



# **SUMMIT FOR DEMOCRACY**

## **FACT SHEET**

This fact sheet outlines the Nepal government's progress on the commitments made at Summit for Democracy (S4D) between December 1, 2023, and February 29, 2024.

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## HUMAN RIGHTS

**January 18:** The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority is leading the reconstruction of the November 2023 earthquake in Karnali Province. With an estimated budget of NRs. 73 billion, the authority aims to facilitate the recovery of the 67,760 individuals affected by the disaster.

**February 23:** 4,000 loan shark victims from the far western region undertook a 23-day march to Kathmandu because they were unable to attain justice, despite the government's commitment to resolving the loan shark cases through an agreement signed 11 months prior.

## EQUAL RIGHTS FOR WOMEN, GENDER AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES, AND DISADVANTAGED GROUP

**January 25:** The Election Commission has concluded the National Assembly Election to fill 19 vacant seats in the National Assembly. Out of the candidates, 7 are females, 2 are Dalits, and 3 are persons with disabilities or representing marginalized groups.

**February 14:** The Ministry of Women, Children, and Senior Citizens has formulated a strategy to end child marriage in Nepal. The strategy aims to eliminate child marriage in Nepal by 2030 and includes awareness programs and activities through local and provincial governments, etc.



## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**January 4:** The Department of Foreign Employment has halted issuing labor permits to individuals traveling to Russia and Ukraine, due to emerging reports of Nepali citizens enlisting in the Russian and Ukrainian armies. There are reportedly as many as 200 Nepalis fighting in the Russian Army for the war against Ukraine.



## ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES

**January 9:** The Council of Ministers formulated an investigative committee to look into the selling of NCell shares. The committee later found out the deal would benefit the seller company, which had also been facing allegations of tax evasion.

February 8: The federal parliament has endorsed a Bill to amend some acts relating to preventing money laundering and promoting business to address the existing gaps in 20 laws, and counter money laundering and terrorist financing.

January 30: Nepal has been ranked 108th out of 180 countries in the Corruption Perception Index, which is two positions better than its score in 2023.



## CLIMATE CHANGE

**January 26:** The Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation has introduced a “Green Hydrogen Policy - 2080” which aims to promote the use of green hydrogen using electricity produced from renewable sources such as hydropower to minimize the impacts of climate change.





## TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

**January 29:** The tenure of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and Commission on Investigation on Enforced Disappeared Persons, responsible for investigating war crimes of the Nepalese Civil War, has been extended until 15 July 2024.

February 18: The Council of Ministers has instructed the Home Ministry to create a committee and examine the percentage of people who were disabled due to injuries during the Nepalese Civil War. The council has also instructed to include relevant stakeholders in the committee.

## FIGHT AGAINST DISINFORMATION AND HATE SPEECH AND PROTECTION OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

**December 5:** The Ministry of Communication and Information Technology has published a Directive for “Managing the Use of Social Media Platforms” to regulate the operation of social media platforms. As part of it, the companies are mandated to either have an office or establish a point of contact as an arrangement to handle complaints.

January 19: The Council of Ministers has approved the enactment of the E-Governance Commission Bill aimed to streamline the operation of the recently formed E-Governance Commission. The Commission will develop strategies for the operation of integrated data centers and financial transactions, map risks in e-governance, etc.