

NEPAL COVID SITREP as at 2 JUN 21

HEADLINES

1. The Foreign and Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) approved the deployment Army Medical and Advisory Team (MAT) and c.3500kg of medical supplies to Nepal. The aircraft arrived in Kathmandu on 28 May 21 and the medical supplies were handed over to the Ministry of Health on 31 May 21. FCDO are in further talks with Nepali Foreign Minister and Nepali Ambassador in the UK to further identify additional requirements; multiple avenues continue to be explored to inform and assist with the national decision-making process. Apart from deployment of a MAT and delivery of medical equipment on board the repatriation flight no further details in response to Nepal's requests for support have been announced. Oxygen cylinders from China (see para 2b (2) below) have arrived in Kathmandu.

2. POLITICAL

a. International.

(1) The [UN Nepal Covid Pandemic Situation Report](#) as at 28 May 21 gives a more granular report on the situation in various parts of Nepal.

(2) International organisation operating in Nepal are planning repatriation of non-essential staff.

b. Nepal.

(1) All international flights (except charter and those to/from India) were suspended. Suspension of flights have now been extended until [3 Jun 21](#).

(2) The Government of Nepal (GoN) has approved two flights a week to/from India and one flight to China mainly for medical supplies. [Schedule weekly flights, by a single airline, to China, Qatar and Turkey are also due to resume from 3 Jun 21](#).

(3) Local newspapers have also reported that the government is considering allowing a limited number of scheduled flights from Jun 21 to allow citizens to return home and fly broad.

(4) Domestic Airlines suspended until further notice.

(5) GoN has given rights to each local government to impose a lockdown or take any other additional measures if COVID cases reach certain limits. The three Chief District Officers (CDOs) of Kathmandu Valley have extended the lockdown in the valley until [14 Jun 21](#).

(6) Restriction have been increased and fresh food shops opening hours limited to 0700 and 0900. No one is allowed out for any the reason other than shopping for going to the hospital.

(7) There is no assured capacity to admit new COVID patients to hospital. All hospitals are at maximum capacity and provision only becomes available after patient discharge or dies.

(8) Covid stats (provided by BGN)

Nepal COVID Statistics	Total Numbers
Total Cases (x)	566,587
Total Recovered (y)	454,344
Active (x-y)	112,243

Recovery Rate	80.2%
Total Death	7,454
National daily reported cases	6,085 (with most cases in Kathmandu Valley)

(9) Pensioners and Widows stats (provided by GWT) are attached.

c. **UK:**

- (1) Dep Col Comdt tabled an urgent question in the House of Lords for 19 May.
- (2) Pressure brought by several Lords for a special effort for Nepal, notably from Lord Sheikh and the Earl of Sandwich who both sit on the All Party Parliamentary Group for Nepal.
- (3) Lord Ahmad (Minister for South Asia & Commonwealth) had spoken to the Nepali Foreign Minister on 18 May and was in dialogue with the Nepali Ambassador in the UK.
- (4) UK Aid essential medical supplies arrived in Nepal. [UK Ambassador to Nepal \(Ms Nicola Pollitt\) met the aircraft at Kathmandu airport.](#)
- (5) Change Org petition to Foreign Secretary launched with lots of high profile signatories: Joanna Lumley, Michael Palin, scientists, academics, Everest climbers, Gurkha veterans, including Capt Rambahadur Limbu VC, two former Col Comdts and other friends of Nepal, join the call for urgent medical aid.– [Petition - Send Oxygen to Nepal. The petition has been rejected by the Govt because of the similar petition "Provide Emergency Support to Treat COVID Patients in Nepal" had been submitted earlier.](#)

d. **FCDO**

- (1) [Planning for draw-down completed. Recovery of non-essential staff and dependents, using the medical supplies aircraft, accomplished.](#) Core staff will remain in place to continue developmental work.
- (2) [FCDO has approved the supply of medical equipment to Nepal.](#)
- (3) The UK Military Support Team (MST) [task and purpose are being discussed with GoN and HQ BGN.](#)

e. **MOD/Army:**

- (1) Col Comdt and HQBG are engaging with senior leaders in Army HQ.
- (2) CGS' office have engaged with DA Kathmandu.
- (3) FCDO/MoD continue to monitor the worsening COVID situation in Nepal and concurrent activity to generate maximum support is in progress.
- (4) FCDO/MOD discussion reassess the humanitarian situation and further support options.
- (5) Ongoing planning in MOD:
 - (a) MoD support and FCDO approved medical equipment (see para 2d (2) for details), arrived on 28 May 21.
 - (b) Army HQ staff are reviewing options to provide wider support to Nepal in line with the FCDO intent. Chief of Defence Logistics Support (CDLS) staff are addressing the delta between aspiration and provision and are working on plans to close this gap.

(c) MoD held a meeting on 28 May to discuss what else UK and MoD can do to support Nepal. The significant wish list received will be discuss with the aim of preparing a Ministerial Submission. [Details have yet to be promulgated.](#)

(d) All [non-essential and at-risk service personnel/dependants have returned to the UK, bar a few who were in quarantine and unable to travel.](#) Total c150 pax (including those on leave) have now arrived in UK. Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration (RSOI) process has started.

(e) HQBG Team are now preparing accommodation for repatriated staff once they leave quarantine.

PENSIONERS AND WIDOWS STATS

In the table below you can find a breakdown (by Regt) of COVID cases and deaths attributable to COVID among all pension types (WPs/SPs etc) in Nepal as at 30 May 21.

These statistics are only based on cases that have been reported to our AWCs and may therefore not present the full picture.

Regiment	Recovered or Active Cases	Deceased	Total
1GR		1	1
2GR	15	6	21
4GR	3	1	4
6GR	31	7	38
7GR	17	9	26
8GR	2	1	3
9GR	1	1	2
10GR	32	6	38
1RGR	4	1	5
2RGR	8	1	9
3RGR	1		1
QGE	13	6	19
QGS	11	1	12
QOGLR	11	2	13
GSPS	2		2
TDBG	2		2
GCSPF	28	3	31
TOTAL	181	46	227