



Focused COVID-19 and Health Media Monitoring, Nepal

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EMERGING THEME(S)

- The heads of eight major cities in the world, including Kathmandu, have made a joint commitment to prevent the risk of air pollution at the 28th United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP28).
- The Minister of Health and Population has claimed that while Nepal is providing health services with the same health workforce as it was 22 years ago, the health workforce is decreasing instead of increasing.
- According to the data of Public Health Office Jumla, 29 newborns died in Jumla in one year.
- In Pyuthan, anemia test of girls studying in school has been started.
- More than 800 employees working under the Department of Health Services have been promoted.

RECURRING THEME(S)

- Postpartum and pregnant women of Jajarkot Chhedagad Municipality-1 Chiuri are suffering due to cold.
- The dengue infection spread in Bagmati Municipality-8 Shankarpur Solti Bazaar area of Sarlahi is decreasing.
- The Patan High Court has issued an interim order in the dispute over the selection of the director of the Medical Education Commission.
- In Janakpurdham, the capital of Madhesh, after the Drug Administration Department started monitoring, the drug shop owners have closed their shops.

ISSUE(S) IN FOCUS

The heads of eight major cities in the world, including Kathmandu, have made a joint commitment to prevent the risk of air pollution. During the 28th United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP28) in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the leaders of the cities affiliated to the global network of Partnership for Healthy Cities made this commitment through a Zoom meeting. Among the cities that have shown commitment are Chicago in America, Bucharest in Romania, Fortaleza in Brazil, Jakarta in Indonesia, Dhaka in Bangladesh, Kigali in Rwanda, Kampala in Uganda, and Kathmandu in Nepal. ^{1,2}

More than 800 employees working under the Department of Health Services have been promoted. As mentioned in the notification of the department, the assistant level 4- lab assistant, darkroom assistant, cold chain assistant Aheb, ANM, and other employees have been promoted. 254 people have been upgraded from senior ANM i.e., from assistant fourth level to assistant fifth level. ³

The Patan High Court has issued an interim order in the dispute over the selection of the director of the Medical Education Commission. On Thursday, a joint bench of Justices, Ramesh Dhakal and Prakash Kharel, of the Patan High Court issued an interim order in the name of the Medical Education Commission. Along with the order, the commission's director recommendation process will be suspended. A writ was filed in the High Court expressing disagreement with the selection process when the director selection committee shortlisted 12 people after calling for applications. The court called the two parties for discussion on Thursday while conducting the preliminary hearing of the writ. ³

Minister of Health and Population, Mohan Bahadur Basnet, has said that the overall health sector of Nepal is under the control of two or four people. Health Minister Basnet said this while inaugurating the Poison Information Center established at the Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, Maharajgunj. Minister Basnet claimed that while Nepal is providing health services with the same health workforce as it was 22 years ago, instead of increasing, the health workforce is decreasing. ³

Postpartum and pregnant women of Jajarkot Chhedagad Municipality-1 Chiuri are suffering due to cold. Sitala Bk, a volunteer, said that in Chiuri village, which has more than 200 households, there are 45 postpartum women and 12 pregnant women.

According to Bk, a volunteer, the postnatal and pregnant women of Chiuri are lacking not only tents but also warm clothes and nutritious food. The earthquake killed 13 people in Chiuri, where most of the Dalit settlements are located. ⁷

NEWS RELATED TO MADHESH PROVINCE

In Janakpurdham, the capital of Madhesh, after the Drug Administration Department started monitoring, the drug shop owners have closed their shops. The team led by Mukendra Panjiyar, Officer of the branch office of the department, Birgunj, has been monitoring drug shops and pharmacies since Tuesday. Sarfraz Ahmed Khan, Pharmacy Officer of Birgunj branch of the department, said that most of the drug shop owners operating without registration closed their shops and ran away. ³

The dengue infection spread in Bagmati Municipality-8 Shankarpur Solti Bazaar area of Sarlahi is decreasing. The coordinator of the municipality's health branch, Padam Rayamajhi, informed that 115 people have been infected with dengue here. ⁹

NEWS RELATED TO GANDAKI PROVINCE

Although the hospital operated by Anbukhaireni Rural Municipality of Tanahun has workforce to perform surgery, there is a problem in service expansion due to lack of equipment. Anbukhaireni Hospital aims to operate surgical services, but there is a problem due to lack of equipment. Shukra Chuman, Mayor of the rural municipality, said that there is workforce for four types of surgery and informed that there is a problem in service operation due to lack of equipment. ³

NEWS RELATED TO LUMBINI PROVINCE

In Pyuthan, anemia test of girls studying in school has been started. In coordination with all local levels, Health Office Pyuthan has started anemia testing program in schools. ⁹

NEWS RELATED TO KARNALI PROVINCE

According to the data of Public Health Office Jumla, 29 newborns died in Jumla in one year. Padam Khatri, Head of Statistics branch of the office, said that 23 newborns died within seven days of birth, 5 newborns died within eight to 28 days of birth, and 1 infant died within seven days of birth. ⁵

NEWS RELATED TO SUDURPASHCHIM PROVINCE

With the aim of spreading public awareness about nutrition, the Health Branch of Shuklaphanta Municipality has established a nutrition corner at the health post. Nutrition corners have been established at three health posts to provide counseling on various types of nutrition available in the community. ³

MENTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND POPULATION

Minister of Health and Population, Mohan Bahadur Basnet, has said that the overall health sector of Nepal is under the control of two or four people. Health Minister Basnet said this while inaugurating the Poison Information Center established at the Tertiary Teaching Hospital, Maharajgunj. Minister Basnet claimed that while Nepal is providing health services with the same health workforce as it was 22 years ago, instead of increasing, the health workforce is decreasing.³

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

According to WHO data, from 2000 to 2023, 2.5 million people died from heart disease. Nowadays, heart problems are increasing not only among the elderly but also among the young. An American study showed that 40 percent of heart attacks occurred at an average age of 40 years. This is a frightening statistic which shows that people of any age are not far from heart problems.³ (WHO mentioned)

¹ Onlinekhabar

² Nepalkhabar

³ Swasthyakhabar

⁴ The Himalayan Times

⁵ Kantipur

⁶ Nayapatrika

⁷ Annapurna Post

⁸ Nagarik

⁹ Gorkhapatra

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