

The **Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC)** gathers rumours, concerns and questions from communities across Nepal to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, NGOs and citizens. By providing the public with facts, the CCC ensures a better understanding of needs regarding the coronavirus and debunks rumours before they can do more harm.

The 10 important decisions of CCMC executive committee

- 1** The local government will be given the responsibility of quarantine management to improve its quality. 
- 2** The province government is given the responsibility for the management of the isolation center. 
- 3** Increase the capacity of laboratories and operate in their full potential, and add new laboratories. 
- 4** Make the guidelines for the repatriation of the laborers whose expense isn't borne by the employer country or employer company. 
- 5** The Ministry of Labor and Employment will take assistance of security forces to manage the dead bodies brought from abroad. 
- 6** The testing and treatment of women, children, senior citizens and individuals with different abilities should be made convenient. 
- 7** Allow the employees and family members of those working in diplomatic missions to travel in or outside the country if needed. 
- 8** Release 35 Crore to the local government through the province for the corona prevention. 
- 9** In case of rapid transmission of the infection, the province government in coordination with CCMC can seal any area or district. 
- 10** The Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens will take the responsibility of facilitating the individuals in holding centers and quarantines. 

Source: <https://mofaga.gov.np/>

Nepal Update



Amarjyoti Model Secondary School in Neware, Birendranagar-12 is teaching by maintaining social distance.

Photo: [Dinesh Gautam](#)

Tested

PCR Tested: 1,81,371

Positive: 9,561

Active: 7,390

Deaths: 23



NEPAL

Source: <https://covid19.mohp.gov.np/#/>

Rumors & Facts



It is heard that the coronavirus remains in the steel for a long time. The shops are opened everywhere now. So, the risk of transmission from steel seems higher than from humans.

Based on diverse research, the virus can remain in copper for 4 hours, in clothes and wood for 1 day, glass for 2 days, steel and plastic for 4 days and the outer surface of a medical mask for 7 days in different forms. If any individual comes in contact with these objects during the period, the chances of transmission remain high. Taking this into consideration, the Ministry of Health and Population has issued final guidelines for the cleaning and disinfection of the spaces that provide health services, quarantine area, public places and the house where the infected or suspected infected is staying.

Source: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ux1Vm6ps9ZnbUp3nB6BqgYhNjvatFn_/view



It is said that the government has rescued the citizens who were in foreign employment, but the citizens themselves bear all the cost. Will the ones who can't afford to return be rescued or not?

The Supreme Court has issued an interim to begin the process of rescuing all the individuals in need including the ones who had gone for foreign employment with work permit, have to return before contract period, are unable to get a ticket from the destination country or employer, are stranded abroad and are unable to return home at their expense due to the nature of their job and income source and those who need to be rescued through diplomatic agencies or labor attache.

Source: <https://moless.gov.np/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Returnee-Fund-Press-Release-077-3-4-scaled.jpg>



Is it true that the government is again randomly buying large quantities of health equipment?

In order to increase the scope of PCR testing, the government has started the process of procurement of the PCR reagent and VTM required to conduct one lakh fifty thousand tests. For this, the sub-committee formed to assess the technical issues has approved the bidding criteria with a lowest price that appears to be technically competent. The assessment is made based on the necessary documents provided along with the bid to ensure the quality of the equipment as mentioned in the bid criteria. The purchase agreement amount of Rs. 27 Crore 21 Lakh has been approved on this. The Ministry of Health and Population has informed that this implies the minimum valuation has been reduced to 35.34% and is essentially effective.

Source: <https://mocit.gov.np/categorydetail/cabinet-2077-3-2-decisions>



It is heard that the government is allocating the prices before the agricultural production to ease the farmers from the current crisis.

The government has fixed the price of coarse paddy for Rs. 2735 per quintal and medium paddy for Rs. 2885 per quintal for the fiscal year 2077/78 to ensure the production prices of farmers.

Source: <https://mocit.gov.np/categorydetail/cabinet-2077-3-2-decisions>

To receive our regular updates through WhatsApp

1. Add +27 60 080 6146 to your contact list.
2. Send a message saying **Nepal** to the contact.



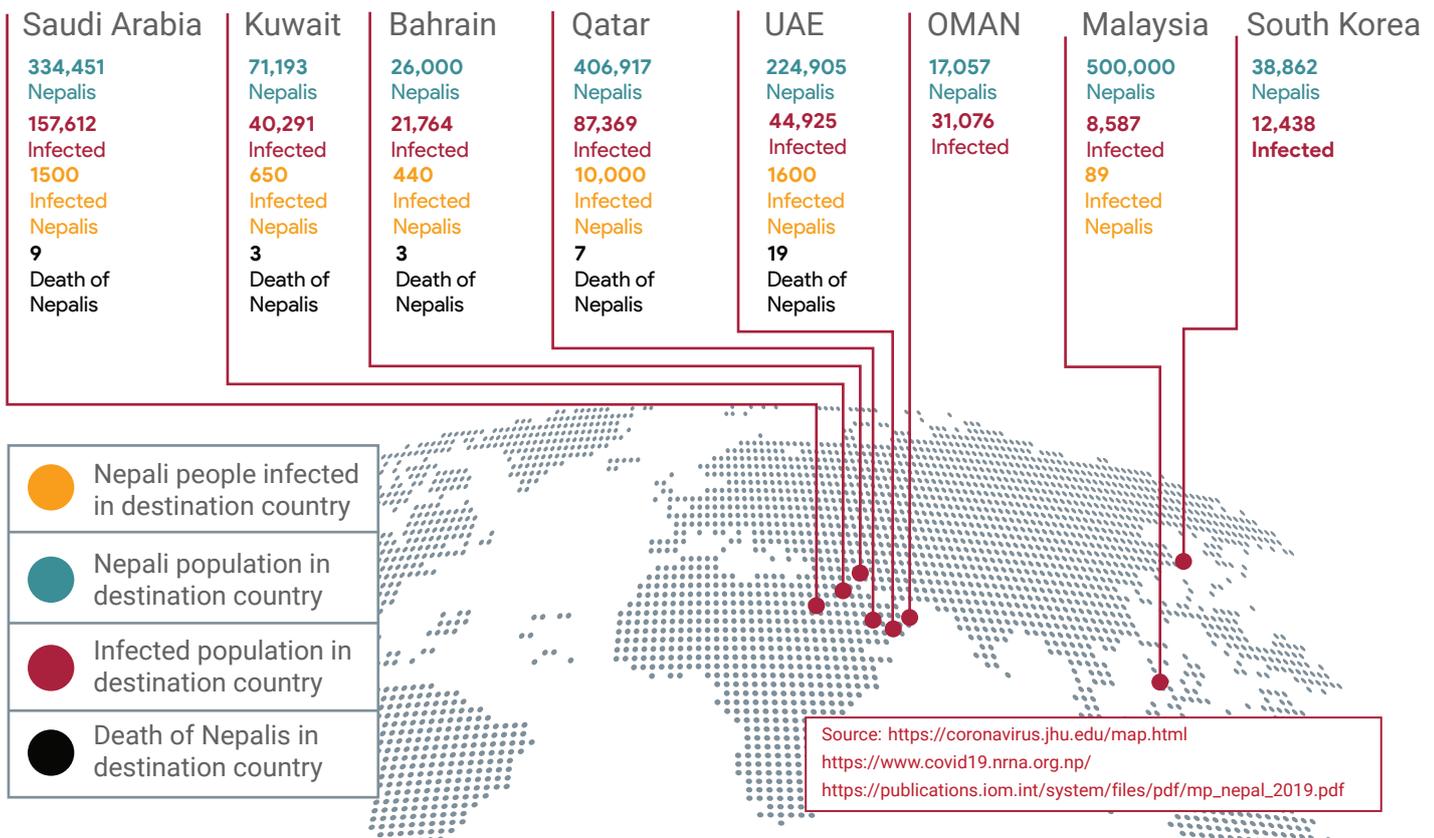
Toll-free **HOTLINE** on
COVID-19

Brought to you by 

DIAL **32100**
from your NTC simcard for accessing
all COVID-19 information for FREE

Open Migration

Migrant workers in major destination countries



ShramikSanjal

The procedural information that could be useful while returning from abroad

The Nepali Embassies abroad had made the citizens fill an online form a few months ago. The priority list for the flight will be finalized and made public based on the same. The Embassies are circulating the information through their official facebook page and website.

1



The Airlines Company or their designated agents will contact the individuals to buy the ticket in the allocated airfare after the name list is made public. The concerned individual should contact them if they do not receive phone or text messages.

2



The individuals should reach the airport 1 to 2 hours before on the day of their flight. While some countries have given guidelines to prepare the PCR reports earlier, some countries conduct the RDT test at the airport itself for corona testing. The individual won't be allowed to take the flight if tested positive with corona.

3



Currently, one form has to be filled before returning to Nepal. The form should be submitted in the international airport of Nepal. In which, the individual has to provide their personal details and health details and self- declare that he/she will follow all the necessary guidelines.

4



\$ Follow the Money

Total

The budget allocated from Nepal Government and Ministry of Finance in three rounds
Around 1.48B NRS

The total fund in Coronavirus Infection Prevention, Treatment and Control Fund
Around 2.26B NRS

Federal Government

Donors

ADB
250M USD
World Bank
28.7M USD
IMF
130.9M USD
European Union
82M USD

Spent

The total expenditure of Nepal government's activities against Coronavirus

Around 1.8B NRS

The Ministry of Defence for the purchase of health equipment to prevent and control COVID-19 released

Around 2.34B NRS

Provincial Government

Province Names	Province 1	Province 2	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Province 5	Karnali Province	Sudurpaschim Province
Total Amount	Around 294M NRS	Around 266M NRS	Around 429M NRS	Around 183M NRS	Around 156M NRS	Around 254M NRS	Around 425M NRS
Spent Amount	Around 193M NRS	Around 133M NRS	Around 136M NRS	Around 154M NRS	Around 779M NRS	Around 239M NRS	Around 364M NRS

Total funds required to treat all the cases currently in isolation



7005

Isolated cases under treatment



20

Average days of stay in isolation (per patient)



Rs. 2,200

Per day per person cost in isolation

Rs. 308, 220,000

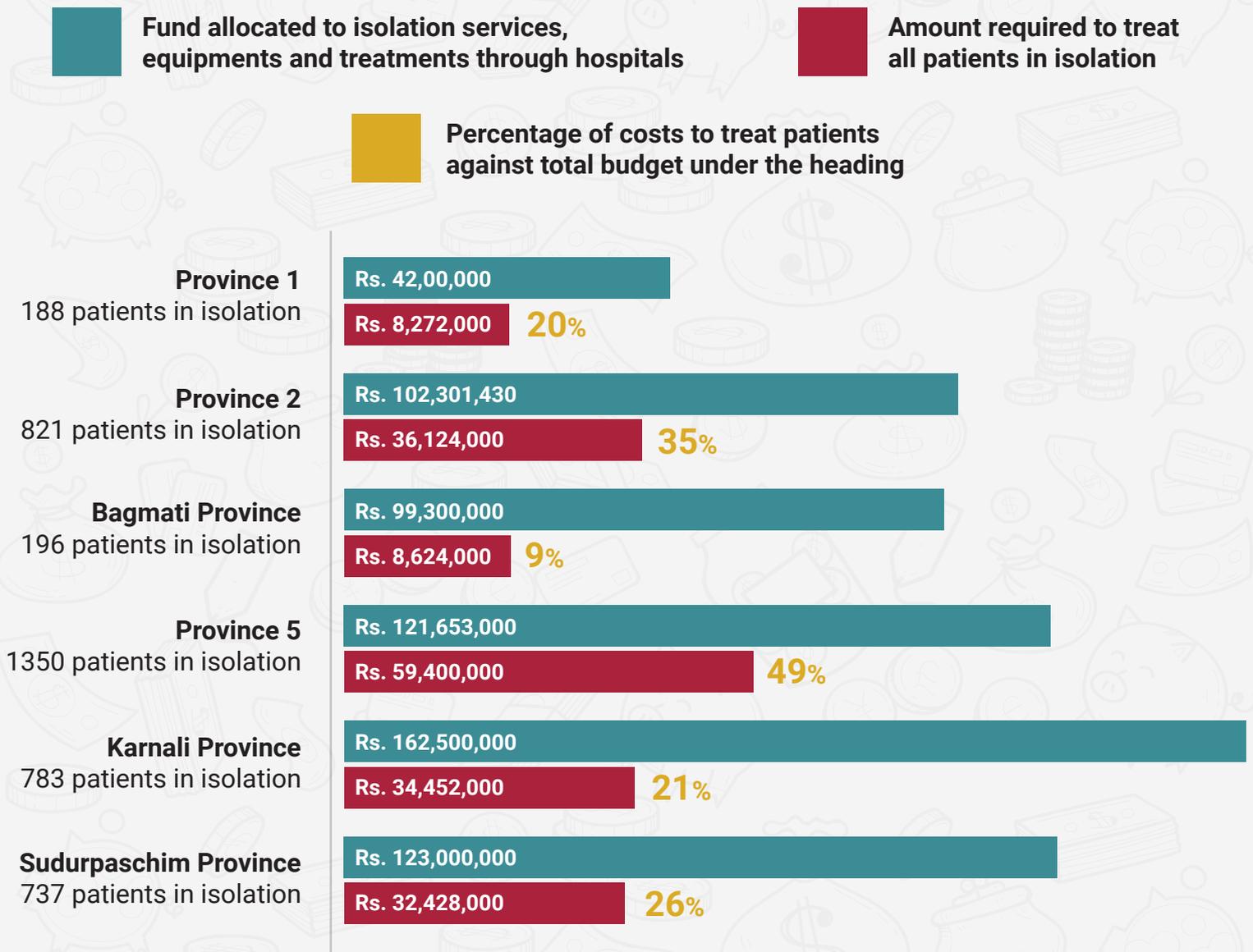
Amount required to treat all patients

While the cases of COVID-19 are increasing in all provinces, the number of positive cases in isolation is also increasing. As of June 20 2020, almost 98% of all under treatment cases are in isolation centers or isolation hospitals. The investment of provincial governments have also gone in creating infrastructure for isolation related services. According to government sources, average days of stay for a person in isolation is 20 days and per day per person cost is around Nrs 2200. For 7005 people who are currently in isolation (as of June 20), more than Nrs 300 million is required to be expended.

Note: This information is not complete. It has been brought together from different sources available. We will keep collecting the data and revise it in the days ahead.

\$ Follow the Money

Provincial comparison of fund allocation regarding isolation services, equipments and treatment



The above graph shows the allocation of provincial governments towards the management of isolation hospitals, equipment, infrastructure, medicine and treatment of COVID-19 patients. Using the same base as 20 days per patient in isolation and Rs. 2,200 per patient per day cost, the total expense required by each province to treat their patients in isolation have been derived. Comparing this to the total budget allocation, we can see that Province 5 and Province 2 should spend 49% and 35% of total allocation on isolation services for current patients respectively. This may not seem high at first, but the cases are still increasing while the total fund will also have to be spent on other major expenses like infrastructure, medical equipment and medicine, putting Province 2 and Province 5 at a risk of running out of funds soon. The data for Gandaki Province has not been ascertained yet to make the comparison.

Note: This information is not complete. It has been brought together from different sources available. We will keep collecting the data and revise it in the days ahead.

Reintegration of the migrant workers who have returned from foreign employment

Total number of individuals who filled the form from different countries requesting to return to Nepal **6 Lakh**

The number finalized to bring back Nepal based on the priority list **30 Countries**
24,148 people

Among **50 Thousand** **3 Lakh** willing to return Nepal from India

2 Lakh 50 Thousand Nepalis have already crossed the border



Positive aspects

1. The migrants don't return empty-handed from the world labor market. They bring along knowledge, skill and experience. This could be a huge asset for the country.
2. The country can change the pace of development if their expertise are well utilized. Therefore, their return should be taken as an opportunity.

Challenges

1. The labor migrants are being labelled as a virus carrier in the society.
2. The number of quarantines and it's management aren't ensured as per the standard guidelines to keep the migrant returnees.
3. The labor migrants have lost their employment and income and now are likely to struggle for their livelihood.
4. Lack of proper data about the migrant returnees can create difficulty in conducting need assessment and drafting policies.
5. If the social, economic and political reintegration of the migrant returnees isn't done, it could give rise to incidents of human trafficking, social crimes and so on.



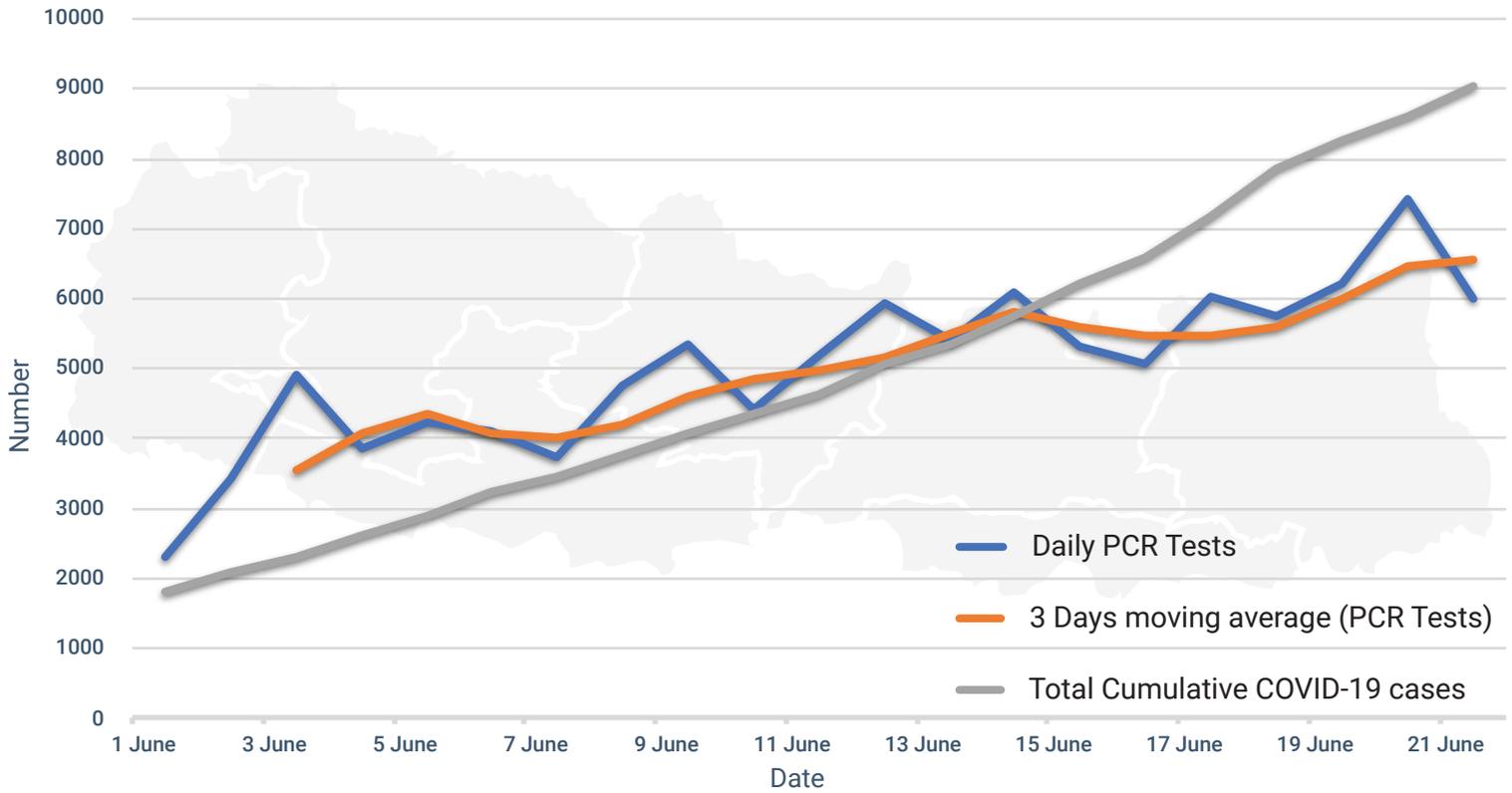
Solutions

1. Coordination of local, provincial and federal level in policy design and implementation could be done
2. Instead of the traditional approach of creating opportunities in agriculture, the schemes to promote enterprises could be introduced.
3. The reintegration program shouldn't focus on facilitating the livelihood of the migrant returnee alone but the entire family.
4. Technology focused reintegration programs should be brought to employ the returnees in profitable areas.
5. Equip the local government to use the knowledge, skill and expertise of the migrant returnees.
6. The list of the number of migrant returnees, those preparing to return and their family members could be updated and made public.
7. Immediate relief, justice and long-term livelihood arrangement could be made for women, individuals with different abilities and other high-risk groups.



Slow growth in testing, rapid growth in infection. Are we losing in the battle of speed?

Daily PCR tests, moving average of tests and cumulative total COVID-19 cases



The above graph shows that daily PCR tests for COVID-19 have almost doubled in the last three weeks. New cases, on the other hand, have increased more than four-fold in the same period. There is a visible gap in the rapid rise of COVID-19 cases and slow increment in the quantity of daily PCR tests in Nepal. PCR test is the only reliable source of identifying the new cases. However, expansion of the testing facility still remains the biggest challenge for Nepal in days to come with the given rate of infection so the question arises, are we losing to the coronavirus pandemic in the battle of speed?

Source: HEOC, MoHP, SitRep

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 over 2000 people in May 2020. 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.



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