



GOVERNANCE

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Recent SEE Results Reveal Significant Problems in Nepal's Education System

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Photo by Annapurna post

The Secondary Education Examination (SEE) results for 2080 were recently released, revealing that only 47.86 percent of total students passed the examinations. With half of the students failing at the secondary level, it showcased neglect and inequality in the education sector. Among the total students who failed SEE, **64 percent** belonged to government schools while 21 percent belonged to private schools.

This year, a new grading system was implemented, requiring a minimum score of 35 out of 75 in theoretical exams, as opposed to the previous system where students could accumulate 35 points from both theory and practical exams. This could also be a reason for the significant increase in the failure rate. Moreover, the failure rates are high in Lumbini province followed by Madhesh and Sudurpaschim province.

If we compare the results of a decade, the secondary examination pass percentage has dropped by 3.36 percent since 2071, despite a huge government investment and decentralization in the sector. The government allocates about 10 percent of the national budget to education each year. The SEE results depict that the government's investment hasn't been effectively utilized. However, there is still an argument that the budget is insufficient.

In addition, there are multifaceted challenges in the education system that need to be addressed. The schools have come under the jurisdiction of local units as per the new education act. However, with local units struggling to manage their administrative budgets, it is doubtful how they will strengthen the schools. Regardless, it is important the local units also be trained on supervision and oversight of the schools.

Further, there are also observations around the existing curriculum that do not promote practical learning, the ill-equipped infrastructures, and deep-rooted political influence within the sector. Similarly, the student-teacher ratio and their competency are also questionable. In 2019, a panel led by Janardan Nepal suggested that **57,056** additional positions of teachers need to be created to ensure a smooth teaching-learning process at schools. However, the vacancies of teachers go unfulfilled in thousands. Beyond this, a comprehensive approach involving the Ministry, local units, and other relevant government bodies is crucial for finding effective solutions to the education sector's challenges.

Read more: [Annapurna post](#)

Governance Issues of the Week

1. Former minister of Economic Affairs, Madhesh Province Bijaya Kumar Yadav has been sentenced by the Kathmandu Special Court to nine years and one month in prison and fined NRs 23.5 million, along with other Jhala Nath Khanal Academy of Health Sciences board members. Yadav and the mayor of Lalbandi Municipality misused their authority by awarding a contract for snake venom collection center to the Academy, disregarding a legal provision requiring cost-sharing.

Read more: [The Kathmandu Post](#)

2. A recent survey by the National Disaster Reduction and Management Authority found that a large number of government buildings across 13 districts are vulnerable to disasters, with 94 percent of the buildings considered unsafe. This raises concerns about the security of citizen data and essential state functions during crises. This is the first time the government body has surveyed government buildings and plans to continue in other districts.

Read more: [Nagarik News](#)

3. The recent Central Investigation Bureau (CIB) investigation revealed the collusion between officials at the Transport Management Office and brokers to issue fake driving licenses. It is found that individuals have paid between five thousand to one hundred thousand to obtain their licenses illegally. While those who passed the driving license exam have been waiting to receive their cards for two years, those who obtained licenses through illegal channels received them within a month.

Read more: [Naya Patrika](#)

4. According to the police headquarters, continuous rain resulted in 78 fatalities and damages worth NRs. 100 million between June 10 and July 9, 2024. Additionally, 90 people lost their lives, five went missing, and 41 bridges were swept away. The headquarters also reported 1,028 disaster-related events in the past month, with approximately 5,040 police personnel mobilized for disaster management.

Read more: [The Himalayan Times](#)

5. In the fiscal year 2023/24, Madhesh Province has failed to utilize 44 percent of its total allocated budget of NRs. 44.1 billion. Of the Rs. 18.54 billion allocated for recurrent expenditures, only Rs. 9.30 billion was spent. Similarly, out of Rs. 25.58 billion allocated for capital expenditures, Rs. 15.30 billion was utilized. Despite this, the provincial government has proposed an ambitious budget of Rs. 43.89 billion for the upcoming fiscal year.

Read more: [Republica](#)

6. The helipad at Nalinchowk-1, Suryabinayak, Bhaktapur, built by Civil Aviation Authority Nepal (CAAN) for Rs. 120 million, is considered technically unsuitable by pilots. It is located between houses and telecom towers, making landing difficult. It also lacks basic facilities like fuel refill and fire extinguishers. Nonetheless, CAAN argues that pilots are inconvenienced by landing far from Tribhuvan International Airport and will slowly add necessary facilities to the helipad.

Read more: [Ukaalo](#)

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