

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.



Source: Anil Dhakal - Annapurna Post



## The minimum standard to be maintained by the quarantine built under central, federal and local level



The quarantine location should be away from crowded settlements



The communication, health, transportation, water, and electricity facilities should be ensured



Separate quarantine should be arranged for pregnant women, children below 10 years, old people, and people with disability



The rooms with 75 square feet space per person or at least 3.5 feet space between the beds should be arranged



Toilets should be attached to the quarantine room as far as possible. If not, a toilet and a bathroom to be shared by a maximum of six people should be arranged.



A separate building or block for the health personnel and cleaning staff should be arranged



Safety measures should be taken against any disaster or fire

# Rumors - Facts



Is the government making electricity, internet, phone, and water available for free?

There is no official government decision yet on making the internet, phone, and water available for free. However, the High-Level Coordination Committee for Prevention and Control of COVID-19 decided to encourage the use of induction and reduce electricity costs for citizens. In addition, various news sources state that the Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation on Thursday has directed the Nepal Electricity Authority to provide 20% discount on electricity bills for the month of Chaitra for domestic consumers. However, the process to get the discount is still not clear. [You can watch the related video here.](#)



LPG cylinders will not be available if the lockdown continues.

As the supply of LPG gas is reducing, the Nepal Oil Corporation has directed the gas industry to send half-filled cylinders in the market. The cylinders which are originally of 14.2 Kgs will be reduced to 7.1 Kgs.



There is no mechanism of registering the returnees from abroad at risk at the local level.

The local government has been directed to record and update the details [including health details] of any returnee from abroad including the ones from India on a daily basis. The Local Health Coordinator should submit the details of any person with the symptom of COVID-19 to the Chief District Officer. The Chief District Officer is responsible to pass this information to the National Emergency Health Centre and the centre to pass this information to the Epidemiology and Disease Control Division by 6 pm in the evening.



The Public Service Announcements [PSAs] available for COVID-19 is mostly in the Nepali language. Isn't it important to have these PSA in other local languages such as Maithili, Bhojpuri, Tamang, etc to help everyone understand and be aware?

Yes, most of the PSAs for the awareness of COVID-19 is in the Nepali language. However, it is important to have it in many languages to ensure everyone is well-informed. There are already some PSAs in the local language. [Here is an example of the PSA in Gurung language.](#)

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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

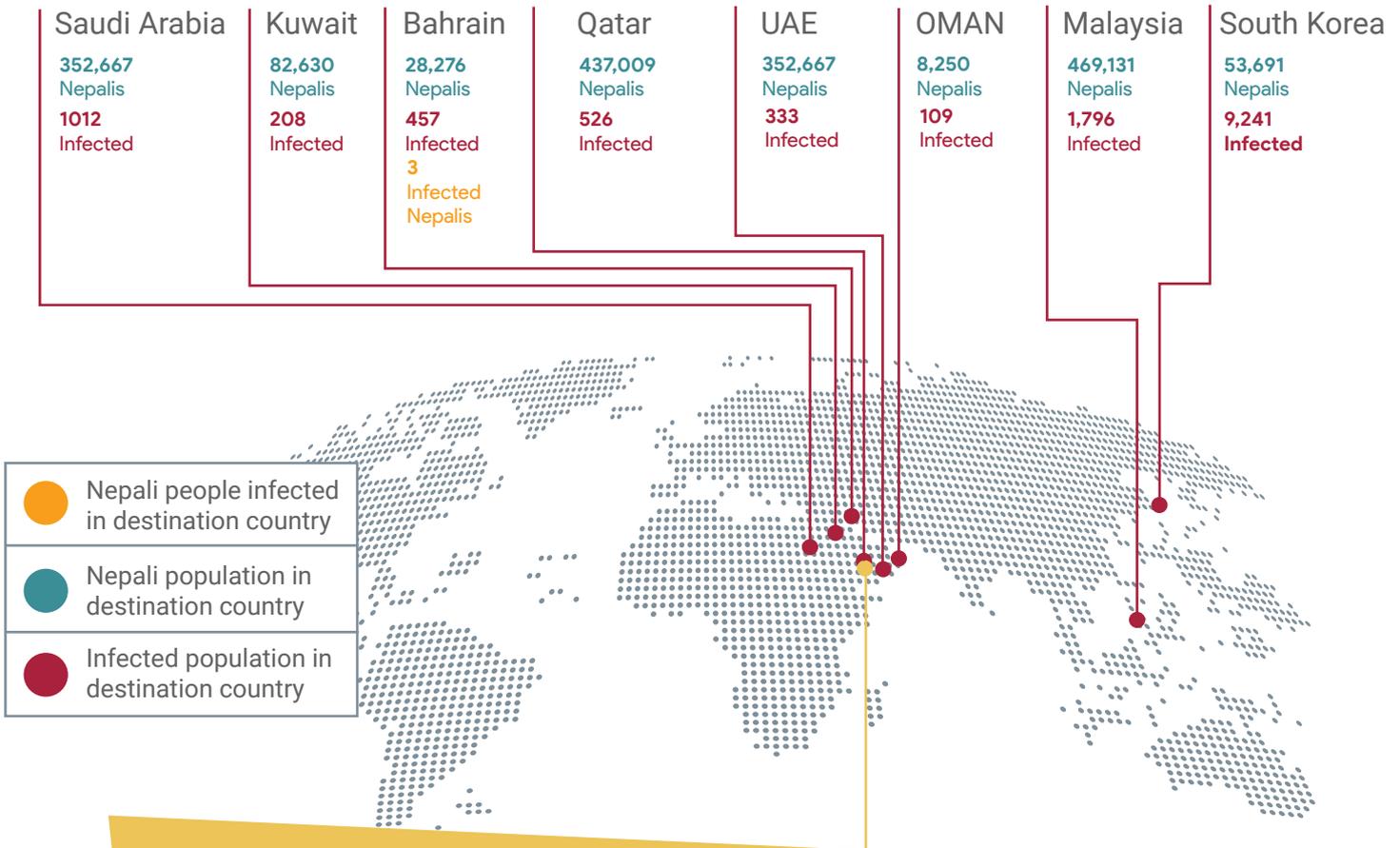
[Do's and don't's](#)      [Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center](#)

[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



## Migrant workers are at risk in Qatar

The Migrant Workers engaged in construction work for the World Cup 2022 still have business as usual amidst the pandemic and government direction to not have gatherings of more than 25 people. In addition, the Qatar government communication office has announced a temporary closure of in-person money exchange and transfer service offices that is effective from 26th March.

## Important links to find validated information



MoHP Nepal COVID-19 Viber Group



Ministry of Home Affairs



Migration related all news and articles



Emergency Contacts



Immigration Information

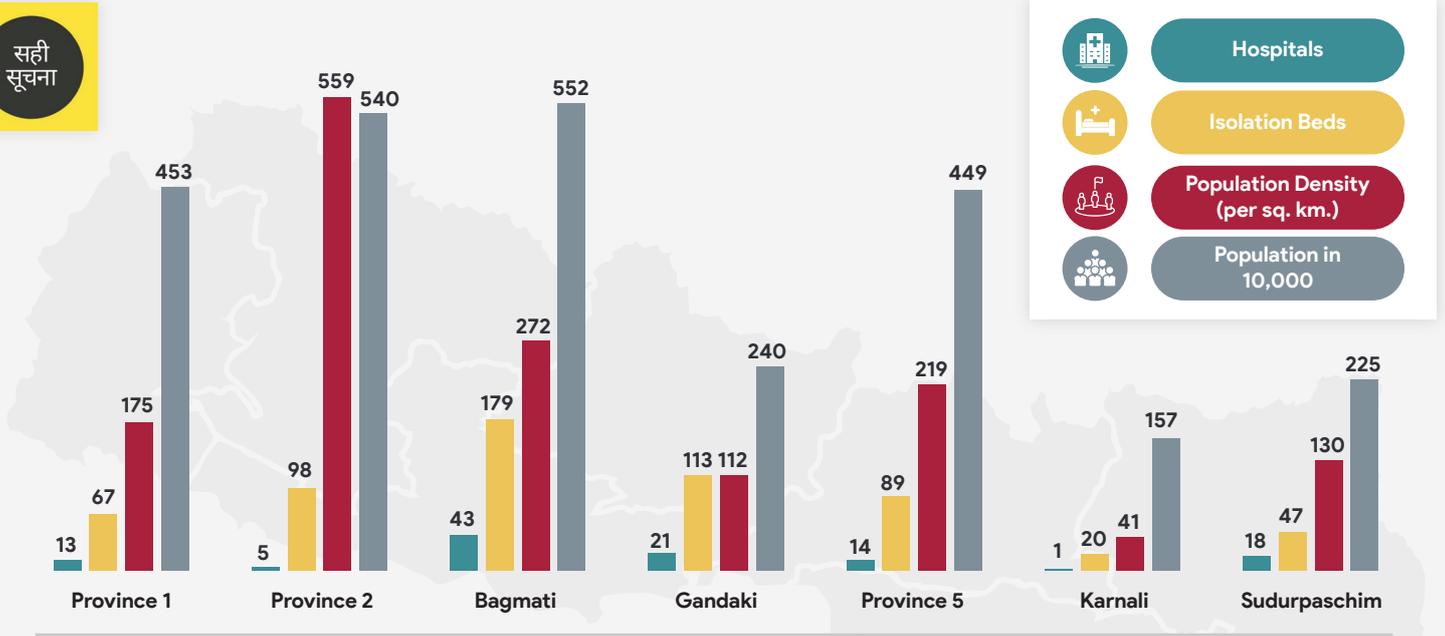


Coronavirus disease outbreak update and resource center



Ministry of Health and Population (Press Releases)

# Provincial government action against coronavirus



The graph compares the provinces of Nepal in terms of their population (in 10000) and population density with provisioned COVID-19 isolation hospitals and beds. The effort of the government does not seem satisfactory, because:

- The distribution of beds is very low compared to the size of the population in all province.
- Karnali is the largest province by area coverage, therefore a single hospital across such a big area is difficult for people to access.
- Province two has highest population density and therefore requires more isolation and hospital resources.

## 5 crucial numbers to pen down



**9848594983**  
Narayan Prasad Bidari  
To inform anything  
regarding COVID-19



**16600133444**  
Ministry of Health and Population  
Health Emergency and  
Disaster Management Unit



**1149**  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
To inform anything  
regarding black marketing



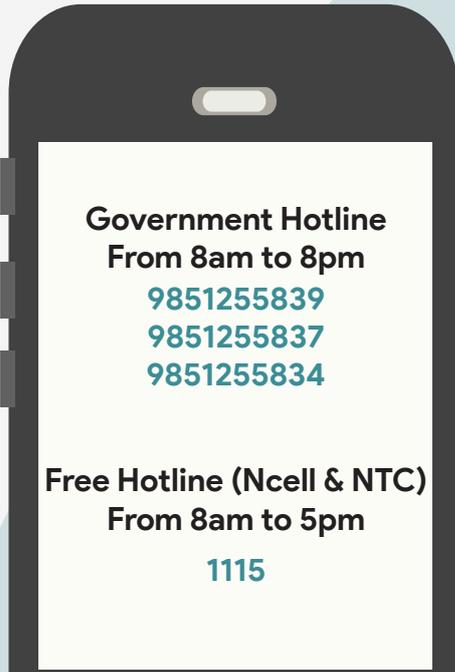
**01-4250845**  
Health Emergency  
Operation Center



**01-4255796**  
Epidemiology and  
Disease Control Division

# What if I contract **coronavirus**?

## COVID-19 HOTLINE



### Where can I get a coronavirus test?

The National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL), Teku, Kathmandu and BP Koirala Institute of Health Sciences 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 1,276 people in early March 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.**

