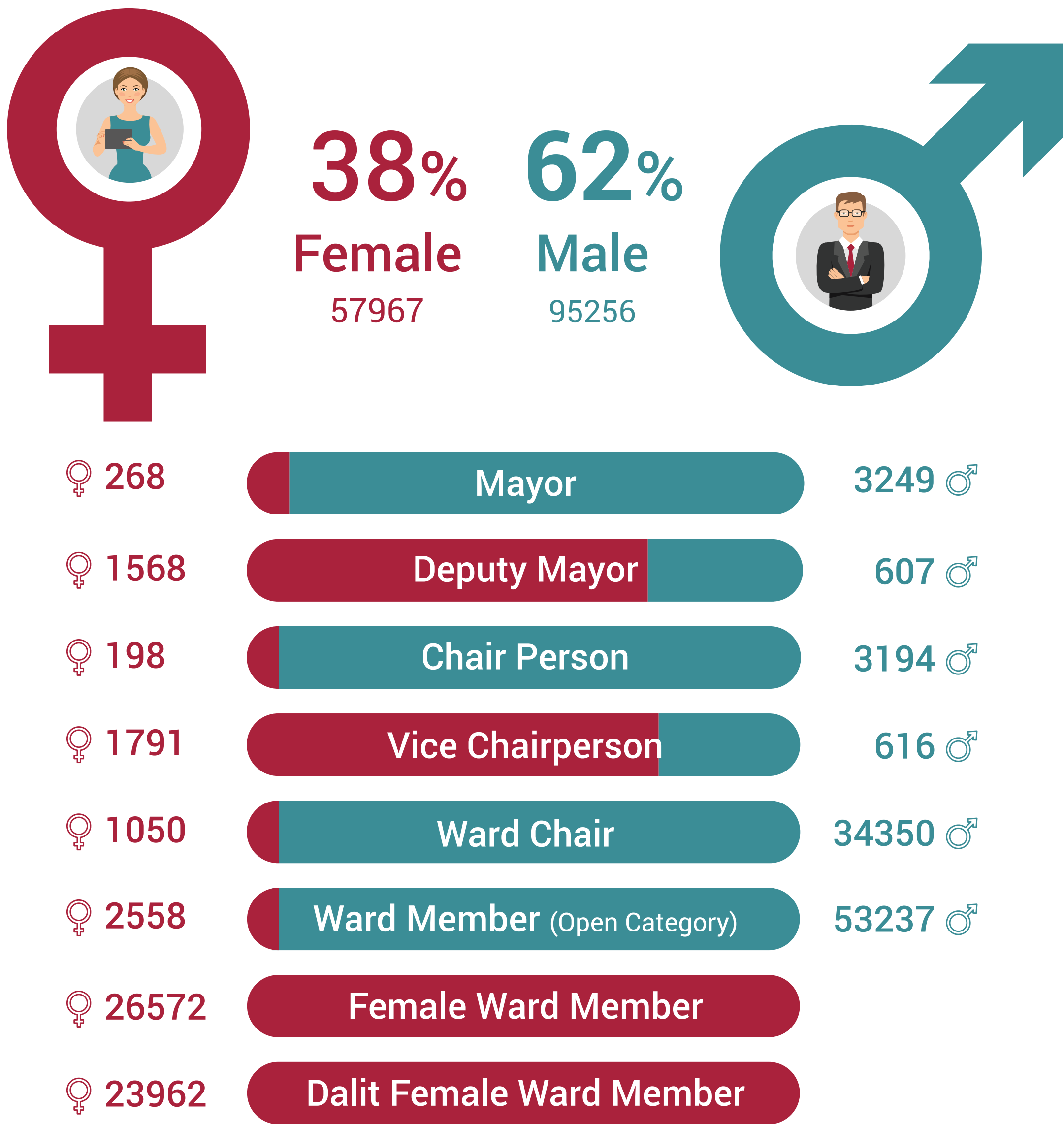
The election commission has stated to punish those who break this law.

Can the candidate not use social media during the silent period in the election?

One cannot post, share or publicize any kind of information, for or against any political party or candidates in social media.

FACT SHEET

Gender wise categorization of candidates in the major position for local level election



The constitution has guaranteed space for at least one female member and one dalit female in each ward. In the same way, the Election Commission Act, has made it compulsory for the political parties to elect at least one female candidate for the position of mayor or deputy-mayor in case of municipality and for chairperson and vice chairperson in case of rural municipalities. But this condition will not be applied if the political party registers for only one position. Even the data mentioned above, shows very less number of female candidates for mayor and chairperson’s position. Only 1050 female candidacy among 35,400 candidates for ward chairperson indicates that the political parties’ inclusion policy is limited to paper only.

Source: <https://election.gov.np/admin/public//storage>

RUMORS & FACTS

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It is heard that the family members can cast a vote on behalf of those who are visually impaired and those who cannot identify the symbols, is it true?

The permission to cast a vote will only be provided to the family member after the visually impaired or the incapacitated person requests the returning officer. However, before such permission the returning officer has to confirm whether the concerned person will or will not be able to cast their vote alone at the booth. Such a person receiving the permission is just the helper not the heir. They have to cast the vote on the symbol as indicated by the concerned individual as witnessed by the returning officer.

Source: <https://election.gov.np/admin/public//storage>

The candidates have to make the election related expenses through the bank or the financial organizations. After the completion of election the candidates have to submit details of their income and expenses as per the format prescribed by the election commission. If they are found breaching the limit, they are punishable under the Election Commission Act, 2073 and Election Code of Conduct, 2078.

Source: <https://election.gov.np/admin/public//storage>

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The candidates spend a lot more than the spending limit during the campaign. How is that regulated?

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When will the silent period for the local election start? Can the candidate not even use social media during this period?

As per the election commission, the silent period will start from Tuesday, mid-night i.e 10th April 2022. This does not mean that the candidates cannot use social media at all however, they are not allowed to publicize, post or share any information, or messages for or against any political party, candidates via social media, online print or any digital medium.

Source: <https://election.gov.np/admin/public//storage>

GROUND NARRATIVES

So far I have participated in 10 elections

The first election experience for me was the 2033 B.S election, the election of village, town and district panchayat, where I could not participate due to age boundaries. This was also called Gaun Farka Abhiyan [Return To Your Village Campaign]. Two colors were used in the election. In which blue was for multi-party and yellow for partyless system. I voted for the first time in the next election in 2039. At that time, 47 people were selected from each village. Unlike nowadays, where the election songs and vote appeal is done by recordings played on speaker, they used to recite the songs based on the writings written on the handwritten pamphlets. Development works in the country and abroad were narrated in these verses. This also included things like developed modes of transportation, use of electric lights, etc.

Back then, the whole village supported one candidate. There were not many promises about large infrastructural development. There used to be collective discussions on making wells, trails and bridleway. Many were interested in afforestation, preserving plants, building chautaras, temples and patipauwas. The election slogan then was to reduce land tax. People did not have enough money to pay for land use. But since a large chunk of land was used, the voters demanded the candidate to reduce the tax. Rather than the individual making and aligning to groups, the village as a whole got divided into different groups. A leader was chosen from a village and all the election related programs were conducted and disseminated by the same individual. The entire village was hosted for a party after winning the election.

Since then, I have participated in about 10 local elections, including the local elections of 2043, the mid-term and local elections of 2054,



the Constituent Assembly elections 2072, and the last local, state and federal elections. At present, the issues of development and prosperity are raised more. Even though the commitments made by the candidates during the election campaign are not fulfilled, the infrastructure such as roads, bridges, schools buildings are being constructed by the elected representatives.

I still believe, if a good person is elected as the representative the needs of the people would be met. So, I am excited to vote in this coming election as well. I wish the candidates to be accountable towards their commitment and work.

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Mandandeupur Municipality Ward No. 8,
Kavrepalanchok

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FAIR FACTS is an open platform that connects citizens, leaders and institutions; and exchanges authentic information to tackle misinformation and popular myths around elections in Nepal. The ongoing elections demand quick, scientific, and fair information around the electoral process, participation, and candidacy. 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 an election mechanism that is fair and equitable. An election is not just about voting but also about participation and liberty of all - a basic human right that celebrates democracy at its core. To help defend democracy in Nepal, we track facts, share helpful information, and build unlikely networks.

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