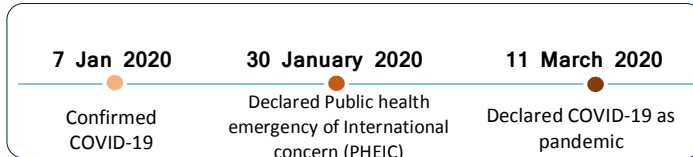




Government of Nepal
Ministry of Health and Population
Health Sector Response to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)
Tuesday | 18 Chaitra 2076 (31 March 2020)

The first case of COVID-19 was reported from Hubei Province of China on 31 December 2019. Till 30 March 2020, a total of 697244 people have been confirmed of COVID-19 and it has taken life of 33257 people. This disease has spread over 203 countries/ territories.



Current status on COVID-19, Nepal

Case	Total	New
Total sample tested	1060	97
Positive	5	0
Recovered cases	1*	0
Negative	1055	97

(as of 31 March 2020, 1400 hrs, Source: Nepal Public Health Lab)

***First case:** Tested on 23 January, currently recovered
Other infected cases are in isolation under regular supervision of medical professionals and their health condition is stable.

Till date, five people have shown positive result for COVID-19 confirmed through lab test. All five cases are imported cases. No new cases were reported today.

Key Responses:

COVID-19 Hotline: Public concerns regarding COVID-19, its prevention and treatment are being addressed via 3 hotlines (**9851255839, 9851255837, 9851255834**), which are operational from 8:00 to 20:00 hrs.

In addition, free 'COVID-19 Call Centre' is in operation for NTC and N-cell network users. Dial "**1133**" for 24-hour service and dial "**1115**" between 6 am to 10 pm.

Number of people served through phone:
A total of 1806 calls were received in **1115 & 1133**.
(As of 16:00 hrs)

Status of suspected cases in designated hospitals			
Hospital	No. of patients in isolation	Returned home after treatment	ICU
Sukraraj Tropical and Infectious disease hospital	4	0	0
Patan Hospital	0	3	0
Armed Police Force Hospital (COVID-19 Unified Command Hospital)	2	0	0
Kanti Children's Hospital	1	0	0
Total	7	3	0

(As of 31 March 2020, 13:00 hrs.)

Daily EWARS reporting from Hospital		
EWARS reporting hospital – 118 sentinel sites		
Date	ILI/ SARI Cases	Suspected cases of COVID-19
27 March	35	11
28 March	46	10
29 March	50	14
30 March	38	16

(As of 31 March 2020, 16:00 hrs.)

Contact Tracing and Follow up of COVID-19 confirmed cases (80%)

COVID-19 cases	Status	Total traced	Remaining
Case1	Recovered		
Case 2	Under isolation in stable health condition	12	2
Case 3		14	
Case 4		34	3
Case 5		10	10

- A chartered plane was sent to Nepalgunj and 22 samples of COVID-19 suspected cases were brought to National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) for testing.

- Contact tracing and follow-up of confirmed COVID-19 cases is underway.

- The High-Level Coordination Committee on Prevention and Control of Novel Coronavirus under the leadership of Honorable Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister has established a COVID-19 **Crisis Management Centre (CMC)**. Key function of the CMC is to deliver rapid responses to COVID-19 in an organized, effective and coordinated manner.

- In addition to conducting necessary activities for prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19, the CCMC will also monitor supply of medical equipment, health materials including other essential items and services; and peace and security.

- Health professionals and general public are appealed to disseminate only official notice and information. All people are humbly requested not to disseminate misleading information regarding COVID-19.

- A total of 1029 ICU beds and 552 ventilators are available in the country of which 278 ICU beds and 250 ventilators are in Kathmandu valley and 751 ICU beds and 302 ventilators are in other districts.

- Patan Academy of Health Science is appointed to coordinate with technical teams from the organizations recommended by China through tele-conference.

Logistics management:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): 1000 sets of PPE and other health items such as masks, gloves, sanitizer, goggles, visor (face shields) were distributed to each of the seven provinces. Provinces have started distribution of these items to respective health facilities as per their requirement.

Expansion of laboratory service:

In addition to National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in Teku, the COVID-19 lab testing service has been expanded to BP Koirala Institute of Health Sciences (BPKIHS) in Dharan of Province 1 from 16 Chaitra, 2076 (29 March, 2020) and in Pokhara of Gandaki Province from 18 Chaitra, 2076 (31 March, 2020). Likewise, to expand the COVID-19 lab facility in other provinces, today a team of experts with necessary tools and equipment will reach Janakpur of Province 2, Hetauda of Bagmati Province, Surkhet of Karnali Province and Dhangadhi of Sudurpaschim Province. Lab setup activities in Chitwan of Bagmati Province will start from tomorrow. Preparation for COVID-19 lab test is in progress in Butwal of Province 5 with an aim to start testing facility in 2-3 days. Also, lab test facility to start soon in Nepalgunj.

Coordination with External Development Partners (EDPs):

Discussion was held between the MoHP and EDPs engaged in health sector on prevention, preparation and control of COVID-19 related activities. Future strategy and areas of collaboration were identified and an implementation framework was proposed.

Provincial activity details on COVID-19, received on daily basis					
Province	No. of quarantine beds	No of patients in quarantine	No. of Isolation bed	No. of patients in Isolation	No. of PPE
Province 1	3053	451	338	27	1619
Province 2	1997	336	363	0	1231
Bagmati province	2740	165	551	24	2625
Gandaki Province	2885	255	239	6	1666
Province 5	3483	824	424	8	1408
Karnali Province	2030	680	261	0	1237
Sudurpaschim Province	3170	1479	200	16	1291
Total	19358	4190	2376	77	11077

Note: This report does not include information from hospitals in Kathmandu valley. *Report as of 16 Chaitra 2076 (29 March, 2020)*

General public are requested to follow personal safety measures and stay at home during the lockdown period as advised by the Government of Nepal