

MEDIA in Bagmati Province



Office of the Communication Registrar
Bagmati Province, Nepal

SUMMARY

The importance of mass media and journalism has increased further after Nepal adopted a federal setup. Both importance and responsibility of mass media have increased to address opportunities and challenges emanating from the transformation of a centralized form of governance to the provincial form. On one hand, there is a challenge of implementing federalism and, on the other, the development of information technology at a faster pace has brought about changes in forms and styles of journalism. In this digital era, no mass media is confined to a geographical area. While it has brought opportunities, it has also added challenges.

In the course of implementing federalism, we have seen new issues in the protection and preservation of the right to freedom and the right to information guaranteed by the constitution. In light of this, the Bagmati Provincial Assembly has already approved Act Related to Management of Provincial Mass Media, 2018. A regulation to implement this act has also been issued subsequently. The Provincial Press Registrar Office established under these laws has been organizing different activities.

Professional skills of journalists, mass media economy, market, issues related to social media, journalist education, and lack of factual information about the situation of mass communication in Bagmati Province are some of the issues affecting these activities. This study has been carried out to address these issues to some extent, which has answered some of the unanswered questions. Bagmati Province, which also includes the federal capital

Kathmandu, has a comparatively higher density of mass media. This is why this study reflects the situation of mass media throughout the country.

The main objective of the study is to understand the overall situation of mass media and journalism in Bagmati Province. The study conducted by the Office of Press Registrar, Bagmati Province, has the following objectives:

1. To get information about the presence of mass media and people's access to these media in Bagmati Province.
2. To study the operation of mass media, like: investment and ownership modality, advertisement market, need for public welfare advertisement, and get information about the overall media economy.
3. To study the availability, skill, training, education, and security of human resources involved in the media sector, and to get information about the implementation of letter of appointment and minimum pay, among other provisions related to human resources.
4. To study the impact of the policy of the federal government in the operation of mass media, as well as other policy issues related to impacts of the law brought by the provincial government in the press sector.

The study covers all 13 districts of Bagmati Province and includes both qualitative and quantitative data. Research assistants were mobilized in all the districts to collect authentic data. Both primary and secondary data have been used in this study.

This study portrays an encouraging scenario in the media sector of Bagmati Province in terms of registration of mass media, access to mass media, and availability of human resources. About 66% of newspapers, radio, television stations, and online news portals in operation in the country are registered in Bagmati Province. About half of the country's television stations are in Bagmati Province, while some three-fourth of online portals, which are considered new media, are in this province.

In Bagmati Province also, we can see different scenarios when we study

Kathmandu Valley and the other 10 districts separately. The presence of mass media seems to have reached its saturation point in Kathmandu Valley. About 62% of families in the valley have access to at least one media. In comparison, only 38% of the families in the remaining 10 districts have access to media.

In terms of human resources, about half of the total journalists in the country are practicing journalism in Bagmati Province. About 48% of the total members of the Federation of Nepalese Journalists are in Bagmati Province. The presence of women journalists is also comparatively higher in this province. The presence of journalists in Kathmandu Valley is four times higher than in the remaining 10 districts of the province.

Likewise, 66% of the total newspapers registered in the country are in Bagmati Province. However, registration of newspapers is at a slower pace compared to online news portals which are growing at a higher pace in recent times. Of the total online news portals registered in Bagmati Province, an overwhelming 92.5% are in Kathmandu Valley while the remaining 7.5% is in the remaining 10 districts.

Of the total 169 television licenses issued across the country at the end of 2076 BS, 83% are in Kathmandu Valley. Data shows, a single company has received permission to operate 12 television stations. Likewise, of the total 891 radio licenses issued across the country, 202 are in Bagmati Province. And, 36% of them are in three districts of Kathmandu Valley.

Though the density of mass media is high in Bagmati Province, media houses haven't implemented the minimum wage fixed by the Minimum Wage Determination Committee as well as other laws related to working journalists. The tendency of media owners to divulge details on the issue still exists.

Amendment has been made to National Broadcasting Act to define jurisdictions of federal, provincial, and local units. However, the

correspondence and licensing process are still tedious. This is disappointing for the community and investors interested to start a radio station. Despite this, the race to open new media outlets is on.

The study finds that though there has been quantitative development in the field of mass media, there are different challenges in the sustainability of mass media. The main reason behind this is the lack of financial and human resources. Issues of public welfare advertisement and its proportional distribution are being raised lately. Many complain that the distribution mechanism of public welfare advertisement is not transparent.

Investment and ownership issues hold great significance in the sustainability of mass media. One needs a proper planning to run a media organization as an enterprise, and a budget to implement the planning. But, there is a lack of transparency in regards to investment in media.

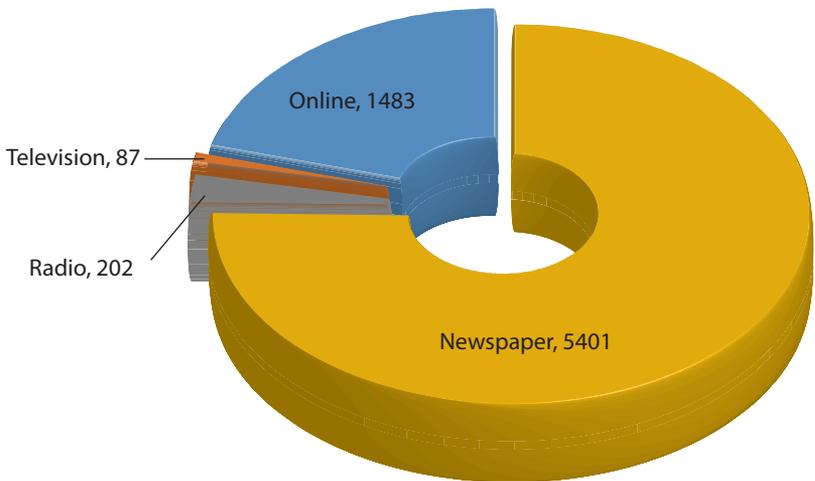
Information dissemination at present is comparatively urban-centric. People's representatives and administrative machinery need to put maximum efforts to change it and create an environment for the flow of information from village areas to policymakers in urban areas.

Along with this, there is a need to make necessary efforts to relay information about the situation of mass media in this province and transform the province's media sphere. For this, the study has made necessary suggestions and recommendations on issues like policy study and execution, investment in media, electronic mass media, human resources development, information dissemination, the security of journalists, and media literacy.

DATA DISPLAY

Status of Media registration in National level and Bagmati province

Newspaper		Radio		Television		Online	
National	Bagmati	National	Bagmati	National	Bagmati	National	Bagmati
7768	5401	891	202	168	87	2065	1483
100%	70%	100%	23%	100%	52%	100%	72%



Source : Communication Registrar's Office (CRO), District Administration Office (DAO) and Press Council Nepal (PCN)

Newspaper registration in Bagmati province (2074/2075 B.S.)

District	Daily	Bi-weekly	Weekly	Fort-nightly	Monthly	Bi-monthly	Tri-monthly	Quarterly	Half yearly	Yearly	Total
Kathmandu	186	5	1078	270	1699	270	400	26	59	66	4059
Kabhre	3	0	42	4	21	2	5	0	0	0	77
Chitawan	19	3	86	6	28	7	19	2	4	1	175
Dolakha	1	0	9	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	15
Dhading	3	0	14	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	18
Nuwakot	3	0	17	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	24
Bhaktapur	6	0	44	1	31	4	12	0	2	3	103
Makawanpur	16	0	85	6	17	1	11	1	1	0	138
Rasuwa	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
Ramechhap	0	0	9	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	13
Lalitpur	18	1	104	17	149	25	50	3	4	6	377
Sindhupalchok	1	0	30	3	26	2	6	1	1	0	70
Sindhuli	9	0	21	0	6	1	1	0	0	0	39
Total	265	9	1540	310	1986	313	508	66	71	76	5111

Source : Department of Information and Broadcasting (DoIB)

At least one facility among Television, Mobile, Cable Television and Radio

Districts	No. of Family	Radio	TV	Cable TV	Inter-net	Mobile
Kathmandu	435544	244554	325621	284890	84354	395183
Kabhre	80651	46037	41295	9181	1648	53834
Chitawan	132345	84824	71052	53368	9533	105636
Dolakha	45658	33257	9692	3421	238	2418
Dhading	73842	47165	16686	7163	526	46895
Nuwakot	59194	35276	18191	5234	443	35583
Bhaktapur	68557	38520	56780	37578	8964	59588
Makawanpur	86045	51358	33151	22843	2037	57427
Rasuwa	9741	5085	2271	1336	83	5464
Ramechhap	43883	29115	5573	1340	111	22006
Lalitpur	109505	62852	72539	60745	17895	94440
Sindhupalchok	66635	34649	22599	4580	395	39543
Sindhuli	57544	30933	10472	5163	236	26007
Total	1170144	743625	685922	496842	126463	944024
Percentage		63.54	58.61	42.45	10.80	80.67

Source : National Census, 2011

At least one facility among Television, Mobile, Cable Television and Radio (In percentage)

District	Radio	TV	Cable TV	Inter-net	Mobile	Total	%
Kathmandu	345,923	454,940	383,213	111,213	549,213	1,844,503	61.55
Other 10 District	397,699	230,982	133,629	15,250	394,813	1,152,373	38.45

Source : National Census, 2011

Access to Radio, Television, Mobile, Cable Television and Internet

Media Facility	Family percentage		
	Nepal	Urban	Rural
Radio	50.82	53.56	50.17
Television	36.45	60.67	30.66
Mobile	64.33	84.07	59.97
Cable Television	19.33	53.80	11.10
Internet	3.33	12.11	3.72

Source : National Census, 2011

At least one facility among Television, Mobile, Cable Television and Radio (In percentage)

Districts	No. of Family	Radio	TV	Cable TV	Inter-net	Mobile
Kathmandu	435544	56.15	74.77	65.42	19.37	90.74
Kabhre	80651	57.09	51.21	11.39	2.05	66.75
Chitawan	132345	64.1	53.69	40.33	7.21	79.82
Dolakha	45658	72.84	21.23	7.5	0.53	5.3
Dhading	73842	63.88	22.6	9.71	0.72	63.51
Nuwakot	59194	59.6	30.74	8.85	0.75	60.12
Bhaktapur	68557	56.19	82.83	54.82	13.08	86.92
Makawanpur	86045	59.69	38.53	26.55	2.37	66.75
Rasuwa	9741	52.21	23.32	13.72	0.86	56.1
Ramechhap	43883	66.35	12.7	3.06	0.26	50.15
Lalitpur	109505	57.4	66.25	55.48	16.35	86.25
Sindhupalchok	66635	52	33.92	6.88	0.6	59.35
Sindhuli	57544	53.76	18.2	8.98	0.42	45.2
Total	1170144	63.55	58.62	42.46	10.81	80.68

Source : National Census, 2011

Member of Federation of Nepali Journalists

Province	No. of Member	Male	Female
Province 1	1434	1147	287
Province 2	850	739	111
Gandaki	974	761	186
Province 5	1761	1431	330
Karnali	804	691	113
Sudoorpaschim	996	876	120
Total	6792	5645	1147
Percentage	52	53	49
Bagmati	1284	1004	280
Kathmandu Valley (Province 8)	2083	1673	410
Corporate (Province 9)	2111	1694	417
Associate (Province 10)	746	646	100
Total	6224	5017	1207
Percentage	48	47	51
Grand total	13,013	10,662	2354
Total Percentage	100	100	100

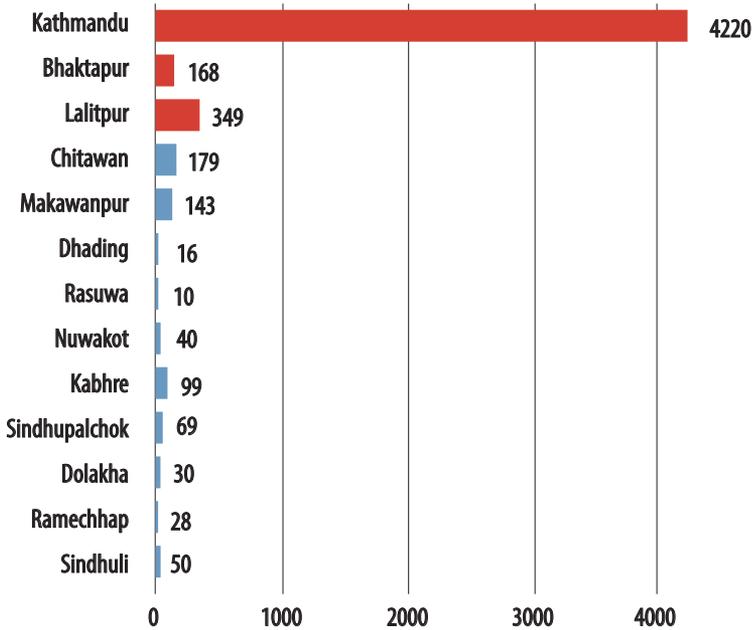
Source : FNJ, 2020

Incidents of Press freedom violation in Bagmati province

Types of Incidents	Nation wide data	Bagmati (Number)	Bagmati (Percentage)
Arrest	8	4	50
Capture/Obstruction	3	2	66.67
Attack	16	4	30.77
Misbehave/Threat	32	13	40.63
Displacement	1	-	0
Professional Insecurity	2	1	50
Policy Restriction	1	1	100
Total Incidents	60	24	40

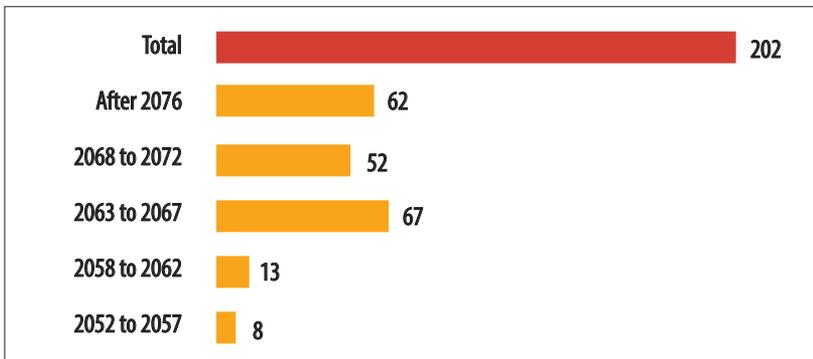
Source : FNJ, 2020

Status of Newspaper registration



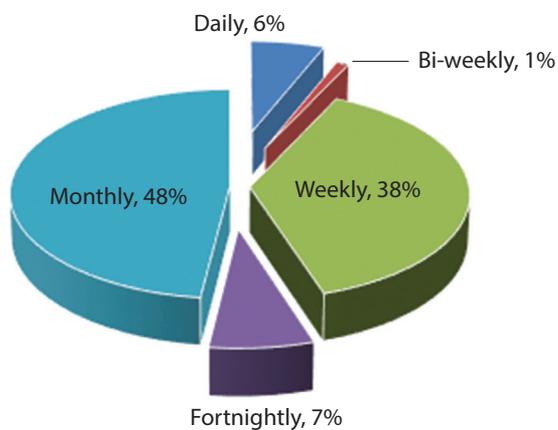
Source : Based on DAOs record, 2020

At least one facility among Television, Mobile, Cable Television and Radio (In percentage)



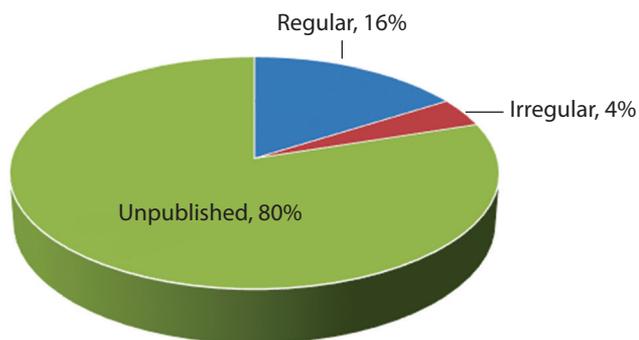
Source : National Census, 2011

Types of Print Media



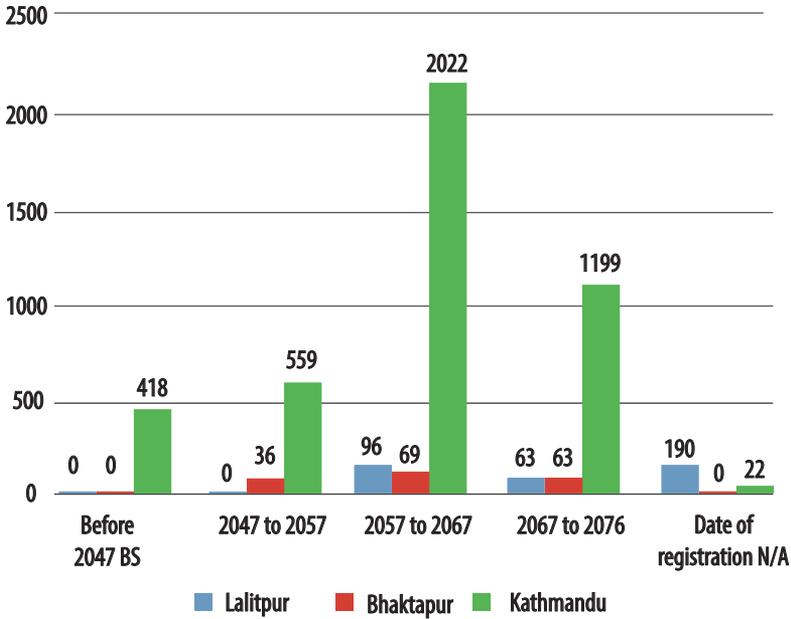
Source : DoIB for Kathmandu Valley and DAOs for other districts, 2020

Regularity of Newspapers in Bagmati province



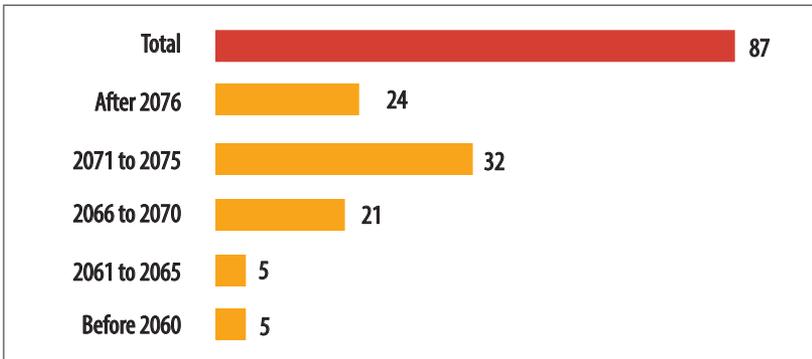
Source : PCN annual report, 2075/2076

Yearly Data of Newspaper publication in Kathmandu Valley



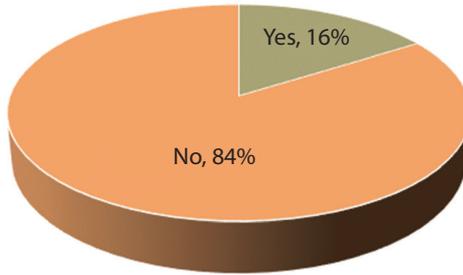
Source : Based on DAOs record, 2020

Status of Newspaper registration



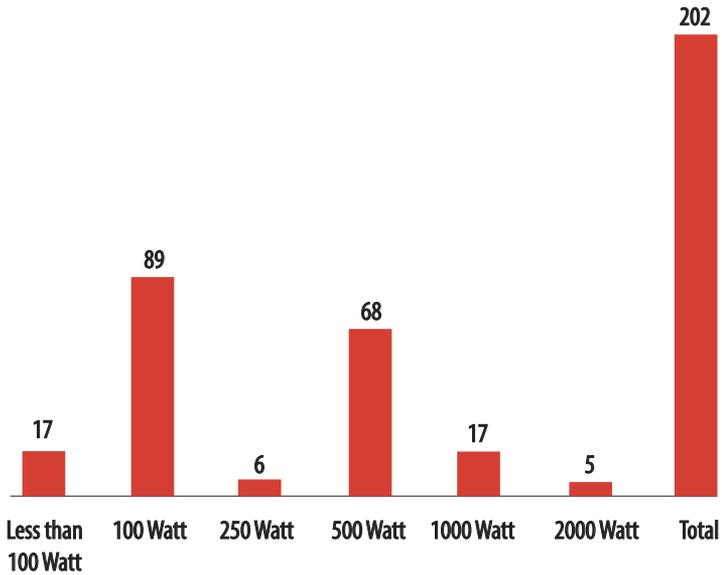
Source : Based on DAOs record, 2020

Regularity of Newspapers out of Kathmandu Valley



Source : Data collected by Research Assistants, 2020

Capacity of FM Radios



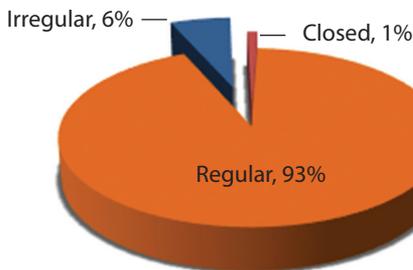
Source : Research Assistants, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MoCIT), CRO, 2020

Status of Online Media in Bagmati province

District	Number	Percentage
Kathmandu	1222	82.4
Kabhre	12	0.8
Chitawan	34	2.3
Dolakha	-	-
Dhading	11	2
Nuwakot	12	0.8
Bhaktapur	48	3.2
Makawanpur	23	1.6
Rasuwa	1	0.1
Ramechhap	3	0.2
Lalitpur	103	6.9
Sindhupalchok	8	0.5
Sindhuli	6	0.4
Total	1483	100

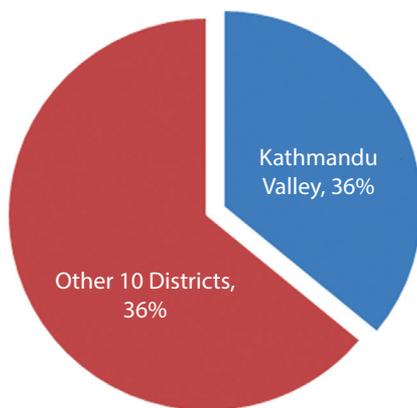
Source : Press Council Nepal, 2020

Regularity of FM Radios in Bagmati province



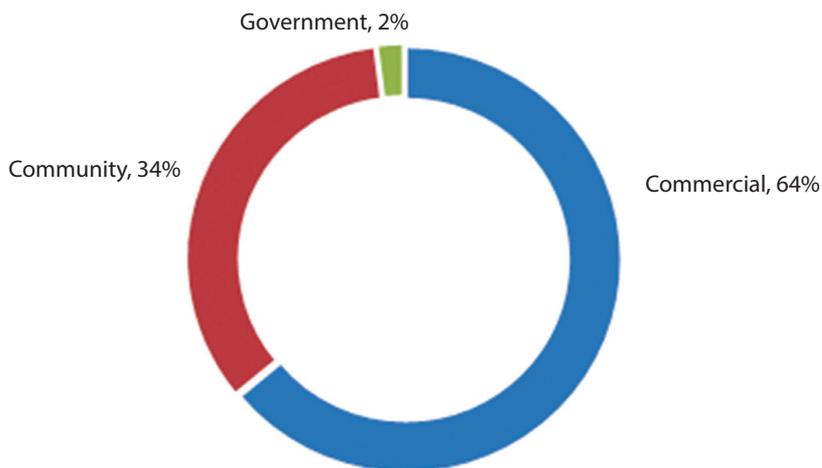
Source : Research Assistants, Broadcasting Association Nepal (BAN), Association of Community Radio Broadcasters Nepal (ACORAB), 2020

Status of FM Radios registration in Kathmandu Valley and other 10 districts in Bagmati province



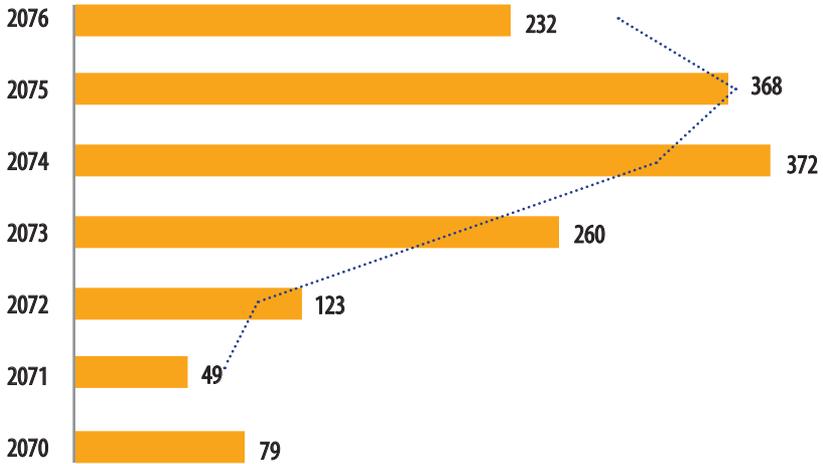
Source : Research Assistants, DoIB, CRO Bagmati, 2020

Types of ownership of FM Radios



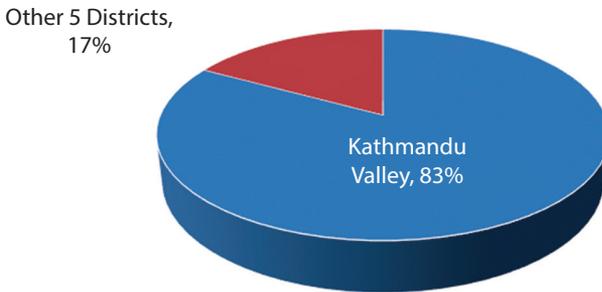
Source : Research Assistants, BAN, ACORAB, 2020

Year wise enlisting of online media



Source : Press Council Nepal, 2020

Status of television registration in Kathmandu Valley and other districts in Bagmati province



Source : MoCIT and CRO Bagmati, 2020

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Bagmati Province, which is home to the federal capital Kathmandu Valley, has the highest concentration of media as well as access to media. According to the National Census, 2011, at least 64% of the families in the province have access to mass media. In terms of access, the concentration of mass media of newspapers, radio, television and online media is very high in this province. The presence of media is comparatively very low in other provinces.

CONCLUSION

Bagmati Province is rich in terms of registration of mass media, access to media, and available human resources. This is derived after analyzing different indices used to gauge the situation of mass media like human resources, types of media like print, broadcasting and online media, and access to media, among others. The main center of the centralized federal government is Kathmandu Valley, and the comparative analysis of national statistics also shows that Bagmati Province is ahead of other provinces in terms of the presence of mass media and access to mass media.

About 66% of newspapers, radio, television, and online news portals in operation are in Bagmati Province. Almost half of the country's television stations are in Bagmati Province, while nearly three-fourth of online news portals of the country are in this province.

While comparing Kathmandu Valley and the other 10 districts of the province, we find that 62% of families in Kathmandu Valley have access to at least one mass media. It is 38% in the other 10 districts. About 97% of the population of Bagmati Province owns at least one mobile phone. Similarly, 53% of the population in the province watch television daily. The majority of the population of the province take television as the primary and dependable source for national and international news.

In terms of human resources, nearly half of the total journalists in the country are based in Bagmati Province. About 38% of members of the Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ) are based in this province. The number of journalists in Kathmandu Valley is nearly four times the journalists based in the remaining 10 districts of the province. Though the number of FNJ members is encouraging, the number of active journalists is comparatively low. But, it is not easy to enumerate the number of active journalists. Also, many active journalists have not taken FNJ membership.

Of 7,908 newspapers registered across the country, 5,111 are in Bagmati Province. Likewise, of the 5,111 newspapers in Bagmati Province, 4,737 are in Kathmandu Valley and the remaining 664 in the other 10 districts of the province. Data shows 4,059 newspapers are registered in Kathmandu district alone. This is nearly half of the total newspapers registered across the country. This is about 89% of total newspapers registered in Bagmati Province, and 57% of total newspapers across the country.

Weeklies seem to be the main attraction among newspapers. A majority of newspapers were registered between 2001 and 2010. However, 84% of the registered newspapers aren't printing regularly. Registration of new newspapers seem to be on a decline in recent times, but registration of online news portals is on the rise. Nearly 92.5% of news portals registered in Bagmati Province are in Kathmandu Valley.

In terms of radio stations, nearly 36% of radio stations registered in Bagmati Province are in Kathmandu Valley. The remaining 64% are in the other 10 districts of the province. Most of the radio stations in this province were registered between 2006 and 2010. In terms of capacity, 89 radio stations have a transmitter of 100 watts' capacity, while 68 have a transmitter of 500 watts. Likewise, 17 radio stations are having a capacity of 1,000 watts and five have 2,000 watts' capacity.

Of the 87 television stations registered in Bagmati Province by the end of 2019, 83% are registered in Kathmandu Valley. Sindhuli, Ramechhap, Dolakha, Sindhupalchowk, and Rasuwa districts of the province are yet to see registration of television station. A company received permission to operate 12 television stations over the past year.

A total of 1,483 online news portals have been registered in Bagmati Province. Of them, 1,222, or 92.5%, are registered in Kathmandu Valley.

Despite the high density of mass media, mass media here are slow in the implementation of the minimum wage as well as other laws related to working journalists. Media owners are still hesitating to divulge further details on it. At a time when journalists are not getting even the minimum wage, it is becoming challenging for mass media to retain their human resources, attract new people, and impart the necessary skills to them.

Though Some Nepal Laws (Amendment and Revalidation) Act has made amendments to National Broadcasting Act, stipulating jurisdictions for the federal and provincial government and local units, the correspondence and licensing process are still complex and tedious. This is happening because the federal government is not believing that the provincial government and local units can also recruit a skilled workforce.

If the proportionate advertisement distribution system is implemented, there will be a proportionate distribution of advertisements and information to be provided by the provincial government and local units. It would help local and regional media to be strong financially. Newspapers that are not qualified for Press Council Nepal classification can't benefit from the proportionate advertisement distribution system. As the advertisement provided by the government is necessary for newspapers, the quality development of the newspaper is also equally necessary. Many are also criticizing the system saying that it is not transparent.

Human resources play a significant role in the sustainability of mass media. But as media houses fail to retain qualified human resources and continue to run media somehow with the help of recruits, questions are being raised on their credibility. In the course of the study, it was found that online news media mainly were creating confusion. Likewise, partisan media, and qualification, character, and commitment of people involved are also found affecting mass media credibility. However, people seem to have believed media content disseminated by mass media without any bias.

Though Nepali journalism is becoming professional, journalists do not seem to be assured about journalism being a sustainable source of livelihood. Most of the journalists are not strong financially. This the most difficult challenge for journalists to stay in this profession.

The investment with an entrepreneurial commitment to developing professional skills is very low in the mass communication sector. This is why investors are not getting desired while their newspapers, radio, and online media are operating somehow. Mass media running with small investments are generally of self-employment type. 'Professional purification' and proper management of advertisement could help in the sustainability of local mass media. The legal provision of providing advertisements worth a certain amount of rupees in national newspapers as per the Public Procurement Act has also made things difficult for local media.

Though efforts are being made to develop the Office of Press Registrar as an autonomous entity, it seems that it is not allowed to exercise autonomy in practice. If necessary legal and practical changes are made, the media fraternity of the province feels that the Office of Press Registrar can play an effective role in the development of mass media.

It is necessary to publish and broadcast news and information about village areas. Follow up reporting of news disseminated from village areas seldom happens. Local units also do not feel it necessary to take journalists to villages. Some information from villages promptly reaches urban areas thanks to the availability of the Internet and social media, but journalists hesitate to travel to villages to get in-depth stories related to that information.

Journalists facing physical insecurity from security agencies, local representatives, and government staffers, among others, while doing their job have become a serious issue. Many journalists are forced to practice self-censorship after getting life threats. Such a situation is a serious challenge to freedom of the press. The environment, where journalists can be assured of their safety and secured, is still to be created.

Though the federal government has unveiled plans to open the National Mass Communication Training Academy, the plan is yet to materialize. Also, educational institutions under universities have not been able to pay proper attention to the need for training. This has dampened the prospect of professional development in the field of journalism.

The skillful management of media houses is necessary to retain human resources in the newsroom. For that, people in the management need to know about media management. Media managers and other institutions affiliated to them play an effective role in the development and prosperity of mass media. The role and relation of other stakeholders are also important. These stakeholders need to play an effective role in

the professional development and management of mass media from their sides. Though media houses are somehow hiring skilled human resources, they have been failing to provide them justifiable wages and other facilities. As a result, skilled human resources do not stick to their employers for long and ultimately leave the profession.

Media houses need to be made accountable to ensure the financial security of journalists by providing them with appointment letter and minimum wage as per the existing law. To disseminate a message that journalism is a secured profession, voices are being raised that stringers working for more than five years be appointed as reporters drawing a regular salary and those above 60, who have completed a minimum of 20 years in journalism, be provided with a relief package for their livelihood. Such provisions guarantee social security for journalists. The pension program as provisioned in the Journalists Welfare Fund as per Article 54 of the Provincial Communication Media Management Act, 2018, is a step in this direction.

SUGGESTIONS

After presenting the study on the situation of communication media in Bagmati Province and its conclusion, the following suggestions have been made on policy study and execution, investment in media, distribution of government advertisement, management of electronic media, human resource development, information dissemination, safety and security of journalists and media literacy, among other issues:

Policy Study and Implementation

- In line with the norms of the federal governance system, it will be necessary to make decisions based upon of a study conducted by involving different stakeholders on whether the distribution of journalist accreditation card, distribution of public welfare

advertisement, and registration, classification and monitoring of mass media can be done at the provincial level. The law and policy need to be revised accordingly.

- For enhancing the quality of journalism and contribute to the professional development of journalism at the provincial level, it is necessary to study the situation of implementation of laws related to information and mass communication as per the National Mass Communication Policy and make needful revision.
- Though the existing National Communication Policy states that community communication centers will be established by involving the local community to increase people's access to information and communication, and establishment and operation of community communication media will be encouraged, it does not include how it can be done. As most of the provisions in the policy overlook this issue, there is a necessity to formulate a separate regional and local communication policy for the development and promotion of local media by conducting a detailed study.
- The federal government has laws, regulations and guidelines related to the communication sector. However, in the course of implementing federalism, provincial laws are being overlooked and some laws related to communication sector contradict federal laws. Local units have also formulated different laws and policies, but they are indifferent regarding providing facilities to mass media. In some local units, the laws are framed to control mass media in the pretext of regulation instead of facilitating them. These laws do not help mass media, but force them to shut down. It is necessary to conduct a serious study on the issue and take appropriate decisions at the soonest possible.
- It is necessary to take a policy of promoting local media at the local unit level itself. For this, the government needs to focus on infrastructure development.
- Taking note of the delay in the formulation of concrete strategy at the provincial level for institutionalizing federalism, necessary

policies need to be made and implemented at the provincial level for implementation of the Working Journalist Act. It would be appropriate to make legal arrangements like making mass media pledge a certain amount of money as deposits by formulating regulations and guidelines which can be used to pay working journalists if they do not get paid by their employers.

- As wrong practices like the exploitation of working journalists by denying them a salary as agreed before are defaming the entire media sector, there is a need to put in place an effective mechanism by bringing necessary laws to stop such malpractices.
- There is a need to foster coordination among different government agencies. Governance problems like one agency not accepting press accreditation card issued by the other due to lack of coordination need to be addressed gradually.
- While looking for ways to ensure the sustainability of local mass media, there is a need to set up a policy mechanism under the Press Registrar.
- It would be appropriate for the provincial government to take a policy of providing subsidies for infrastructure development of mass media that are in operation regularly and have maximum coverage at a local level.

Investment in Media

- The provincial government must clearly outline the liability of media houses during their registration to prevent the closure of media houses very soon after their opening, and protect journalists and other staffers who are left in the lurch due to the sudden closure of such media houses. For this, the provincial government may ask a detailed business plan from investors which include their source of investment as well as financial, technical, human resources and marketing plans. The provincial government must adopt a policy that requires media investors to guarantee capital for operating the media houses for at least two years. Likewise, separate minimum

standards must be set for newspapers, radio, television, online media and cable television outlets. It will address the issue of transparency in media investments.

- Necessary plans and policies need to be made for the effective development of journalism in the province, which also houses the federal capital Kathmandu, by attracting dependable investment in the mass media sector and also creating an environment for drawing investment in media content.
- At a time when questions are being raised against state-run media and legal process has begun to convert Radio Nepal and Nepal Television as public service broadcasting entities, it won't be appropriate for provincial and local units to operate mass media with their investment. Instead, they should cooperate with independent mass media for the wide and effective dissemination of their activities and information. For this, the Office of Press Registrar should play a needful role by putting in place an appropriate mechanism.

Advertisement Distribution

- The provincial government needs to address the complexities of uneven distribution of government advertisements at the policy level by bringing guidelines based on the Provincial Communication Media Management Act, 2019 and Communication Media Management Regulations, 2019 or by bringing other appropriate laws.
- The provincial government needs to formulate laws with appropriate standards for the proportionate distribution of provincial information and advertisements to mass media in a transparent manner by putting in place proportionate advertisement distribution system.
- The provincial government must draft necessary laws for the distribution of government advertisements to media outlets based in the province. To be eligible for government advertisements, mass media, however, need to have met the criteria fixed by the provincial

government and arranged human resources as per the standards specified in laws related to working journalists, among others.

- At a time when Advertisement (Regulation) Act, 2019 has already been formulated, the Office of Press Registrar has already been opened, and legal grounds for forming Advertisement Board already been created, there is a need to make relevant changes in public welfare advertisement and implement them accordingly. Relevant changes need to be made in advertisement distribution standards and implementation modality. A proportionate distribution system should be implemented in the distribution of all government advertisements. Such works can be done through Advertisement Board.
- Local units also need to prioritize the distribution of their advertisements and adopt a policy of distributing advertisements to media outlets based in their area. If no mass media is present in their area, they should make a provision of distributing advertisements to media outlets in their district.
- A proportionate advertisement distribution system should be implemented to improve the financial health of local and regional mass media. Such advertisements should be segregated and provided to radio, newspapers, television and online media, accordingly.
- Realizing that public welfare advertisements play an important role in improving the financial health of communication media, it would be appropriate to provide advertisements to media which has higher coverage at the local level. The price rate of public welfare advertisements being distributed to the radio at present also needs to be increased.
- Facilities like public welfare advertisements need to be provided to mass media promoted by backward group, class, gender or caste targeting their community.
- The Media Development Fund of Press Council Nepal also needs to focus on regional and local media. Media owners themselves should take necessary initiative in this direction.

- There is a need to create policy and legal grounds for registration of newspapers at local units themselves by ensuring that there is no duplication in names. However, the needful arrangement must be made to deregister newspapers that have not begun printing within 10 years of registration or after 10 years since their closure.

Management of Electronic Media

- The government, after studying the demand for provincial level media, should distribute a certain number of frequencies for FM radio stations.
- The government should clearly define FM radio stations as community and commercial in the law and specify facilities to be given to them accordingly. Such facilities could be financial assistance or subsidy in the procurement of equipment.
- The government should adopt a policy of encouraging the operation of television stations at the local level.
- A mechanism for establishing direct communication between the Office of the Press Registrar and the agency distributing frequency is needed so that people interested to start a radio station do not have to return hopelessly. For this, the Office of the Press Registrar of Bagmati Province should be able to reply on the spot by procuring the necessary software. To make this happen, the federal government should also connect to the software.
- At present, radio stations that complete the renewal process at the Office of Press Registrar need to reach the Information and Broadcasting Department of the federal government for the renewal of their radio equipment. Needful discussions need to be made at political and administrative levels to correct this impractical practice. As the Office of Press Registrar moves ahead by simplifying complexities in the radio licensing process as per the rights guaranteed by the constitution and other laws, other provinces won't have to face similar problems in the coming days. There is a need to hold discussions among radio promoters, the federal government, provincial government and other stakeholders on the issue.

- There is a need to make arrangements for the renewal of the license of radio stations at the local level itself.

Human Resource Development

- Concerning media houses, the Federation of Nepalese Journalists, government and other institutions involved in the communication sector need to take initiatives for enhancing the efficiency of journalists.
- Media houses must implement the Working Journalists Act. The government must monitor the implementation of this act and make policy and legal arrangements for stopping state facilities to media houses that do not implement this act. t
- There is a need to attract individuals with having a good academic background in the journalism sector by specifying qualifications, training and other standards for journalists, and create an environment for their retention in the media industry.
- Tech-friendly journalism education is the need of the hour. There is no point in conducting training that teaches journalists to write news in the old-fashioned style. That is why training should focus on the use of modern equipment and imparting information technology skills and knowledge.
- Trained human resources for the media industry can be produced by working in cooperation with community-run institutions offering Bachelor's degree in journalism and other competent educational institutions.
- Through training, study and efficiency enhancement programs need to be organized regularly, it would be better to identify the type of training needed for journalists by holding discussions with journalists themselves. In general, training focused on new media is needed the most. Other training like writing enhancement, investigative journalism, beat reporting, the art of interviewing, photojournalism, media technology and media management is also needed. There is an utmost need to open a Mass Communication Training Academy at



both the central and local levels to provide training to journalists and also contribute to in-depth research in the field of journalism.

Information Dessimination

- As news and information from rural areas are not been seeing as expected in mass media despite the expansion of road networks and communication facilities, the provincial government should look for ways to take journalists to rural areas. The provincial government should create an appropriate mechanism and program in coordination with the federal government and local units to transfer innovations and knowledge from urban to rural areas, and news and information from rural to urban areas.
- It would be appropriate for the provincial government to develop a certain mechanism to ensure that journalists reach all local units for disseminating news and information from rural to urban areas, and skills and knowledge of rural to urban areas for drawing the attention of policymakers.
- One of the alternatives for bringing news and information from rural areas to urban areas could be the formation of an entity like Rashtriya Samachar Samiti under the Office of Press Registrar. Instead of setting up new agencies at the provincial level, which would burn financial resources, the office can work for increasing the access of journalists and mass media to the local level. It would be appropriate to create policy and legal grounds by conducting a needful study for the production, processing and distribution of news and information from rural to urban areas under the leadership of the Press Registrar.
- It would be appropriate to distribute press identification numbers to journalists with their mobile number, email address and detailed contact information so that they can be contacted easily. A system should be developed to use such information to prepare a personal profile of journalists working in the province and update them periodically.

Security of Journalists

- It is necessary to create an environment to practice free journalism without any fear by developing a mechanism to study events and issues related to security of journalists as well as other issues related to the press freedom.

अनुसूची खण्ड

अनुसूची १ अनुसन्धान सहयोगीहरूको नामावली

क्र.सं.	नाम	
१.	कल्पना दाहाल	काठमाडौं
२.	मोहनप्रसाद पन्त	काठमाडौं
३.	लक्ष्मी पौडेल	काठमाडौं
४.	शैलेन्द्र के.सी.	काठमाडौं
५.	पेमा लामा	काभ्रेपलाञ्चोक
६.	चिन्तामणि पौडेल	चितवन
७.	दुर्गा बस्नेत	दोलखा
८.	राजन अधिकारी	धादिङ्ग
९.	रामहरि च्यौपाने	नुवाकोट
१०.	पुष्कर बुढाथोकी	भक्तपुर
११.	अमृत चिमोरिया	मकवानपुर
१२.	अनु आचार्य	रसुवा
१३.	नवराज श्रेष्ठ	रामेछाप
१४.	ज्ञानप्रसाद पौडेल	ललितपुर
१५.	रामकृष्ण थापा	सिन्धुपाल्चोक
१६.	नवीन श्रेष्ठ	सिन्धुली

हरेक जिल्लाबाट संकलन गर्नुपर्ने सूचना

१. प्रत्येक जिल्ला प्रशासन कार्यालयबाट
 - पत्रपत्रिकाको दर्ता अवस्था
 - दैनिक, अर्ध-साप्ताहिक, साप्ताहिक, पाक्षिक, मासिक
२. जिल्लामा कतिपत्रिका सञ्चालनमा रहेका छन् ?
३. सञ्चालनमा रहेका रेडियोहरूको सूची
 - व्यावसायिक
 - सामुदायिक
४. टेलिभिजनहरूको सूची
 - टेरेस्ट्रियल
 - स्याटेलाइट
 - केबल टेलिभिजन
५. अनलाइन समाचार पोर्टल
 - जिल्लालाई केन्द्रमा राखेर सञ्चालन
 - पत्रिकाका अनलाइन सञ्चालन
६. पत्रकारहरूको अवस्थाबारे महासंघको तथ्यांक
 - जिल्लामा कार्यरत पत्रकारहरूको संख्या
 - महिलाको संख्या
 - पत्रकारको संख्या
 - पूर्णकालीन पत्रकार

अनुसूची ३
अन्तर्वार्ता लिइएका प्रमुख व्यक्तिहरूको नामावली

क्र. सं.	जिल्ला	अन्तर्वार्ता लिइएका व्यक्ति	अन्तर्वार्ताकार
१.	काठमाडौं	किशोर श्रेष्ठ	शैलेन्द्र केसी
२.	काठमाडौं	नितु पण्डित	मोहन पन्त
३.	काठमाडौं	युवराज घिमिरे	लक्ष्मी पौडेल
४.	काभ्रेपलाञ्चोक	महेशराज पौडेल	पेमा लामा
५.	काभ्रेपलाञ्चोक	यदुनाथ गौतम	पेमा लामा
६.	काभ्रेपलाञ्चोक	सरोजप्रसाद कुइँकेल	पेमा लामा
७.	चितवन	कृष्ण गिरी	चिन्तामणि पौडेल
८.	चितवन	मधुसूदन दवाडी	चिन्तामणि पौडेल
९.	चितवन	विनोदखण्ड तिमिल्सिना	चिन्तामणि पौडेल
१०.	दोलखा	चिरञ्जीवीमास्के	दुर्गा बस्नेत
११.	दोलखा	लक्ष्मण खड्का	दुर्गा बस्नेत
१२.	दोलखा	शम्भु गौतम	दुर्गा बस्नेत
१३.	धादिङ	धुबबहादुर थापा	राजन अधिकारी
१४.	धादिङ	रुद्रबहादुर खत्री	राजन अधिकारी
१५.	धादिङ	सीताराम कोइराला	राजन अधिकारी
१६.	नुवाकोट	बाबुराम लामिछाने	रामहरि न्यौपाने
१७.	नुवाकोट	राजुमित्रखनाल	रामहरि न्यौपाने
१८.	नुवाकोट	सुनीलश्रेष्ठ	रामहरि न्यौपाने
१९.	भक्तपुर	अकुरप्रसाद शर्मा न्यौपाने	पुष्कर बुढाथोकी
२०.	भक्तपुर	रमेश खडका	पुष्कर बुढाथोकी
२१.	मकवानपुर	उज्वल चौलागाईं	अमृत चिमोरिया
२२.	मकवानपुर	प्रताप विष्ट	अमृत चिमोरिया
२३.	मकवानपुर	सुरेश श्रेष्ठ	अमृत चिमोरिया
२४.	रसुवा	जयराम आचार्य	अनु आचार्य

२५.	रसुवा	विश्वास नेपाली	अनु आचार्य
२६.	रसुवा	सुशील कोइराला	अनु आचार्य
२७.	रामेछाप	नवराज पथिक	नवराज श्रेष्ठ
२८.	रामेछाप	रमेश ढुङ्गेल	नवराज श्रेष्ठ
२९.	रामेछाप	सुदर्शन राय	नवराज श्रेष्ठ
३०.	ललितपुर	प्रभुनारायण बस्नेत	ज्ञानप्रसाद पौडेल
३१.	सिन्धुपाल्चोक	ज्ञानेन्द्र तिमिल्सिना	रामकृष्ण थापा
३२.	सिन्धुपाल्चोक	जीवनश्रेष्ठ	रामकृष्ण थापा
३३.	सिन्धुली	कृष्णहरि धिमिरे	नवीन श्रेष्ठ
३४.	सिन्धुली	विनय दाहाल	नवीन श्रेष्ठ
३५.	सिन्धुली	सागरकुमार ढकाल	नवीन श्रेष्ठ

विज्ञसँग अन्तर्वार्ता लिनका लागि सम्भावित प्रमुख प्रश्नावली

पत्रकारिताको अवस्थाबारे जानकारी प्राप्त गर्न प्रत्येक जिल्लामा कम्तीमा एकजना विज्ञसँग अन्तर्वार्ता लिने सम्भावित प्रश्नावली

नाम :

उमेर :

पत्रकारिताको अनुभव :

संलग्नता :

जिल्ला :

फोन नं. :

लिंग :

पत्रकारिताको अवस्था

- समग्रमा यस जिल्लामा पत्रकारिता तथा मिडियाको स्थिति कसरी मूल्यांकन गर्नुहुन्छ ?
- जिल्लामा पत्रकारिताको स्तर कसरी मूल्यांकन गर्नुहुन्छ ?
- पछिल्लो अवस्थामा जिल्लाबाट उत्पादन हुने मिडियाका सामग्रीको विश्वसनीयताप्रति जनमानसको धारणा कस्तो पाउनुभएको छ ?
- पहिलाको तुलनामा अहिले पत्रकारिताको व्यावसायिक स्तर विकास हुँदै गएको छ कि खस्केको छ ?
- खस्केको छ भने के कारणले यस्तो भएको होला ?

मिडिया अर्थतन्त्र

- मिडिया सञ्चालनको अवस्था कस्तो पाउनुहुन्छ ?
पत्रपत्रिका :
रेडियो :
टेलिभिजन :
अनलाइन :
- यस जिल्लामा मिडियाको स्वामित्वको अवस्थाबारे केही जानकारी गराइदिनुस् न !
- मिडियामा नयाँ लगानीको अवस्था कस्तो छ ? नयाँ पत्रपत्रिका, रेडियो, टेलिभिजन र अनलाइनमा कसरी लगानी भइरहेको देख्नुभएको छ ?

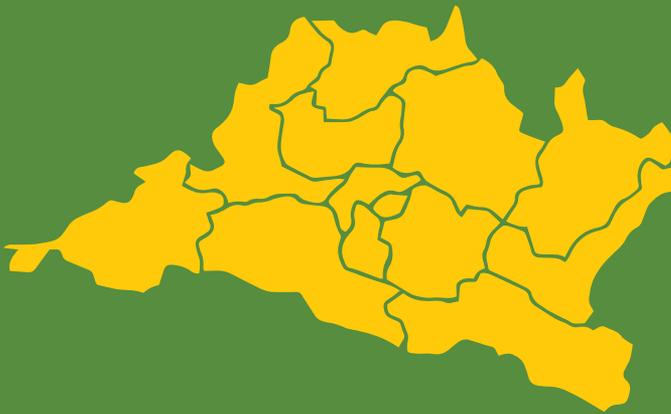
- मिडियामा लगानीमा निरन्तरता कस्तो देख्नुहुन्छ ?
- मिडियामा विज्ञापनको अवस्था कस्तो देख्नुहुन्छ ?
- सरकारले मिडियालाई लोककल्याणकारी विज्ञापन दिनु कतिको आवश्यक छ वा छैन ?

मानव संशाधन/पत्रकार

- मिडियाका लागि चाहिन मानव संशाधन कतिको उपलब्ध छन् ?
- तालिम-प्राप्त/दक्ष जनशक्ति कतिको पाइन्छ ?
- न्यूनतम पारिश्रमिक लागू भएको छ कि छैन ?
- जिल्लामा तालिम कसले दिन्छ ?
- जिल्लामा दिइने तालिम कतिको उपयोगी हुन्छन् ?
- जिल्लामा कस्तो किसिमको तालिम आवश्यक भएको महसुस गर्नुभएको छ ?
- पत्रकारहरूको भौतिक सुरक्षा अवस्था कस्तो पाउनुभएको छ ?

नीतिगत विषय

- यस जिल्लामा मिडिया सञ्चालन गर्न संघीय सरकारको नीतिले कस्तो प्रभाव पारेको छ ?
- प्रादेशिक तहमा रेडियो, टेलिभिजन तथा पत्रपत्रिकाबारे प्रदेश सरकारले जारी गरेका कानूनलाई कसरी लिनुभएको छ ? यसले प्रदेशमा मिडियाको विकासमा सहयोग गर्छ वा गर्दैन ?
- स्थानीय तहमा रेडियो, टेलिभिजन तथा पत्रपत्रिकाबारे स्थानीय तहले जारी गरेका कानूनलाई कसरी लिनुभएको छ ? यसले स्थानीय स्तरमा मिडियाको विकासमा सहयोग गर्छ वा गर्दैन ?
- मिडियाको दिगोपनका लागि सरकारी विज्ञापन कतिको आवश्यक देख्नुहुन्छ ? यसमा प्रदेश र स्थानीय तहले कस्तो नीति लिन आवश्यक देख्नुहुन्छ ?
- स्थानीय र प्रदेश सरकारले मिडिया आफैँ चलाउन उपयुक्त हुन्छ वा हुँदैन ?



MEDIA in Bagmati Province

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