

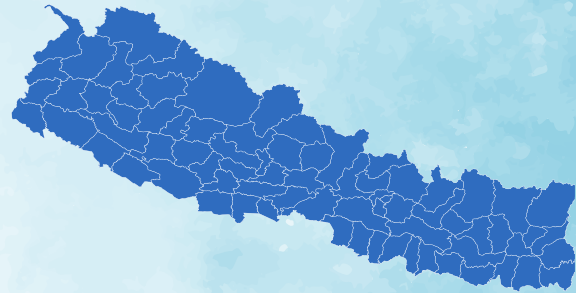
**COCAP BIWEEKLY: INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19**  
**JUNE 1 - JUNE 15, 2020**

## COCAP BIWEEKLY: INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 JUNE 1 - 15, 2020

COCAP's "COVID-19 Biweekly" covers the incidents from June 1-15, 2020 related to gender based violence [GBV] and incidents related COVID-19.

From June 1 - 15, 2020, COCAP's Nepal Peace Monitoring Project [PMP] recorded a total of 149 incidents from across Nepal of which 77 incidents were directly related to COVID-19. Majority of incidents were protests related to lack of relief to those in need, substandard quality of quarantine centers, fine against business for black marketing of essential goods at the time of panic, assaults by the police on civilians and demands of citizens to increase polymerase chain reaction [PCR] tests [See fig: 2]. Of the total COVID-19 related incidents 20 were violent and 57 were latent incidents [See fig: 1].

### 149 INCIDENTS ACROSS NEPAL



From June 1 - 15, 44 cases of gender based violence [GBV] were recorded of which 30 victims were below the age of 26. GBV itself is a crisis in our communities but the pandemic has made victims furthermore vulnerable to abuse. It is important to note that both males and females face GBV but according to our data the majority of victims are women and girls.

This bi-weekly report is aimed to inform our readers on the added crisis brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic which has affected everyone's livelihood and made some group of people even more vulnerable.

### 44 INCIDENTS OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



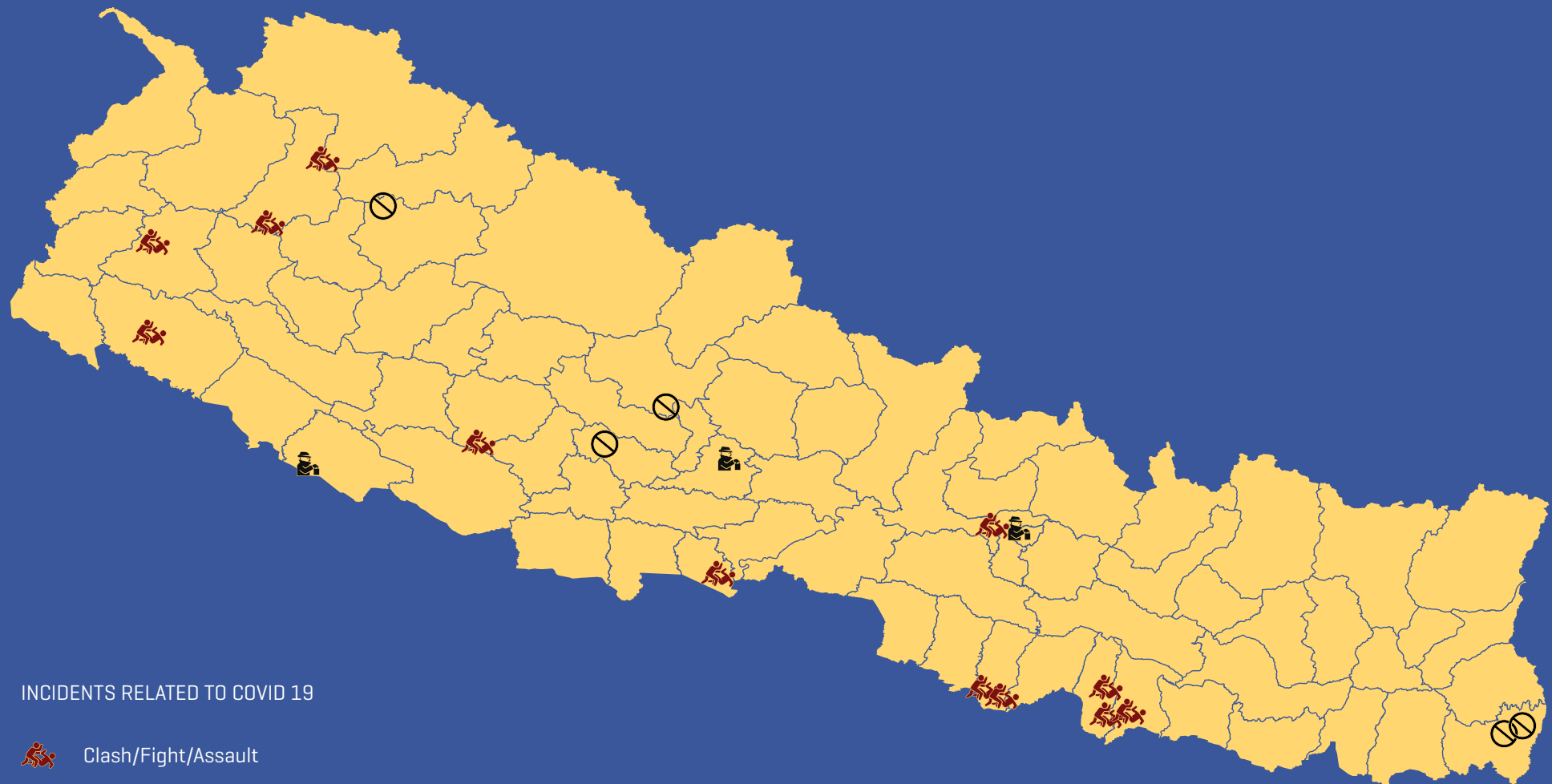
**149**  
INCIDENTS

**77**  
INCIDENTS  
RELATED TO  
COVID-19




**57**  
LATENT  
INCIDENTS

**20**  
VIOLENT  
INCIDENTS

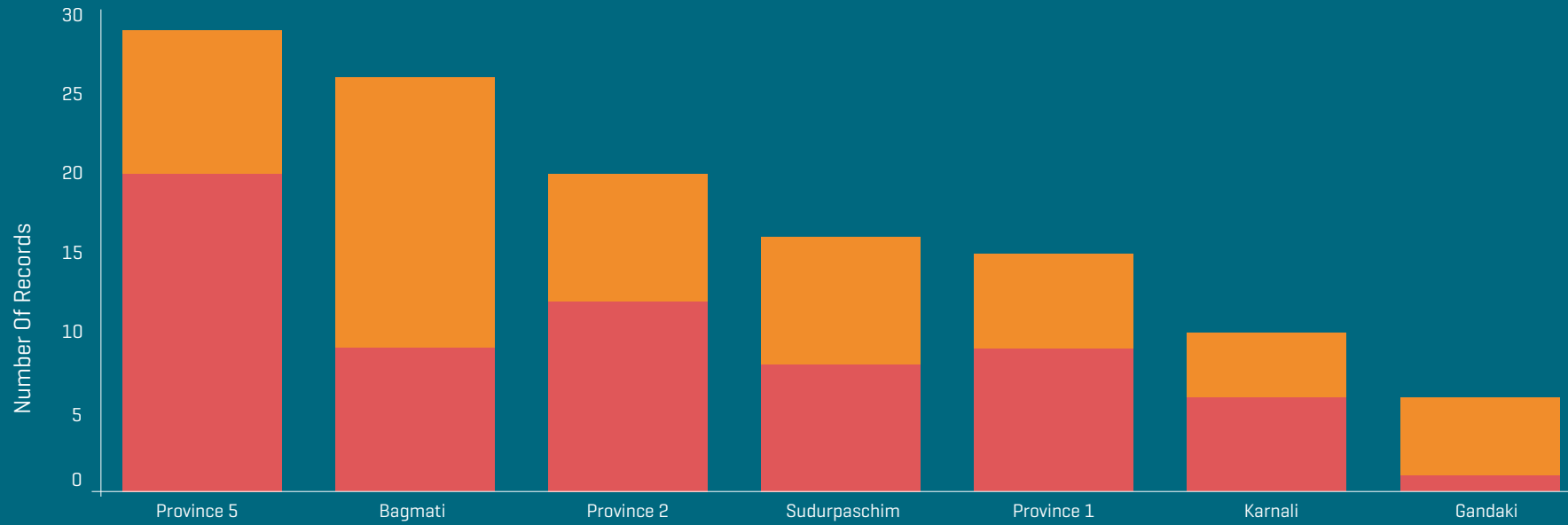
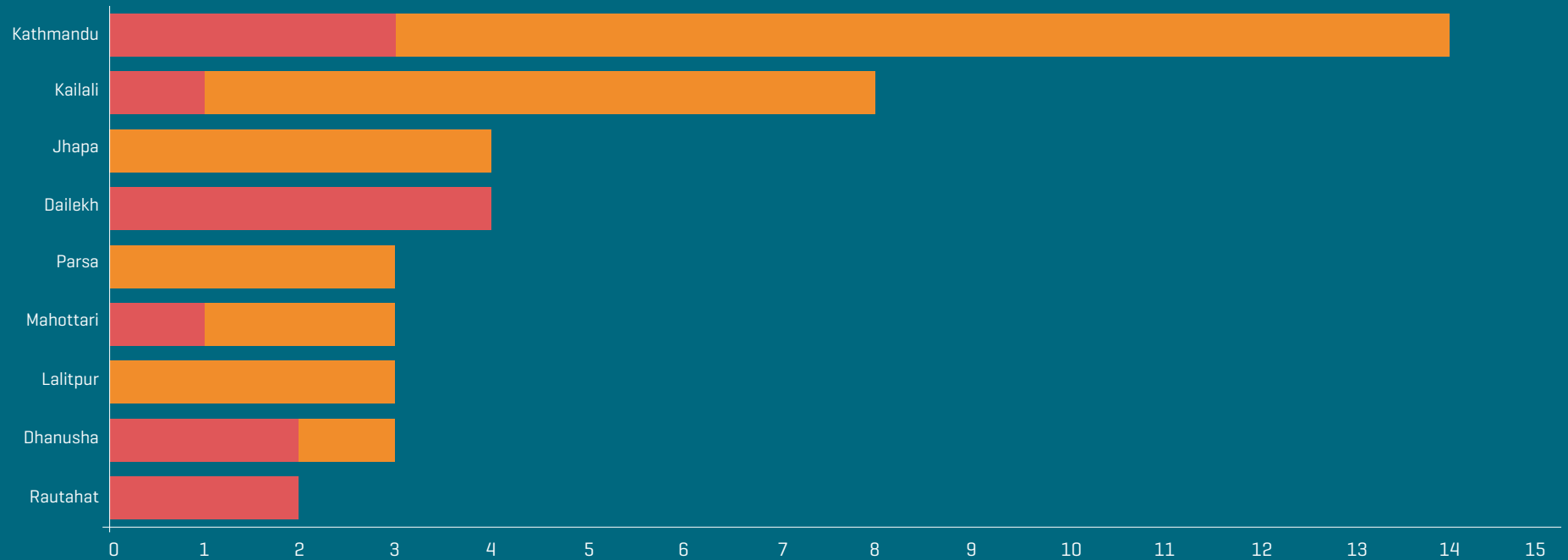
## INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN NEPAL (JUNE 1 - JUNE 15, 2020)



### INCIDENTS RELATED TO COVID 19

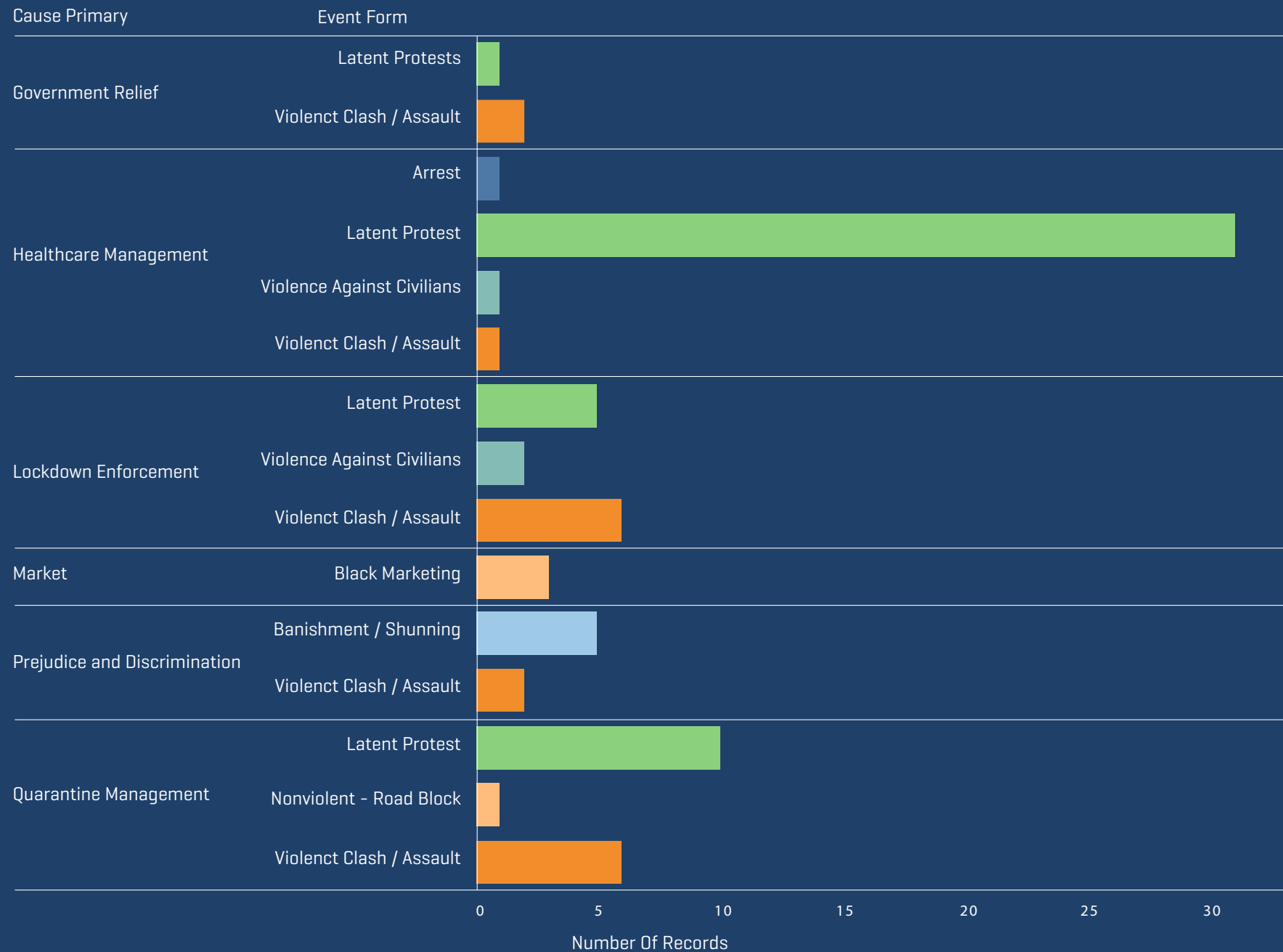
-  Clash/Fight/Assault
-  Black Marketing
-  Discrimination/Shunning

Disclaimer: This map shows incidents which were reported in the media and might not include all incidents around Covid-19 crisis across Nepal.

**FIG -1 INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 BY PROVINCE****INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 BY DISTRICT**



**FIG -2 INCIDENTS SURROUNDING COVID-19 [ JUNE 1 - JUNE 15, 2020 ]**



## ATTACKS ON HEALTH WORKERS

**JUNE  
1**

Three drunk locals attacked a senior assistant health worker of Dankot Health Post in Shikhar Municipality 9, Doti.<sup>1</sup> They attacked the health worker with stones saying that COVID-19 would also spread while walking on the way to the village.

**JUNE  
3**

A health worker was severely injured after being attacked at a quarantine center in Rajpur Municipality, Rautahat while trying to convince a person to undergo a test for COVID 19.<sup>2</sup> The locals involved in the incident also vandalized motorcycles of the health workers.

**JUNE  
10**

An assistant health worker who went to check on people in the quarantine was beaten at the center in Chatara Basic Health Service Center in Tribeni Municipality 1, Bajura.<sup>3</sup>

**JUNE  
10**

The locals did not allow an assistant health worker who had recovered from COVID-19 to enter their village in Jumla district.<sup>4</sup>

## INCIDENTS INVOLVING LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

**JUNE  
2**

Members of Dalit Musahar Community in Mahottari accused Mayor of Bhangaha Municipality of physically assaulting them when they demanded for relief.<sup>5</sup> According to the victims the mayor denied to support the ones who did not vote for him in the past election.

**JUNE  
3**

People in the quarantine center at Bhairabi Rural Municipality 4, Dailekh attacked the Chief Administrative Officer complaining about the poor management of the center.<sup>6</sup>

**JUNE  
8**

The occupants of quarantine at Dailekh's Dullu Municipality ward 11 assaulted the ward chairman at Bhairav Primary School. The people beat him complaining about the quality of the quarantine centers.<sup>7</sup>

**JUNE  
10**

Ward chairperson of Runtigadi Rural Municipality 9, assaulted a local daily wage earner with a sharp weapon while he came to the chairperson asking for relief.<sup>8</sup>

## PROTESTS RELATED TO THE LOCATION OF QUARANTINE AND LOW STANDARD OF QUARANTINE CENTERS

**JUNE  
1**

On June 1, people kept under quarantine in Laxmi Prasad Devkota Secondary School of Kanchankawal Rural Municipality, Jhapa protested demanding that they should be able to go home.<sup>9</sup> According to them, they were kept under quarantine even though others were discharged.

**JUNE  
1**

On June 1, locals protested against the construction of quarantine in primary schools near the residential area in Jumla.<sup>10</sup>

**JUNE  
3**

On June 3, locals protested against the construction of quarantine by Pakhribas Municipality of Dhankuta arguing that the Natural Resource Management College was assigned as a quarantine center without any consultation with the locals.<sup>11</sup>

**JUNE  
10**

On June 10, the locals of Annapurna Rural Municipality, Myagdi did not allow returnees from India to enter their village even though they stayed in quarantine for the necessary amount of time.<sup>12</sup>

**JUNE  
14**

On June 14, people in the quarantine center at Basanta Murai Higher Secondary School in Bardagoria Rural Municipality ward no 1, Kailali staged a protest against the failure of local representatives of the rural municipality in managing quarantine centers.<sup>13</sup>



## COVID-19 RELATED PROTESTS ACROSS NEPAL

In Nepal, a nationwide lockdown was imposed from March 24 after the second case of COVID-19 was confirmed. The government has come under fire for not doing enough as the number of positive cases increased day by day.

According to the Deputy Prime Minister, who is leading the COVID-19 response in the country, is committed to increase tests, boost medical services and improve the facilities in quarantine centers.<sup>14</sup> The government has spent about \$89 million to fight COVID-19 and has conducted around 3,10,000 tests and kept about 15,8000 people in quarantine centers.<sup>15</sup> The activists and protesters insist that this is not enough.

Following are the incidents of protests urging the government to do more to prevent the spread of COVID-19 especially through increase in PCR tests, well managed quarantine centers, demands to let businesses open and transparency in purchase of medical supplies to avoid any kind of corruption.

**JUNE  
1**

Entrepreneurs of Birgunj staged a demonstration demanding that they should be allowed to reopen their businesses.<sup>16</sup>

**JUNE  
2**

Locals staged a protest in front of the Kapilbastu district hospital in Taulihawa, Kapilbastu demanding authorities to set up a specific facility for COVID-19 within the hospital premises. The locals demanded 50 beds for the COVID-19 facility and an alternative for doctors to look after other patients beside those suffering from COVID-19.<sup>17</sup>

**JUNE  
2**

Around 30 people in Boudhanath, Kathmandu started to open their stores in protest claiming that their livelihood has been hit hard due to the continuous lockdown.<sup>18</sup> However, the police made them shut the stores immediately.

**JUNE  
3**

The traders of Kathmandu Municipality, Maitidevi protested demanding they should be allowed to open their businesses.<sup>19</sup> Following the protest, the ward chairman suggested the businessmen open their stores until 1 pm.

**JUNE  
3**

The locals padlocked Godawari Municipality, Kailali claiming that the local representatives at the ward distributed relief only to those who were close to their party and did not provide relief to the ones who were actually affected by the lockdown.<sup>20</sup>

**JUNE  
7**

Nepal Student Union (NSU) demonstrated against all three level of the government and expressed their dissatisfaction regarding the poor standard of the quarantine centers, need to increase of PCR test machine, rescue of Nepalese stranded abroad especially at the borders and the gulf and the need to increase delivery of relief materials.<sup>21</sup>

**JUNE  
9**

A group of youths including social activists and entrepreneurs staged a demonstration in front of the Prime Minister's Official Residence in Baluwatar, Kathmandu demanding the government not to use the rapid diagnostic test (RDT) for COVID-19 questioning its reliability.<sup>22</sup> They demanded that the government use polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests instead. Police used force to disperse the crowd.

**JUNE  
10**

Some youths staged a demonstration in front of the office of the chief minister and the office of the cabinet in Dhangadi expressing their frustration with the management of quarantines, testing through RDT and lack of seriousness from the government in preventing COVID-19.<sup>23</sup>

**JUNE  
10**

Traders of New Road, Kathmandu staged a demonstration demanding the government to loosen the lockdown and allow them to open their shops and businesses safely.<sup>24</sup>

**JUNE  
10**

People kept in the quarantine center of Ghodaghodi Municipality of Kailali organized a protest against the poor quality of the center and delay in the PCR test. The protestors blocked the road at the East-West highway.<sup>25</sup>

**JUNE  
10**

Youth staged a demonstration in front of the office of the chief minister and the office cabinet in Dhangadi expressing their frustration with the management of quarantine centers and lack of seriousness from the government's side to prevent the spread of COVID-19.<sup>26</sup>

**JUNE  
11**

Locals of Pheta Rural Municipality 1, in Bara staged a demonstration demanding increase in PCR tests in the district.<sup>27</sup>

**JUNE  
11**

Cadres of the Nepal Congress [NC] staged a sit-in in Jaleshwar of Mahotari district accusing the government of failing to manage the crisis surrounding COVID-19 in Nepal.<sup>28</sup>

**JUNE  
11**

The police used a water cannon and lobbed tear gas at a peaceful protest organized in Kathmandu against the government's inefficient response to prevent the spread of COVID-19.<sup>29</sup> The protestor demanded that the government need to improve the conditions in the quarantine centers, increase the use of PCR test and make the budget separated for COVID-19 transparent.

**JUNE  
11**

Youths in Biratnagar, staged a protest against the government regarding the inefficiency to prevent the spread of COVID-19.<sup>30</sup>

**JUNE  
12**

Youth assembled in Basantapur, Kathmandu to protest against the inefficient management from the government for the prevention of spread of COVID-19.<sup>31</sup> The protest was organized despite the notice from the home ministry not to organize any kind of protest during the lockdown.

**JUNE  
12**

Youths who had been protesting against the government through social media organized a peaceful protest in Tulsi Chowk in Ghorahi of Dang.<sup>32</sup> The protest was organized to urge the government to control corruption and increase COVID-19 tests.

**JUNE  
12**

Youths staged a peaceful protest under the slogan “physical distance, peaceful protest” in Butwal against the government’s inefficient effort in controlling the COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal and incidents of corruption while procuring medical equipment.<sup>33</sup>

**JUNE  
12**

Youths of Dhulikhel and Panauti staged a demonstration protesting against the government’s inefficient response to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and misuse of state funds in the name of controlling the pandemic.<sup>34</sup>

**JUNE  
13**

Youths staged a protest in Birtamod, Jhapa demanding transparency on government expenses regarding the measures taken to prevent COVID-19 and demanded to increase PCR tests.<sup>35</sup>

**JUNE  
13**

Youths staged a peaceful protest against the incompetence of the government in dealing with COVID-19 crisis in Maitighar, Kathmandu.<sup>36</sup>

**JUNE  
13**

The locals of Nawadurga Municipality 1 picketed the ward office over the release of people from quarantine before their PCR test results were out.<sup>37</sup>

**JUNE  
14**

Youths organized a protest in Birendranagar, Surkhet demanding the government to discontinue Rapid Diagnostic Test (RDT) and increase PCR test against COVID-19.<sup>38</sup> They also protested against COVID-19 test being conducted only after a patient’s death.

**JUNE  
15**

The locals of Ghorai Sub- Municipality 17, Chaughera, Dang organized a protest in front of the ward office against its decision to discharge people in the quarantine even before receiving their polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test reports.<sup>39</sup> Out of the discharged, 17 people tested positive for COVID 19.





## INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE SECURITY PERSONNEL

**JUNE  
4**

Police assaulted businessmen in Janakpur for opening their store at the time of lockdown.<sup>40</sup> The Janakpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry condemned the attack and demanded strict action against the ones involved.

**JUNE  
4**

A businessman punched a policeman while he was asked to close down his store during the lockdown in Janakpur.<sup>41</sup> The accused was arrested immediately.

**JUNE  
7**

Six armed police force (APF) personnels were injured in a clash with Indian citizens in Pratappur Rural Municipality, Nawalparasi after they stopped a woman carrying chemical fertilizer from entering Nepal. About 150 Indian nationals attacked the APF. The police had to fire four rounds of bullets to control the situation.<sup>42</sup>

**JUNE  
8**

The vice president of Dailekh branch of National Dalit Journalists Association who was on his way back home after getting some groceries was beaten by the police in Narayan Municipality 6 for violating the lockdown.<sup>43</sup>

**JUNE  
12**

In a clash between the Armed Police Force (APF) and some Indians tried to snatch a gun from the APF personnel in Sarlahi while trying to enter Nepal leaving one shot dead and three APF personnel injured.<sup>44</sup>

**JUNE  
14**

Four people were injured at an isolation ward in Tribhuvan Higher Secondary School at Narayan Municipality in Dailekh.<sup>45</sup> The clash began after the issue of PCR and RDT positive people were kept at the same place without proper arrangement. The police tried to take the situation under control by using force after the protesters in the ward tried to go home.

**JUNE  
13**

Police fired 14 rounds of tear gas and two rounds of bullets in the air after people in the quarantine attacked police from preventing them from meeting their relatives in Rajpur Municipality in Rautahat.<sup>46</sup>



## BLACK MARKETING OF GOODS AT THE TIME OF PANDEMIC

**JUNE  
2**

On June 2, the Department of Commerce, Supplies and Consumer Protection fined Rs 200,000 on KK Super Mart for selling alcohol at prices higher than the actual price.<sup>47</sup>

**JUNE  
4**

On June 4, the joint market monitoring team led by District Administration Office, Banke imposed a fine of Rs. 200,000 to Global Scientific Corporation and Rs. 60,000 to Nepalgunj Surgical on the charge of black marketing of K-N95 mask, personal protection equipment and infrared thermometers.<sup>48</sup>

**JUNE  
12**

On June 12, police arrested three people from Putalibazar Municipality 3 of Syangja on the charge of black marketing petrol at the time of crisis.<sup>49</sup>

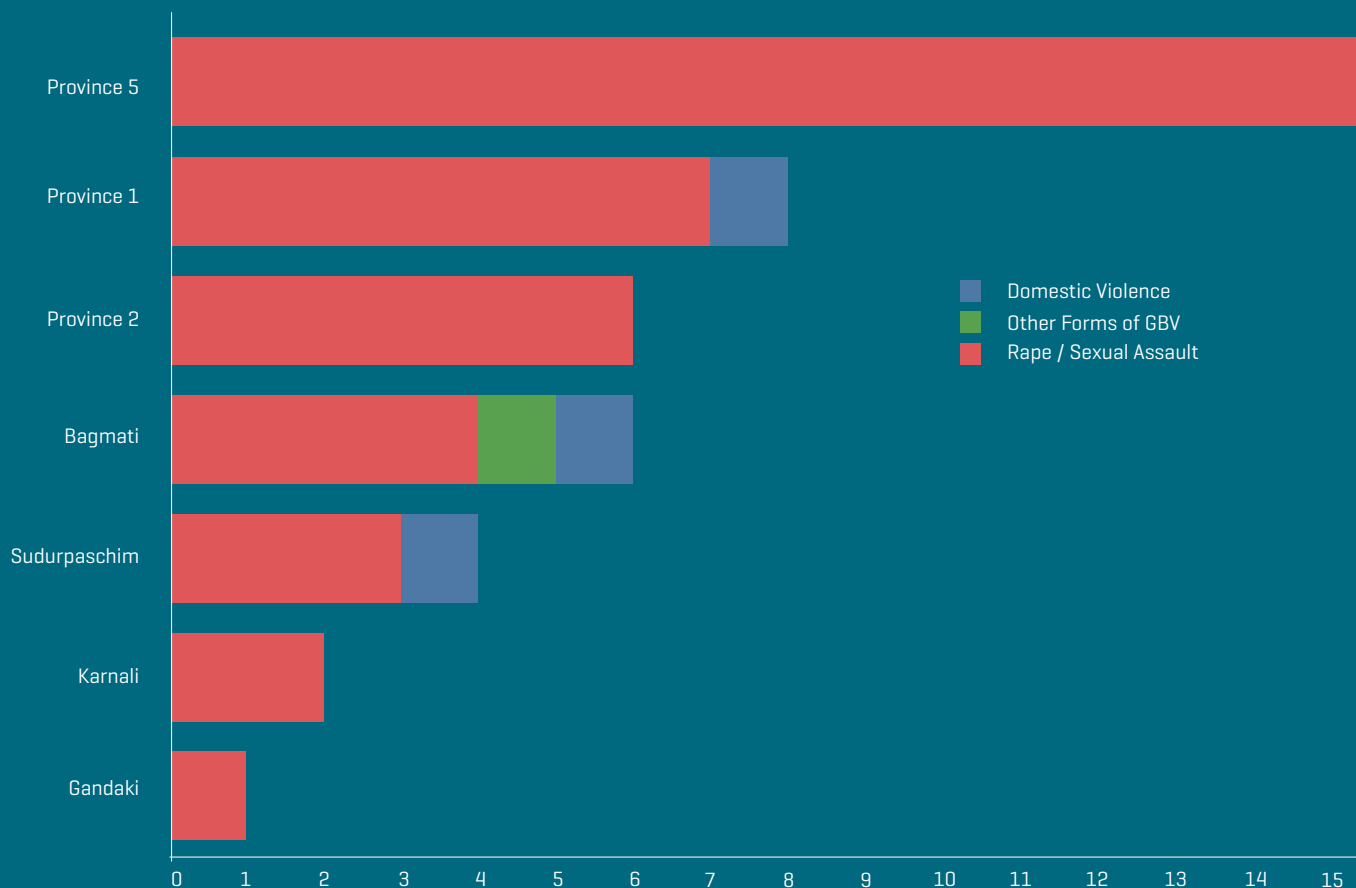


## GENDER BASED VIOLENCE: A CRISIS IN NEPAL

The nationwide lockdown in Nepal since March 24, has further made women and girls living with abusers more vulnerable. The lockdown and social isolation has disconnected the victims from the support services. The PMP has recorded 44 cases of GBV in the past fifteen days of which 35 were cases of rape in which 29 victims were below the age of 26 [See fig 3].

The incident of gang rape of a woman by three volunteers living in a quarantine center on June 13 in Shahid Smriti Secondary School in Kailali was a shocking news which raised concerns regarding the safety of women and girls during the pandemic.<sup>50</sup> Following the incidents locals blocked the Lamki road section of East-West Highway protested against the heinous crime.<sup>51</sup>

**FIG -3 REPORTED INCIDENTS OF GBV BY PROVINCE**



## ENDNOTE

- 1 See: Health Worker Attacked in Doti
- 2 See: Health Personnel Critically Injured After Being Attacked in Rautahat
- 3 See: Assistant Health Worker Attacked In Bajura
- 4 See: Corona-Recovered Assistant Health Worker Barred from Entering Village in Jumla
- 5 See: Dalit People Assaulted By Mayor in Mahotari While Seeking Relief
- 6 See: Chief Administrative Officer Attacked in Dailekh
- 7 See: Ward Chairperson Assaulted in Quarantine in Dailekh
- 8 See: Ward Chairperson in Rolpa Assaults Relief Seeking Local
- 9 See: People in Quarantine of Kanchankawal Agitated Demanding to go Home
- 10 See: Locals Obstruct Construction of Quarantine in Jumla
- 11 See: Dispute Between Pakhribas Municipality And Locals Over Quarantine
- 12 See: People Who Stayed In Quarantine Restricted From Entering Village in Myagdi
- 13 See: People in Quarantine Agitated Against Poor Management of Quarantine in Kailali
- 14 See: Hundreds Protest Against Nepal's Coronavirus Reponse; 7 Foreigners Arrested
- 15 Ibid
- 16 See: Entrepreneurs Stage Demonstration in Birgunj Demanding Businesses to be Allowed to Open
- 17 See: Locals Protest in Kapilbastu Demanding COVID-19 Specific Hospital
- 18 See: Shopkeepers At Boudhanath Protest By Opening Shops
- 19 See: Ward Chairperson Supports Traders After Protests In Maitidevi, Kathmandu
- 20 See: Ward Office Padlocked In kailali Over Relief Package
- 21 See: NSU Protests Against Three Levels of Government in Mahottari
- 22 See: Massive Protest In Capital, Police Use Force
- 23 See: Demonstration in Dhangadi Citing The Lack of Seriousness From The Government
- 24 See: Traders of New Road Staged Demonstration in Kathmandu to Loosen Up Lockdown
- 25 See: East - West Highway Blocked By People in Quarantine In Kailali
- 26 See: Demonstration in Dhangadi Citing the Lack of Seriousness from the Government
- 27 See: Demonstration in Bara Demanding One PCR Test Per Home
- 28 See: Congress Stage Sit-in Against Government in Jaleswor
- 29 See: Police Used Tear Gas, Water Cannons to Disperse Protesters
- 30 See: Anti Government Protests in Biratnagar Against Government's Efforts to Control COVID-19
- 31 See: Youths Protests in Basantapur Despite Orders from Home Ministry
- 32 See: Peaceful Demonstration Against Government in Dang
- 33 See: Youths Stage Protest Against Government in Butwal

- 34 See: Youths Demonstrate Against Government in Kabhrepalanchowk
- 35 See: Youths Stage Demonstration in Birtamod
- 36 See: Protesters Continue With Peaceful Demonstrations at Maitighar Mandaal, Say Enough is Enough
- 37 See: Ward Office Picketed in Dadheldhura Over Healthcare Management
- 38 See: Demonstration In Surkhet Demanding PCR Test
- 39 See: 17 Sent From Quarantine Tested Positive; Locals Picket The Ward Office in Ghorahi
- 40 See: Police Assaults Businessmen For Opening Shop in Janakpurdham
- 41 See: Sub-Inspector Punched While On Duty To Enforce Lockdown in Janakpur
- 42 See: Six APF Cops Injured in Clash With Indian Citizens
- 43 See: Police Baton Charge Man Shopper in Dailekh
- 44 See: One Killed as APF Opens Fire After Indian Nationals Try to Enter Nepal
- 45 See: Four at Isolation Ward in Dailekh Hurt in Clash With Police
- 46 See: Police Fire Tear Gas Shots to Control Quarantined People
- 47 See: KK Mart And Dhanwantari Traders Fined For Surcharging Customers
- 48 See: Medical Suppliers Fined for Blackmarketing
- 49 See: Police Arrests 3 on the Charge of Black Marketing Petrol in Syangja
- 50 See: Woman in Quarantine in Kailali Gang Raped
- 51 See: Dhangadi Locals Block Highway demanding Fair Probe Into Quarantine Gang Rape Case

The PMP gathered data on violent and latent incidents past 15 days of the lockdown period by compiling reports from all major online news portals, national dailies, local newspapers from 20 districts, and incidents reports directly submitted to us. The goal of the report is to deliver an update and understanding of the incidents surrounding the pandemic of Coronavirus to better respond to the situation and to promote peace. The numbers recorded in this report are based on the reports mapped by Nepalmonitor.org.

