

# Health Sector Response to Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Sunday | 19 Magh 2076 (02 February 2020)

On 31 December 2019, the first case of 2019-nCoV was reported from Hubei Province of China. This disease has spread over 23 countries outside China. As per the WHO, human - to - human transmission is confirmed. Although reported case fatality of the novel coronavirus infection is low with compared to previous Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS). But it is too early to compare as several information on 2019-nCoV are yet to come.

#### Current Global status on 2019-nCoV

Globally confirmed cases: 11953 China confirmed cases: 11821

Deaths: 259

Outside China: 23 countries Confirmed cases: 132

WHO RISK ASSESSMENT

China: Very High Regional Level: High Global Level: High

(\*as of 01 February 2020)

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) has been declared on 30 January 2020; however, restriction in international traffic and trade is not recommended.

## Current status on 2019-nCoV, Nepal

First case of 2019-nCoV was confirmed in Nepal on 23 January 2020 and all other 4 cases under investigation were tested negative by National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) and 1 case is under the investigation (result awaiting) for 2019-nCoV as of 01 February 2020. No other new suspected case has been reported till date

Table 1: Number of cases by category

Case Category	Cases till 31 Jan 2020	Cases on 02 Feb 2020	Total cases till 02 Feb 2020
Total cases	5	1	6
positive cases	1	0	1
negative cases	4	0	4
Pending cases	0	1	1

## **Key National Response**

- On 2 February 2020, a high-level meeting chaired by the Honorable Minister of Health and Population took update on the current situation and provided further directives.
- On 2 February 2020, a technical committee meeting on National Capacities Review Tool for a novel coronavirus (nCoV) held; and divided the work among members of the committee.
- A monitoring team along with medical doctors deployed at Pokhara, Lumbini and Bhairahawa for coordinating and instituting the containment measures.
- A team from Ministry of Health and Population went to Tribhuvan International Airport for monitoring the health desk and thermal scanner.

- Preparations are being made in a close coordination with the line ministries on bringing Nepali students studying in China to Nepal.
- 2019-nCoV related IEC materials has been distributed in key locations and Public Service Announcements has been disseminated via radio and television.
- Key response and preparedness from Provincial Government: -
  - <u>Province 1</u>: Messaging alerts in key locations are being programmed by health workers; Health Desk has been established at Pashupatinagar, Ilam
  - Province 2: Preparation of dissemination of IEC via radio and setting up of Health Desk in airports.
  - <u>Bagmati Province</u>: All hospitals are alerted for needful preparedness; distribution of IEC materials on 2019nCoV; Operation of Health Desk at at Tatopani, Kerung Border and Bhaktapur; Procurement of thermal scanner (In Process); Awareness message sent to schools via school nurse
  - <u>Gandaki Province</u>: Health Desk operating at the airport; Task Force Committee has been formed; Isolation bed has been arranged at Pokhara Academy of Health Sciences, Gandaki Medical College and Manipal Teaching Hospital.
  - <u>Province</u> 5: Isolation bed has been arranged at Lumbini Zonal Hospital; health desk operating at borders.
  - <u>Karnali Province</u>: Provision of isolation bed at Regional Hospital, Surkhet
  - Sudurpaschim Province: Instruction to all stakeholders to be prepared and remain in alert position; In coordination with the district and local level, a committee has been formed to disseminate awareness messages in public

## Resources:

Additional resources on 2019-nCOV can be accessed via MoHP/HEOC or EDCD Web Portals/ Social Media Page.

Ministry of Health and Population acknowledges and appreciates the support received from all the health authorities and partners for the health sector interventions

