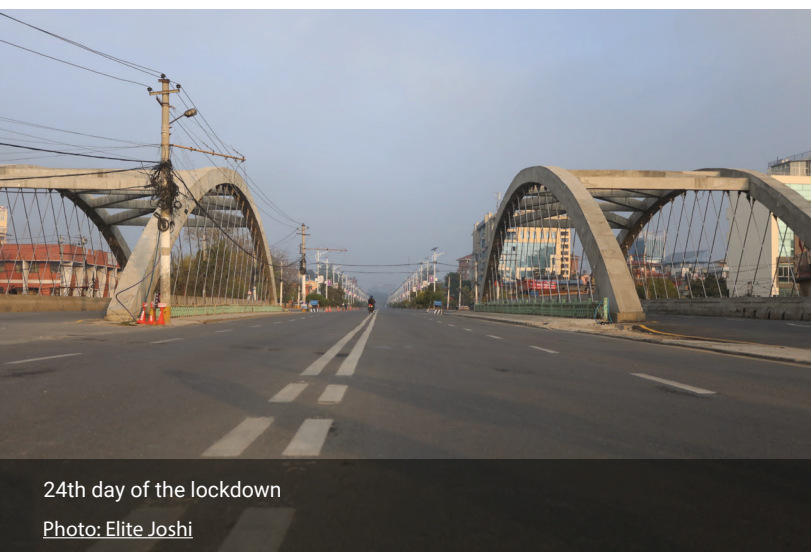


Situations like the coronavirus pandemic quickly lead to misinformation, rumors and fake news, as we saw after the earthquakes in Nepal. We can all play a role in beating the virus by making sure that we are sharing validated information and using trusted sources to inform our decision-making.

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.



24th day of the lockdown

Photo: Elite Joshi



Unique Action Team in Karnali to fight against Coronavirus



Who is taking the leadership?

Mayor/Chairperson



How do you form a Unique Action Team?

All the wards in the local level divide 30 households per unit.

Each unit will have a team leader with 4 other volunteers.



Unique Action Team's tasks

RECORD: Recording the population of all the households and of the returnees from abroad.

REGULATE: Ensuring the government regulations and home quarantine is being practiced. Influencing social distancing and healthy habits and preparing the treatment plan.

RECOGNIZE: Preventing the transmission if the symptoms are seen, identifying the economically backward households and identifying the hospitals for the treatment.

REPORT: Sending to the hospital for the treatment, providing information, and notifying the ward chair about the import situation.

This content is generated by the volunteer groups for the preparedness of local governments against Coronavirus.

Rumors & Facts



Is it true that the government is conducting a Rapid Diagnostic Test for everyone to find out if we are corona infected or not?

Government has issued a notice that all the individuals who returned from abroad within the month of Chaitra, patients infected with or showing the symptoms of COVID-19, everyone who stayed in quarantine for more than 14 days, and the health workers and security personnel mobilized for the prevention and control of COVID-19 should undergo Rapid Diagnostic Test.



Has any insurance policy been introduced for economic security against the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak?

The Insurance Committee has recently directed all the life insurance companies to issue an insurance policy for COVID-19. According to this, its insurance criteria will be similar to the current fatal diseases. The cost of individual insurance worth Rs. 1 lakh will be Rs. 1000 whereas the insurance of the entire family will cost Rs 600 per person. The first 15 days after the insurance begins is a waiting period and the PCR report confirming COVID-19 is mandatory to claim and receive the payment of the insurance.



Although the Nepal-India border has been closed, the individuals who illegally crossed the border have been tested positive for coronavirus. Does this suggest that the government's supervision in the border is ineffective?

In order to further monitor the movements in the border, the Ministry of Home Affairs has sent additional 87 border out posts increasing it to 122. Earlier, 5 thousand security personnel were mobilized for this purpose but now 8 thousand more security personnel have been arranged and mobilized.



How is the government punishing the individuals who are violating the lockdown?

According to the Infectious Disease Act, the individual who violates lockdown will either face imprisonment up to 1 month or will be fined Rs. 100 or both. Further, the individual who violates the Act will either face imprisonment up to 6 months or will be fined Rs. 600 or both. The Chief District Officer (CDO) will be responsible for taking action against the guilty.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[World Health Organization](#) [Ministry of Health and Population](#)

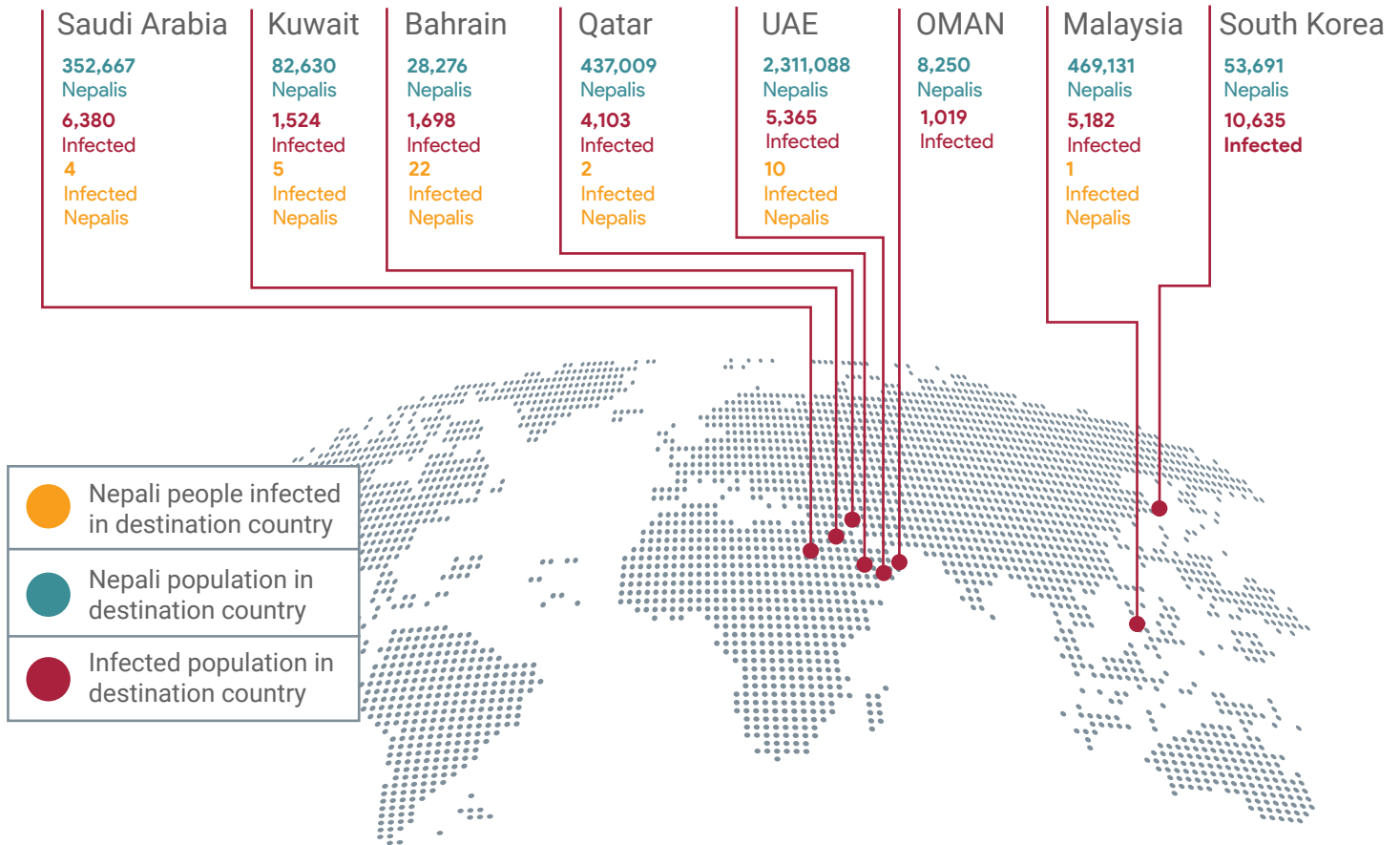
[Do's and dont's](#) [Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update, Ministry of Health and Population, Government of Nepal](#)

[Nepal Labour Force Survey Report](#) [COVID-19 Situation](#)



Migrant workers in major destination countries



ShramikSanjal

Regulations of Qatar Government in favor of migrant workers



Even if the employer and labor migrant reached a consensus regarding unpaid leave, annual leave or reduction of the work hour, the basic facilities of the labor such as food and shelter cannot be denied.



The employer of the sectors which aren't shutdown should provide regular salary and facilities to the labor as per the contract. Those laborers who are staying in quarantine or are corona infected should be provided with basic facilities despite their absence.



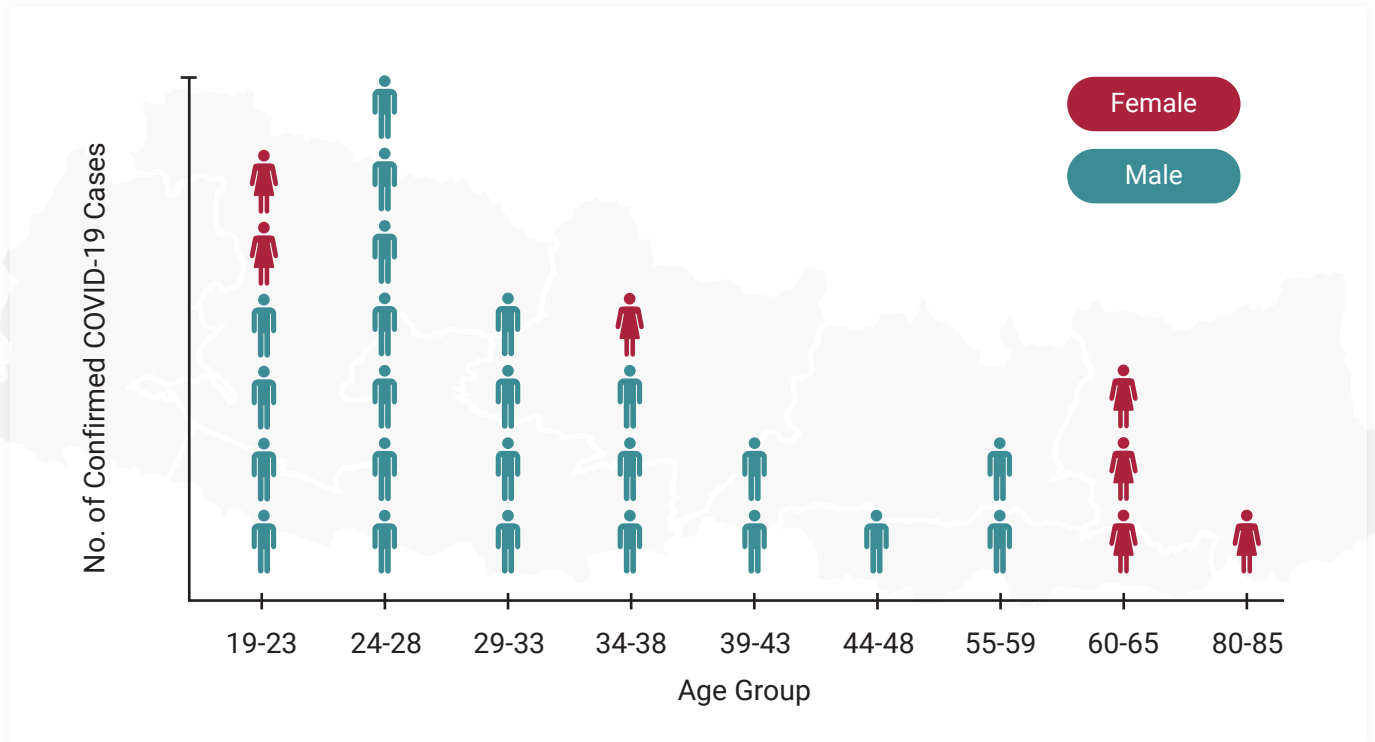
The employer can terminate the contract after issuing a pre-notice on the basis of the agreement and the existing law. In the current situation, the laborer should be provided the amount equivalent to the facilities he would receive along with a plane ticket. Also, until the laborer completes all procedures to return to the home country, his basic facilities such as food and shelter should be taken care of by the employer.



Contact the hotline number 40280660 in case of problems regarding the workplace, housing, and labor. Similarly, you can send an SMS in 92727 by adding 5 before your Qatar ID or Visa number. According to the Nepal Embassy in Qatar, these services are available in different languages and will be offered 24 hours.



Age Group of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Nepal



The above graph shows the age group of confirmed cases of COVID-19 and their gender. It is observable that half of all cases are younger and more male cases are confirmed so far. Except for a few, majority of the cases are associated with travel history in affected regions.

Follow the money

Gandaki Province

Corona Prevention and Protection Fund

More than **150M** NRS

14.5M NRS



11

District Administration Offices

11M NRS



11

District Hospitals

65M NRS



85 Local Units

1.5M NRS



Nepal Police
Armed Police Force
Nepal Army

Around

58M NRS

???

COVID-19 and its Economic Impact

The COVID-19 pandemic is the most severe crisis to hit the world in recent times. As of April 17, 2020, over 2 million people in 210 countries and territories across the world have been infected while 139,378 people have already lost their lives. Healthcare systems around the world are strained to their maximum capacities. What's unprecedented, however, is the way this crisis has brought the whole world and its economy to a standstill. As of April 17, 2020, a third of the world population is under various forms of a lockdown bringing all the social and economic life to a halt. As a result, the pandemic is not the only crisis the world is facing currently.

2M people infected
210 countries
139K deaths

“

The economic clock of the world, especially of the developing economies can go back up to 30 years with poverty levels going back to the levels of 1990s.

The economic crisis that will follow is going to be equally severe and will cost human lives. As of now, researchers have estimated that up to half a billion people could be pushed back into poverty due to the global shutdown. Similarly, a report released by United Nations University's World Institute for Development Economics Research (UN – WIDER) estimates that the economic clock of the world, especially of the developing economies can go back up to 30 years with poverty levels going back to the levels of 1990s. What's more worrying is the fact that these are the early estimates as we are yet to know the actual extent of the crisis as it is still unfolding. What seems certain though is that certain sectors of the economy such as travel and tourism are going to take a long time to recover if they recover at all. According to The World Travel and Tourism Council, the tourism industry which accounts for 10 percent of the global GDP is likely to see job cuts for up to 50 million people and Asia is likely to be the worst affected continent.

67% lost
in revenue generation

Economic growth rate
decreases to
1.5% - 2.8%

1M migrants
loosing their jobs

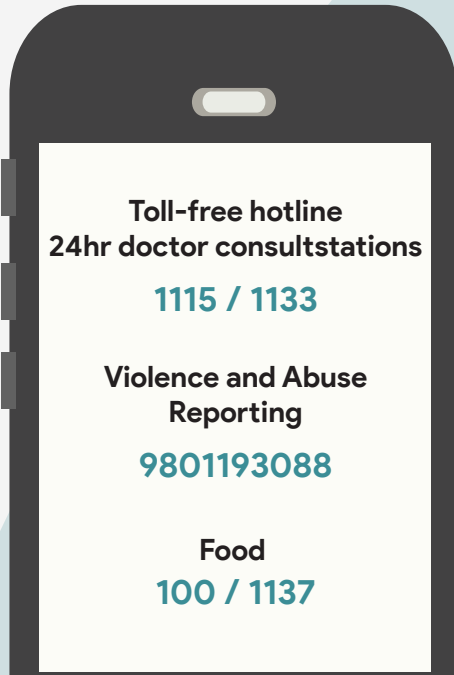
IMF debt relief
for **6** months

The global financial crisis of 2008, the Nepalese economy had come out unscathed because of the low levels of integration with the world economy, especially the more developed economy. This crisis is, however, going to affect two major pillars of Nepalese economy – remittance and tourism both of which make up the majority of our foreign currency earnings. **Remittance earning of Nepal is equal to around 29 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) whereas the contribution of the tourism sector to the GDP is estimated to be at 7.9 percent.** Therefore, Nepal in the coming days could see a huge **influx of migrant workers from the Middle East and also the drying up of the around 1 million jobs provided by the tourism sector.** The World Bank has estimated that Nepal's economic growth rate will remain between 1.5 to 2.8 percent in 2020 which is much lower than the government's initial (pre-crisis) estimate of 8.5 percent. This could mean a significant portion of the population being pushed back into poverty the way the earthquake of 2015 did. If Nepal does not prepare itself for a major economic crisis and plans for sweeping reforms to revitalize/grow the economy, the economic impact is likely to be devastating.

- Surath Giri, Young Economist

What if I contract **coronavirus**?

COVID-19 HOTLINE



Where can I get a coronavirus test?

The National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) Teku, Kathmandu, Bharatpur, Dhulikhel, Bhairahawa as well as all provincial hospitals are conducting tests. As the person suspected to have the virus needs to be isolated, the sample is collected by hospitals and sent to the NPHL.

Is the sick person allowed to go to the lab to get tested? How much does it cost?

The sick person is not allowed to go to the lab directly. The local hospitals will refer to the NPHL to test if suspected. There is no cost for the test.

How long does it take to see the results of the test?

The test report is provided between 24-48 hours after the sample is submitted to the lab. If the report is positive, the concerned hospital or the doctor is informed.

The sources of rumors, information and issues presented here are collected from a variety of organizations and individuals including the Ministry of Health and Population, the World Health Organization (WHO), social media and the CivActs team based on their conversations with over 2000 people in April 2020. The issues highlighted are chosen based on prevalence, relevance and potential impact. The information presented here is correct at the time of issue.

Coronavirus CivActs Campaign is brought to you by
Accountability Lab Nepal.

