

NEPAL

GOVERNANCE

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Kathmandu Garbage Chaos – Authorities Pay no Heed to the Concerns of Affected Locals in Landfill Sites

WEEKLY

Photo from onlinekhabar.com

In 2005, the Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC) reached an agreement with the local residents at Sisdoile, Nuwakot, to use its land to dump the garbage collected from the Kathmandu Valley for the next three years. But fast forward 17 years, the garbage of the valley is still being dumped at Sisdoile landfill. In the beginning, only 15-10 trucks of garbage were dumped at the landfill daily, but it increased to 150 trucks over time. The valley generates 1,200 tonnes of waste every day. The Sisdoile has turned into a garbage hill, and human settlements around are facing numerous hazards including severe impacts on human health, loss of agricultural productivity, disease in their livestock, etc. The authorities had promised the local communities to build a 50-bed hospital, free ambulance service, free health insurance, support to upgrade roads, job opportunities, etc. but none have been fulfilled.

Now with protests from locals and experts claiming Sisdoile landfill to be in an alarming stage, KMC is all set to dispose of its garbage in a new landfill site in Banchare Danda, which is 1.9 km west of Sisdoile landfill site. But the locals in Banchare Danda are also protesting and obstructing the garbage trucks as their concerns are similar to those of Sisdoile. Around 200 households around Sisdoile and Banchare Danda are deemed highly affected, but the authorities have turned a blind eye to their plights. Meanwhile, as the KMC is failing to collect waste due to obstruction in the landfill sites, the risk of health hazards among Kathmandu locals has also increased. The piles of waste at home and roadside are reported to have already increased the number of patients with infectious disease.

The KMC has requested everyone to adopt solid waste management measures to minimize the volume of waste generated from each household. But that alone wouldn't be enough. The issue should receive equal attention from other authorities as well. Instead of using coercive measures upon the locals in affected areas, the government should think of scientific and better ways of managing waste production and disposal; including proper and risk-free management of landfill sites.

Read more: [Onlinekhabar](#), [The Kathmandu Post](#)

Governance Issues of the Week

1. In the last nine years, the government has disbursed a total of NRs. 2.15 billion for the construction of Nijgadh International Airport. Out of the total amount, the project office claims to have spent NRs. 1.11 billion. A huge sum of NRs. 460 million has been spent on as compensation for the resettlement of the households in the project area. The Supreme Court issued a verdict against the construction of the airport on 26 May 2022.
Read more: [Kantipur](#)
2. Nepal and Switzerland have signed an agreement to implement the "Reintegration of Returnee Migrants (Remi)" Program across 20 local levels in Province 1 and Madhesh Province utilizing NRs. 861.3 million. The program will focus on the political, cultural, social, and economic reintegration of migrant workers and will work with a range of stakeholders including CSOs and the private sector.
Read more: [Ministry of Finance](#)
3. The Tribhuvan University has issued a question paper with the same questions as last year in the master level examination of Political Science. This is the second time in a row the university made this mistake as the questions in the Economics examination had also been repeated two weeks earlier. The university is said to have been investigating the matter.
Read more: [Onlinekhabar](#)
4. The Election Commission is set to begin the work of compiling voter lists, seeking details of the polling stations in different places, and amending the election code of conduct and procedures from 15 June. The commission has suggested the government conduct the parliament and province elections in a single phase before 8 December 2022.
Read more: [Naya Patrika](#)
5. The Naubise-Nagdhunga tunnel has completed 53 percent of the project work so far. The tunnel, listed under the national pride project, has completed the construction work of 2,598 meters of the total 5,499 meters. The project was built with a loan of NRs. 17 billion loans from JICA for 0.01 percent loan for 40 years. The entire project deadline is August 2023.
Read more: [The Rising Nepal](#)
6. The government has withdrawn its decision of mandatory embossed number plates in all vehicles before 17 July. Only vehicles under three categories in Bagmati and Gandaki Province are required to get embossed plates; vehicles purchased after 17 November, the vehicles transferred in another name after 13 February, and the vehicles in process of vehicle registration certificate after 15 May 2022.
Read more: [Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport](#)

Nepal Governance Weekly is an analytical update of Nepal's current affairs on local elections based on media and real sources mining, to sensitize the communities on hot news on various governance issues from the perspective of accountability.

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