

# GOVERNANCE

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## The Language Commission Appointment Blunder.

### A Case of Mistaken Identity

WEEKLY

Nepal is no stranger to controversial political appointments—whether assigning positions to individuals with no relevant expertise or those lacking even the basic qualifications. But this time, a notorious episode has surfaced: an appointment intended for one individual ended up going to another person entirely—sharing the exact same name.

On 5 July 2022, the Cabinet decided to appoint Prof. Dr. Krishna Prasad Neupane as a member of the Language Commission, Nepal. Three years have passed since the appointment without any notice. Meanwhile, at the Language Commission office in Shankhamul, someone else has assumed the office under the name “Krishna Prasad Neupane,” despite not being the academic originally appointed by the Cabinet.

The Neupane who now holds the office - a teacher at Bhagwati Secondary School in Syangja - shared the same name, district, municipality, and ward number as the professor. On 12 July, just a week after the Cabinet's decision, the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation handed him the appointment letter, signed by Undersecretary Tek Narayan Paudel. At the time, Jeevan Ram Shrestha of the CPN (Unified Socialist) was the minister.

He claims he assumed the position because the letter carried his name, without checking the Cabinet's original decision. Meanwhile, Prof. Dr. Neupane, now Head of the Nepali Department at Tribhuvan University, knew about the error but did not pursue the matter further. So far, the wrong appointee has received over NPR 2.88 million as an incentive for the last 36 months.

This government and bureaucratic blunder raises serious questions about Nepal's appointment system. With selections made at the ministerial level, there is no structured process—no vetting, interviews, or assessment of a candidate's suitability. It also exposes a glaring absence of proper document and qualification verification. As this case demonstrates, such gaps lead to institutional neglect, where oversight is missing, accountability is weak, and even the most basic safeguard—verifying an identity—can be ignored.

[Read more](#)

## POLICY WATCH

### *“The Climate Finance Mobilisation Procedure, 2025”, open for inputs and recommendation*

The Ministry of Finance prepared a draft of the Climate Finance Mobilisation Procedure, 2025, which is open for input and recommendations. The draft is produced as a significant policy move to support the access of global climate funds and has placed a key focus on addressing loss and damage, climate adaptation, emissions, mitigation and carbon trading. The draft emphasizes a higher proportion of grant funding in total project cost, and prioritizes larger single projects over multiple smaller ones, making high-grant projects more cost effective.

A Common Climate Fund will be established to avoid fragmentation and duplication of climate finance. The draft outlines provisions for allocating resources to provinces and local governments based on performance, climate risk and local adaptation plans. The Ministry of Finance will be the lead point of contact for climate finance, negotiations, approving projects and monitoring. Project implementation can however, be done by all three tiers of government, private sector, and non government organizations.

A draft further outlines provisions for developing a digital platform to provide an overview of climate finance operations in Nepal, where all relevant institutions must regularly update their data to ensure transparency, the platform will include information like ongoing projects, list of priority projects, concept notes, digital maps and progress reports.

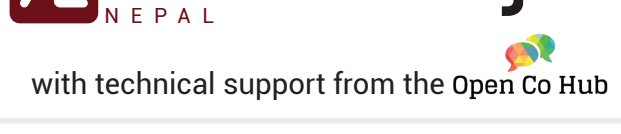
The draft has been made public and is currently open for feedback. [Read More](#)

## Governance Issues of the Week

- 1. TU collects in millions from absconding TU staff:** On July 13, 2025, Tribhuvan University (TU) issued a 35-day ultimatum to its staff who took study leave but failed to return or complete their studies, demanding repayment of funds with interest. So far, five individuals have repaid over NPR 16.7 million, and more than 60 have contacted the university. TU regulations require those on leave over three years to serve five years after completion, and others three years. The total outstanding amount exceeds NPR 2 billion, involving 398 defaulters. [Read More](#)
- 2. EC proposed Self-Assessment Procedure raises criticism:** The Election Commission of Nepal has drafted a Self-Assessment Procedure for political parties, enabling it to investigate, direct, and penalize parties under Section 61 of the Political Parties Act, 2017, which allows the Commission to formulate necessary directives. All political parties except Nepali Congress and CPN-UML have decided to collectively protest the draft, arguing it favors the two largest parties and disadvantages smaller ones, effectively promoting a two-party system. [Read More](#)
- 3. 830,000+ Nepalis emigrated in FY 2024/25:** In FY 2024/25, a total of 839,266 Nepalis received labor permits for foreign employment, according to the Department of Foreign Employment. Of these, 227,000 migrants had no formal skills training while 506,000 received training within the same year of emigration. The number of semi-skilled workers reached 99,754, with 4,372 migrating under professional categories. Highly skilled workers were notably low at 937. Nepali workers migrated legally to 151 countries last fiscal year. [Read More](#)
- 4. Foreign insurance brokers delay local office setup:** Despite regulations requiring foreign insurance brokers to establish local offices within six months of registration, only five out of 54 companies have complied. Currently, 49 brokers continue to operate without the local presence. After multiple deadline extensions, the Insurance Board has set a final deadline for January 2026, as per the amended “Reinsurance Directive 2080.” Brokers cite the USD 50,000 security deposit and high operational costs as major reasons for their reluctance. [Read More](#)
- 5. Nepalis missing in the aftermath of Uttarakhand floods:** Seventeen Nepali nationals remain missing following severe floods in Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand, India. Among the missing are one person from Jumla, four from Bardia, and thirteen from Jajarkot. Indian authorities estimate that around 150 people are missing due to the disaster. Nepal's Foreign Minister confirmed that diplomatic efforts for search and rescue operations commenced immediately after receiving reports of the missing Nepalis. [Read More](#)
- 6. Ram Hari Khatiwada found morally responsible in the Cooling-period fiasco:** The parliamentary committee's investigation report on the Federal Civil Service Bills' Cooling-off period scandal has concluded that Parliamentarian Ram Hari Khatiwada should bear the moral responsibility for the dilution of the Cooling-period clause. The report criticizes top bureaucrats, including chief secretary Ek Narayan Aryal, for publicly lobbying against the provision, but finds no evidence of direct manipulation. While moral responsibility is assigned to Khatiwada, the report doesn't recommend legal action against any person. [Read More](#)

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