

CAPITAL



Weather Forecast

KATHMANDU Mostly sunny		BIRATNAGAR Mostly sunny		POKHARA Fog		NEPALGANJ Hazy sunshine		BIRGANJ Hazy sunshine		NARAYANGARH Mostly sunny	
Today - 19 Nov. 2015		Today - 19 Nov. 2015		Today - 19 Nov. 2015		Today - 19 Nov. 2015		Today - 19 Nov. 2015		Today - 19 Nov. 2015	
06am-12pm MOSTLY SUNNY	10°-20°	06am-12pm MOSTLY SUNNY	16°-28°	06am-12pm AREAS OF FOG	5°-22°	06am-12pm HAZY SUNSHINE	11°-28°	06am-12pm HAZY SUNSHINE	11°-27°	06am-12pm MOSTLY SUNNY	10°-28°
12pm-06pm MOSTLY SUNNY	20°-17°	12pm-06pm MOSTLY SUNNY	28°-23°	12pm-06pm MOSTLY SUNNY	22°-17°	12pm-06pm HAZY SUNSHINE	28°-22°	12pm-06pm HAZY SUNSHINE	27°-24°	12pm-06pm MOSTLY SUNNY	28°-23°
06pm-12am MAINLY CLEAR	17°-12°	06pm-12am MAINLY CLEAR	23°-19°	06pm-12am MAINLY CLEAR	17°-14°	06pm-12am HAZY	22°-16°	06pm-12am MAINLY CLEAR	24°-18°	06pm-12am MAINLY CLEAR	23°-15°
Tomorrow - 20 Nov. 2015		Tomorrow - 20 Nov. 2015		Tomorrow - 20 Nov. 2015		Tomorrow - 20 Nov. 2015		Tomorrow - 20 Nov. 2015		Tomorrow - 20 Nov. 2015	
12am-06am MAINLY CLEAR	12°-11°	12am-06am MAINLY CLEAR	19°-18°	12am-06am AREAS OF FOG	14°-14°	12am-06am HAZY	16°-16°	12am-06am MAINLY CLEAR	18°-17°	12am-06am MAINLY CLEAR	15°-15°



Devotees offering prayers to the rising sun on the occasion of Chhath festival at Gaurighat, Kathmandu, on Wednesday.

Maggie Doyne bags CNN Hero award 2015

Himalayan News Service
Kathmandu, November 18

Maggie Doyne, who has been working for the welfare of Nepali children and women, was named the CNN Hero of the Year 2015 yesterday.

Doyne, a New Jersey woman, took a life-altering trip to Nepal where she saw, firsthand, the state of suffering that women and children face. Today, she and her nonprofit organisation BlinkNow Foundation provide education in addition to a supportive and encouraging community to orphaned, impoverished, and at-risk children, CNN reports.

Blinknow has been operating children's home, school, health clinics, women's centre and sustainability programmes for Nepali children and women. She has been running Kopila Valley Children's Home since 2007 where she has been giving shelter to more than 50 children between 1 and 16 years of age.

Doyne was chosen from this year's Top 10 Heroes in an online vote by CNN's audience. She'll receive \$100,000 for BlinkNow Foundation in addition to \$10,000 that each Hero received for making it to the Top 10 list, according to CNN.

"If you had told me when I turned 18 that I was going to be the mom of 50 kids, I would have told you that you were totally crazy...and I am... and to

my kids ... I love you so much. Don't ever forget how much I love you," Doyne said yesterday. "And, to the country of Nepal, thank you so much for loving me and accepting me as a daughter welcoming me into your country," she said.

When she was in India in 2006, Nepali children's plight there had encouraged her to come to Nepal. She had come to Nepal with Top Bahadur Malla of Kalikot. Maggie said that she had cried out on seeing the misery of children. "The miserable situation motivated me to set up a school and educate needy and poor children", Maggie said. She set up Kopila Valley in 2010.

While accepting her award, Doyne said, "There is no time to waste. If you are educated and free, empowered and safe, you have to use your strength, your power, and your gifts to help the rest of our human family," CNN stated. "This honour has encouraged me to do more in social service and it is the victory of all involved in altruistic work", Maggie added. She pledged to continue educating the street children and orphans with extra vigour.

Singer and actress Victoria Justice presented Doyne with her honor. Earlier, Anuradha Koirala and Pushpa Basnet, social workers from Nepal working against women and children trafficking and children's education have already received the CNN awards.

IN BRIEF

Hospitals will soon get drugs: Chaudhary

KATHMANDU: Minister for Health and Population Ram Janam Chaudhary on Wednesday said that all types of medicines would be available in the hospitals within a week. Talking to RSS, Minister Chaudhary said he had directed all the suppliers and tender applicants to supply adequate medicines. The health minister said discussion was under way to import medicines from third countries. He said, "It is not necessary that we import medicines only from India. So we are making preparations to import medicines from third countries." He added the foreign donors have expressed commitment to provide medicines. -RSS

Blood donation

KATHMANDU: The Maha Buddha chapter of Nepal Red Cross Society, Kathmandu and Asan Sewa Samiti on Wednesday began a one-month-long blood donation camp. The organisers said that the event was organised to help health institutions cope with blood crisis. So far, 40 pints of blood has been handed over to the blood transfusion centre. The average daily need of blood in the capital city is as high as 500 pints, it is said. On the occasion, Sanghratna Shakya, former secretary of Nepal Red Cross Society, Kathmandu urged the people to donate blood and help the needy. -RSS

House burgled

KATHMANDU: Property worth around Rs 208,000 was stolen from a rented room of an Indian national in the capital on Tuesday. According to a complaint lodged with the police, the thieves broke into the unattended room of Sunil Sah (36), from Bihar of India, in Kathmandu-11 and decamped with Rs 50,000, IRs 30,000 as well as some gold and silver ornaments. Police said they have launched a manhunt to nab the suspects. -HNS

Thapa calls for unity

KATHMANDU: CPN-Maoist general secretary Ram Bahadur Thapa on Wednesday said that lasting peace and development would not be possible until internal problems facing the country are resolved. Addressing a function organised by Nepal Film Youth Forum, Thapa said that the country has witnessed infighting as the new constitution has failed to address the aspirations of oppressed and backward groups. -RSS

Schools resume classes amid fuel shortage

Himalayan News Service
Kathmandu, November 18

Private and boarding schools in the Kathmandu Valley that were closed for major festivals resumed full-fledged classes from today.

Private schools had been forced to prolong holidays due to acute shortage of petroleum products. Although many schools had been closed from October 13 to November 13 for Dashain and Tihar festivals, some of them remained closed till yesterday for the Chhath festival.

Now that all major festivals are over, schools were under pressure to resume classes at any cost. The government has made it mandatory for schools to run classes for at least 220 days in an academic session as per the Education Regulations.

Meanwhile, a delegation from Association of Private Educational Institutions, Nepal today met with the Education Minister Giriraj Mani Pokharel to draw his attention towards the impact of fuel crisis on the education sector.

Karna Bahadur Shahi, president of National Private and Boarding Schools Association of Nepal, who is also president of Steering Committee of APEIN, today said that the talks with education minister was very positive.

"Minister Pokharel has taken our suggestions seriously and assured us that the problem would be resolved soon," said Shahi, adding they have urged the government to designate separate filling stations to supply fuel to schools. Shahi said the Valley consumes 300,000 litres of

fuel everyday. Of this, academic institutions consume 20 per cent.

DK Dhungana, general secretary, Private and Boarding Schools Organisation Nepal, said, "We have urged the government to create conditions to ensure children their right to education."

He said the education minister has pledged to support private academic institutions. "We are hopeful that the government will come up with some solution during our meeting with the supply minister tomorrow."

17 arrested in gambling house raid

Himalayan News Service
Kathmandu, November 18

The Metropolitan Police Range, Kathmandu raided the Gaushala-based house of Keshav Dhawal Rana and arrested 17 persons, including Rana, on the charge of gambling in the wee hours today.

SP Bishwo Raj Pokharel, MPR spokesperson, said the arrestees were found gambling and betting on *kauda*, a game played with 16 sea shells, when the cops raided the house at around 1 am. Pokharel said it was one of the biggest anti-gambling operations carried out by the police in the Kathmandu Valley. The arrestees are between 20-63 years of age.

SP Pokharel informed that Rs 1.94 million, 16 pieces of *kauda* and 12 decks of playing cards were confiscated from them. The house was under close surveillance after locals lodged a complaint with police, stating that the house had become a gambling den.

Police said gambling also leads to social crimes. Law enforcement officials have long been complaining that the existing Gambling Act, 1963 is not tough enough to deter gamblers. As per the Act, a first-time offender can walk free after paying a fine of up to Rs 200 and a four-day stay in police custody.

According to police, it has carried out 63 raids on hotels, lodges and houses in the Kathmandu Valley and arrested more than 400 gamblers in the past one year alone.

Prolonged petroleum crisis worries Japan

Himalayan News Service
Kathmandu, November 18

The Government of Japan has expressed deep concern about the current fuel crisis and shortage of essential goods in Nepal.

Issuing a statement today, Japanese embassy in Kathmandu stated that the shortages of petroleum products and other essentials have made the lives of Nepali people difficult and also hampered post-earthquake reconstruction efforts.

This is the first time that the Japanese government spoke against the unofficial blockade imposed by India against Nepal.

Last week, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon had also expressed serious concern about the protracted delay in easing supplies through Nepal-India crossing points and urged all sides to end the situation without further delay. He had also underlined Nepal's rights of a hassle-free transit and access to the sea.

"Japan is deeply concerned that the present shortage of essentials is having an adverse impact on the lives of Nepali people," it said. Japan also cautioned that the fuel crisis has prevented post-earthquake relief efforts. "We sincerely hope that the current situation gets resolved peacefully," read the statement.

Women demand 'meaningful' role in reconstruction campaign

Himalayan News Service
Kathmandu, November 18

Women rights activists today demanded "meaningful" participation of women in various commissions and government bodies.

Issuing a press statement, women rights activists appreciated Prime Minister KP Oli's pledge to give top priority to reconstruction efforts but expressed disappointment for ignoring women's participation in the task.

"Women and children were the hardest hit by the recent earthquakes but the prime minister is ignoring women's participation in the

reconstruction efforts," reads the statement issued by Chandani Joshi, coordinator of a group of women rights activists and organisations.

"We think gender mainstreaming and women's proportional representation in Reconstruction Authority is a must. Thus, we urge the government to ensure leadership role for women in the reconstruction campaign," Joshi said in the statement.

The statement further stressed the need for women's representation in various commissions and government bodies. It, however, said that such appointments

should not be political and women with expertise in respective fields should be given priority.

The women rights activists also congratulated President Bidya Devi Bhandari and Speaker Onsari Gharti-magar and wished them a successful tenure. The group included Bandana Rana from Saathi, Durga Sob from FEDO Nepal, Sharmila Karki from Jagaran Nepal, Lily Thapa from WHR, Sabin Shrestha from FWLD, Nir-mala Sharma from Sancharika Samuha, Chandani Joshi from Home Net South Asia and Babita Basnet from Media Advocacy Group.

Valley Metropolitan Police finds itself 'toothless'

Himalayan News Service
Kathmandu, November 18

The Metropolitan Police Office has expressed worries that limited statutory powers have rendered it "toothless."

The sole metro police in the country was established on November 17, 2006 as a primary law enforcement agency for Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur districts. The chief of Metropolitan Police Office is a commissioner, who directly reports to the Inspector General of Police.

Despite gradual increase in the numerical strength of the police, no progress has been made towards introducing necessary laws to give it a free hand to combat crimes.

The Metropolitan Police has to wait for orders from the concerned chief district officers of Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur before taking action against criminals. Even if an individual feels threatened by a criminal group, he or she is required to first report it to the chief district officer before he is given police protection. This state of affairs has prevented the law enforcement agency from carrying out its duties swiftly and efficiently. The issue of providing administrative and semi-judicial powers to the police is currently under consideration.

At a special function organised to mark the 10th Metropolitan Police Day in the capi-



(Left) IGP Upendra Kant Aryal lighting an oil-fed lamp during a function held to mark the 10th Metropolitan Police Day in the Police Headquarters, Kathmandu, on Wednesday.

tal today, IGP Upendra Kant Aryal said, "The changing nature of crimes has necessitated

introduction of new laws. The metro police should be made technologically capable

of dealing with crimes of such nature."

Aryal said investment in peace and security should be the first priority of a country. He also stressed on the need to make timely changes in the Police Act.

Police Commissioner and AIGP Bigyan Raj Sharma stated that the metro police was fighting crimes in close partnership with the public. The metro police has a strength of 10,872 cops.

Laxmi Prasad Dhakal, joint secretary and MoHA spokesperson, said the metro police had been playing the role of a protector. "The ministry is ready to extend all necessary support to strengthen its capacity," he informed.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

OFFICE	PHONE NO.
Police Control Room	100
Traffic Police Control Room	103
Fire Fighters	101
Traffic Jam Information (SMS)	JAM 4321
Emergency Police Service	4228435
Crime Information	4412748
Child Missing	104
Nepal Electricity Authority	4153052
Blood Bank, Pradarshani Marg	4225344
Nepal Red Cross Society, Teku	4270650
Bhaktapur Red Cross	6612266
Army Hospital	4271940
Bir Hospital	4223807
Bhaktapur Cancer Hospital	6611532
Chirayu National Hospital	4382382
Kanti Children Hospital	4411134
Norvic Hospital	4258554
Police Hospital	4412430
Patan Hospital	5522295
Star Hospital, Sanepa	5550197
Teaching Hospital	4412404
Grande Hospital	5159266
Tilganga Hospital	4423684
Hearse (Shav Vahan)	6612266