



# Informal Sector Service Centre Central Office

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## House of Representatives Election 2026 Daily Election Monitoring Report

Date: March 4, 2026

The Election Commission of Nepal has announced that all preparations for the House of Representatives election have been completed. Speaking at a press conference held on Wednesday, Acting Chief Election Commissioner Ram Prasad Bhandari informed that all necessary election materials have reached polling centers across the country.

He clarified that the Commission has remained fully active to ensure that the election announced under the special circumstances created after the movement of September 8 and 9, 2025, is conducted in a free, fair, transparent, and credible manner. According to Bhandari, voting will take place nationwide on March 5 from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. All essential materials, including ballot papers and ballot boxes, have been safely delivered to the respective polling centers. He further stated that the construction and management of polling centers have been completed, and the voting venues have been made gender- and disability-friendly to ensure easy access for all voters.

The Commission has stated that highly reliable security arrangements have been put in place so that voters can freely cast their ballots for the candidate and political party of their choice. Bhandari urged the public not to view the election merely as a technical process of selecting representatives or forming a government. He emphasized that through elections, citizens gain a direct opportunity to participate in lawmaking and state governance. The completion of this process, he noted, reflects policy, leadership, and governance and contributes directly to building an inclusive and accountable state. The Commission has therefore appealed to all voters to enthusiastically participate in this historic democratic exercise and exercise their right to vote.

To ensure that the upcoming election is conducted in a free, fair, and fear-free environment, the government has classified polling stations nationwide based on security sensitivity and implemented an integrated security plan. According to Secretary Krishna Bahadur Raut of the Election Commission, the plan, prepared in coordination with the Ministry of Home Affairs, aims to make security arrangements stricter and more effective.

A total of 10,967 polling sites across the country have been categorized into three levels based on security challenges. Based on analysis of past elections and assessment of the current situation, 3,680 polling stations have been listed as “highly sensitive,” 4,442 as “sensitive,” and 2,845 as “normal.” Secretary Raut clarified that this classification is solely intended to streamline the deployment of security personnel and ensure appropriate security arrangements.

For election security, a three-layer security mechanism will once again be deployed. Under this plan, the innermost “core” perimeter of polling stations will be secured by the Nepal Police. The second perimeter will be the responsibility of the Armed Police Force Nepal, while the outermost perimeter will be guarded by the Nepal Army.

The National Security Council has also decided that no shortcomings will be allowed in conducting the House of Representatives election in a free, fear-free, peaceful, and error-free manner.

A meeting of the Council, chaired by Prime Minister Sushila Karki, was held at Singha Durbar on March 4. The meeting reviewed election security arrangements and concluded that all necessary security measures for the election are in place.

According to Defense Ministry Secretary Kedarnath Sharma, the meeting decided to mobilize security agencies in a more effective and coordinated manner to maintain peace and order in the country.

The discussion also covered various national security challenges, the potential impact of national, regional, and international developments on national security, and future strategies. The meeting was attended by Finance Minister Rameshwar Khanal, Home Minister Om Prakash Aryal, Foreign Minister Balananda Sharma, Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security Rajendra Singh Bhandari, Chief Secretary Suman Raj Aryal, and Chief of Army Staff Ashok Raj Sigdel.

According to observers from INSEC, pre-election preparations have been completed across the country. The election-related activities reported by INSEC representatives and observers are as follows.

## Koshi Province

For the House of Representatives election, a total of 34,935 temporary voters have been designated in Koshi Province. Out of 3,574,310 registered voters in the province’s 28 electoral constituencies, 34,935 are temporary voters.

### Taplejung

According to the election observer team led by **Elina Diyali**, a pre-election monitoring visit was conducted in the district on March 4. The team observed whether polling centers were made accessible for persons with disabilities, pregnant and postpartum women, and senior citizens. In the district, 1,683 temporary voters have been designated. Polling centers for temporary voters have been set up at the District Jail and Kirateshwar Temple premises. Out of 90,327 total voters in the district, 42,042 are female, and 48,285 are male. Taplejung has one House of Representatives constituency with 80 polling sites and 127 polling centers. Of these, 28 polling sites are classified as highly sensitive, 25 as sensitive, and 27 as normal.

### Sankhuwasabha

According to the election observer team led by **Bhavin Karki**, a pre-election monitoring visit was conducted in the district on March 4. The team checked whether polling centers were constructed to be accessible for persons with disabilities, pregnant and postpartum women, and

senior citizens. A total of 2,434 temporary voters have been designated. A polling center for temporary voters has been set up at the District Jail in Khandbari. The district has one constituency with 109 polling sites and 164 polling centers, of which 8 are highly sensitive, 82 are sensitive, and 19 are normal. Out of 119,630 total voters, 57,458 are female and 62,172 are male. There are no other voters in the district.

### **Solukhumbu**

According to **INSEC representative Anju Karki**, 1,302 temporary voters have been designated in the district. A polling center for temporary voters has been set up at the District Jail. The district has one constituency with 123 polling sites and 138 polling centers, of which 11 are highly sensitive, 33 are sensitive, and 79 are normal. Out of 85,515 total voters, 35,713 are female and 37,029 are male. There are no other voters in the district.

### **Okhaldhunga**

According to **INSEC representative Saraswati Baniya**, 1,379 temporary voters have been designated. A polling center for temporary voters has been set up at the District Jail. The district has one constituency with 84 polling sites and 157 polling centers, of which 12 are highly sensitive, 20 are sensitive, and 52 are normal. Out of 122,715 total voters, 58,081 are female and 64,634 are male. There are no other voters in the district.

### **Khotang**

According to **INSEC resource person Kopiladevi Bastola**, 1,287 temporary voters have been designated. Polling centers for temporary voters have been set up at the District Jail and District Coordination Committee. The district has one constituency with 136 polling sites and 195 polling centers, of which 21 are highly sensitive, 64 are sensitive, and 51 are normal. Out of 147,120 total voters, 69,464 are female and 77,656 are male. There are no other voters in the district.

### **Tehrathum**

According to **INSEC representative Suresh Khatri**, 1,458 temporary voters have been designated. A temporary polling center has been set up at the District Jail. The district has one constituency with 56 polling sites and 93 polling centers, of which 23 are sensitive and 51 are normal. Out of 73,137 total voters, 35,510 are female and 37,627 are male. There are no other voters in the district.

### **Bhojpur**

According to **INSEC resource person Ganesh Bista**, 2,312 temporary voters have been designated. Two temporary polling centers (A and B) have been set up at the District Jail. The district has one constituency with 87 polling sites and 159 polling centers, of which 33 are highly sensitive, 20 are sensitive, and 34 are normal. Out of 123,379 total voters, 59,253 are female, 64,125 are male, and one is classified as other.

### **Dhankuta**

According to **INSEC representative Ishwar Thapa**, security arrangements at polling centers have been tightened, and voters have been assured a peaceful environment by Chief District Officer Binod Kumar Khadka. There are 2,308 temporary voters in the district. Temporary polling centers have been set up at the District Jail and Gokundeshwar Secondary School in Siran Bazaar. The district has one constituency with 119 polling sites and 166 polling centers, of which 16 are highly sensitive, 49 are sensitive, and 55 are normal. Out of 118,425 total voters, 58,942 are female and 59,483 are male. There are no other voters in the district.

## **Panchthar**

According to **INSEC representative Iwara Javegu Limbu**, security arrangements have been tightened in the district ahead of the election. For the election, 1,227 election police, 493 Nepal Police personnel, and 813 Nepal Army personnel have been deployed. Temporary security posts and joint patrols are in place in different locations. Three polling centers are staffed exclusively by female employees. There are 915 temporary voters in the district. A temporary polling center has been set up at the District Jail. The district has one constituency with 102 polling sites and 179 polling centers, of which 34 are highly sensitive, 58 are sensitive, and 10 are normal. Out of 143,408 total voters, 66,081 are female and the remainder are male. There are no other voters in the district.

## **Ilam**

According to **INSEC representative Manoj Adhikari**, all necessary polling centers have been constructed. Polling centers that could not be constructed on March 3 due to weather were completed on March 4. There are 2,837 temporary voters in the district. Temporary polling centers have been set up at the District Jail and Balmandir. The district has two constituencies with 150 polling sites and 290 polling centers, of which 36 are highly sensitive, 55 are sensitive, and 59 are normal. Out of 231,809 total voters, 112,158 are female, 119,648 are male, and three are classified as other.

## **Jhapa**

According to **INSEC resource person Naresh Khati**, a temporary helipad has been constructed in Damak Municipality for election purposes. The Nepal Army is prepared for aerial patrol on election day. During the election silence period, Raju Jung Kandangwal, Regional Vice President of the Rastriya Prajatantra Party, was arrested at 11:00 AM on March 4 for campaigning with party flags and released at 4:00 PM. The INSEC observer team, including Naresh Khati, conducted pre-election on-site monitoring in Jhapa constituencies 1, 2, 3, and 4. The team observed security agencies, election officers, and Bhadrpur checkpoint operations. Counting for Jhapa Constituency No. 5 will take place under direct army security, and election officer Vidur Karki confirmed that counting will occur on the same day as the election. The district has 6,380 temporary voters. Temporary polling centers have been established at the District Jail, Employee Meeting Center, and Damak Municipality Ward 1. The district has five constituencies with 285 polling sites and 815 polling centers, of which 95 are highly sensitive, 147 are sensitive, and 43 are normal. Out of 713,537 total voters, 355,118 are female, 358,346 are male, and eight are classified as other.

## **Morang**

According to **INSEC representative Binod Subedi**, Krishna Prasad Chamlagai, in charge of Sundarharaincha Municipality-10, and Suman Paudel, 37, District Secretary of Morang,

Damak Municipality-5, were arrested by police on March 4. The arrests were related to placing a hoax bomb on the East-West highway section in Sundarharaincha Municipality-10, allegedly to intimidate voters.

An emergency health committee has been established at Koshi Hospital to handle any election-day contingencies. Pre-election coordination meetings were held on March 4 between the INSEC Koshi Province Office, the Central Election Monitoring Team of the National Human Rights Commission, and other observer organizations. The Election Commission Information Officer, Suman Ghimire, confirmed that all preparations for the election were completed on March 4.

From a security perspective, constituency No. 5 in Morang has been classified as the most sensitive, and security arrangements have been planned accordingly. Counting centers for all six constituencies in Morang have been constructed with CCTV cameras. The INSEC Koshi Province Office also monitored the construction of polling centers.



The district has 5,279 temporary voters. Temporary polling centers have been set up at the District Jail and Adarsha Library. In the district, which has six electoral constituencies, 306 polling sites and 888 polling centers have been designated. Of these, 47 polling sites are classified as highly sensitive, 125 as sensitive, and 134 as normal. Out of 783,050 total voters in the district, 383,357 are female, 399,686 are male, and seven are classified as other.

In view of the House of Representatives election, an Emergency Health Treatment Committee has been formed at Koshi Hospital. The nine-member emergency committee is chaired by Dr. Yagnaraj Kharel. The committee was formed on March 4 in anticipation of potential health challenges during the House of Representatives election. Members of the committee include

Manju Yadav, Dr. Ravi Bastakoti, Dr. Naveen Subedi, Dr. Dibas Rajbhandari, Dr. Shannikumar Soni, Dr. Puran Chandra Sah, Badri Basnet, and Amit Jha.

Dr. Yagnaraj Kharel explained that in the event of a major incident with multiple casualties, the committee will arrange for necessary medical treatment. “The Emergency Health Treatment Committee has been formed to ensure preparedness for doctors, medicines, equipment, and other resources in case of a major incident affecting many people,” Dr. Kharel said. If necessary, the committee will coordinate with other hospitals in Morang to deploy additional resources.

## **Sunsari**

According to **INSEC representative Jay Krishna Yadav**, INSEC conducted pre-election monitoring of various polling sites and centers in the district.

The district has 2,316 temporary voters. The Regional Jail in Jhumka and the Agricultural Business Promotion and Training Center have been designated as temporary polling centers. In the district, which has four electoral constituencies, 167 polling sites and 624 polling centers have been designated. Of these, 59 polling sites are highly sensitive, 65 are sensitive, and 43 are normal. Out of 580,945 total voters, 286,691 are female, 294,252 are male, and two are classified as other.

## **Udayapur**

According to **INSEC representative Rakesh Nepali**, there are 3,045 temporary voters in the district. Temporary polling centers have been set up at the District Jail and Employee Meeting Center. In the district, which has two electoral constituencies, 130 polling sites and 275 polling centers have been designated. Of these, 21 polling sites are highly sensitive, 53 are sensitive, and 29 are normal. Out of 230,573 total voters, 113,528 are female, 117,043 are male, and two are classified as other.

# **Madhesh Province**

## **Saptari**

According to **INSEC representative Nabin Yadav**, on the eve of the House of Representatives election, INSEC conducted monitoring in the district’s four electoral constituencies. The monitoring team included Raju Paswan, Coordinator of Madhes Province, district representative Navin Yadav, and Ajay Pariyar, among others.

During the monitoring, dissatisfaction was expressed by various polling officials, from chief officers to assistant officers, at several polling centers. The complaints primarily concerned the lack of allowances or advance payments for the deployed staff. At the polling center of Topa Janata Secondary School, Tilathi Koiladi Rural Municipality–8, in Electoral Constituency No. 2, officer Dharendra Yadav reported that staff had not received any allowances. Additionally, some polling centers were found to have issues with drinking water and toilets.



On the eve of the House of Representatives election in Saptari, a suspicious object resembling a pressure cooker bomb was found in the premises of Furwari Resort, near the Nepal Communist Party (UML) party office in Kanchanrup Municipality–9, Electoral Constituency No. 1.

At 8:00 AM on March 5, security personnel received information about the suspicious object. A team from the Nepal Police and the Nepali Army immediately arrived at the site. Preliminary inspection revealed that wires had been attached to the pressure cooker, according to sources.

Currently, the Army’s bomb disposal team is securing the area and attempting to neutralize the suspicious pressure cooker bomb. Nearby homes and commercial areas have been evacuated, and the security perimeter has been tightened.



After such an incident emerged on the eve of the election, fear has spread among the local residents. Security agencies have stated that a detailed investigation has been initiated and the search for those responsible is being intensified. It has been reported that security measures have been further tightened to ensure the election is conducted in a peaceful and fear-free environment.

## Siraha

According to **INSEC representative Durga Pariyar**, the police arrested Asheshwar Yadav, the candidate of Janata Samajbadi Party (JSP) Nepal, for Siraha Constituency No. 3, along with cash, during the election's silent period.

DSP Ramesh Bahadur Pal stated that at 12:30 AM on March 3, a Scorpio SUV traveling from Mader at the Nepal-India border toward Siraha headquarters was stopped at Shivchowk for inspection. During the check, Rs. 487,000 in cash was recovered, leading to the arrest of Yadav and four others. DSP Pal added that ballots were also found in the vehicle and that action would be taken according to the Election Commission rules.

During the election's silent period, Yadav, who was arrested for violating the code of conduct with cash, has been directed by the Office of the Chief Election Officer in Siraha to provide clarification within three days. Chief Election Officer Shriprakash Upreti stated that after reviewing all documents, a three-day deadline has been set for submitting clarification. The seized cash and vehicle, along with other materials, have been confiscated for the time being. The investigation is ongoing, and action will be taken in accordance with election law.



Similarly, the INSEC observer team monitored the counting center constructed in the hall of Lahan Municipality, Electoral Constituency No. 1, for vote counting. In addition, collaborative discussions were held at Golbazar between INSEC and observers affiliated with various organizations in Siraha.



## Dhanusha

According to **INSEC representative Santosh Yadav**, on March 3, the police arrested independent candidate Rajkishor Mahar from Dhanusha Electoral Constituency No. 4 on allegations of distributing money to voters. DSP Ganesh Bahadur Bam reported that Mahar was caught around midnight in Chandrapur, Kshiresworath Municipality-4, distributing cash of Rs. 48,500 along with a diary. Mahar was taken into custody by a team dispatched from the Mahendranagar Area Police Office and will be sent to the District Election Office in Dhanusha for further action.

Similarly, Ramesh Mandal, the son-in-law of former Speaker of Madhesh Province Ramchandra Mandal, was arrested on March 3 for allegedly converting a government vehicle by changing its number plate for private use. During a special check by the Armed Police, Mandal was taken into custody from the Purandaha area of Mithila Bihari Municipality. Although the seized vehicle bore the number Bagmati-Pr-01 0032 च 7894, the police confirmed that the number was incorrect.

Additionally, on March 3, supporters of Nepali Congress, including Mayor Mahendra Mahato of Mithila Municipality, conducted a door-to-door campaign in Naktaji, Mithila Municipality-2, in favor of candidate Mahendra Yadav from Dhanusha Constituency No. 4. According to Santosh Kumar Yadav, this violated the Election Commission of Nepal's code of conduct, which had enforced a silent period from midnight of March 2 for the House of Representatives election scheduled on March 5, 2026. During the silent period, candidates, political parties, and their representatives are prohibited from any type of campaigning, door-to-door visits, public gatherings, or activities that could influence voters.



Similarly, in violation of the silent period, promotional materials were used in favor of Rajkishor Mahato of the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP). On March 4, banners and flags of rsp were seen displayed in Kurtha Mandal, Janakpurdhham Sub-Metropolitan City-21. The Election Commission of Nepal's code of conduct clearly prohibits any campaigning, display of flags, banners, or posters, and soliciting votes during the silent period from midnight of March 2 until the election day on March 5, 2026.

### **Mahottari**

According to the Madhesh Province Office, police seized alcoholic beverages from a brick kiln in Bhanga Municipality-5, Dhakiya Tole, on March 4. DSP Shailendra Bhatt of Mahottari District Police stated that the sale, distribution, and consumption of alcohol had been banned since February 26. Since a large quantity of alcoholic beverages was found on the eve of the election, it was confiscated. The hidden stock included 3 cartons of Arna Beer, 7 cartons of Karnali Gold, 3 cartons of Bricks Wine, and 17 bottles of Black OK.

The police have taken the confiscated alcoholic beverages under control and are investigating the matter.

### **Sarlahi**

According to INSEC representative Budhan Sah, former Ward Chair Purushottam Yadav (65) of Haripurwa Municipality–2, Haripurwa Tole, was arrested by the armed police strike force along with cash. The team, led by Inspector Sujan Ranabhat assigned to the security of Sarlahi Constituency No. 2, found him carrying cash during the election silence period. DSP Saroj Rai stated that Rs. 25,000 in cash was recovered from Yadav and that an investigation is ongoing. According to **INSEC observer Mukesh Mishra**, the Sarlahi District Election Office has completed all preparations for the election scheduled on Falgun 21.

### **Rautahat**

According to INSEC representative Gauri Nyaupane, the District Police Office of Rautahat informed that six individuals were arrested on March 4 for disorderly and disruptive activities while under the influence of alcohol. DSP Bishnu Pradeep Bansyal stated that, despite the Holi festival, 40 foreign-registered vehicles operating in violation of the election code of conduct were also seized, and investigations have started. Necessary legal actions are being taken against the detained individuals and vehicles, DSP Bansyal added. In Chandrapur Municipality–2, Teknath Upreti, 43, a UML leader, filed a complaint on March 4 against Bijay Thing, 25, a resident of the same ward, for attacking him on March 3. The victim, Kharel, stated that a group suddenly attacked him after calling him outside the house at midnight. The accused are still at large, and a search operation is ongoing, DSP Rupa Labung reported.

### **Bara**

According to INSEC observer Bholanath Poudel, various polling centers in Bara District have been monitored.

### **Parsa**

According to INSEC representative Tulsi Bhandari, all preparations have been completed in Parsa for the House of Representatives election scheduled on March 5.. Parsa has four constituencies, with 167 polling locations and 441 polling centers fully prepared to conduct the election. According to Chief District Election Officer Gayatri Prasad Regmi, preparations at all polling locations and centers, including assigning staff, delivering ballots, and ensuring voters receive ballots directly upon arrival, have been completed. For the 376,513 eligible voters across Parsa, election offices have already been established in all four constituencies to ensure voting rights. In Parsa Constituency No. 2, a suspicious item was found in the vehicle of House of Representatives candidate Manoj Kumar Chaudhary, 46 of the Nepal Communist Party. According to DSP Hari Bahadur Basnet, candidate Chaudhary, along with the vehicle driver Sahab Alam Ansari, 26, Suraj Karki, 30, from Dhanusha, and Satyanarayan Tharu, 68 from Biruwatol, Parsa, were taken into police custody. The armed police stopped the vehicle traveling from Harpur to Badniyar in Parsa Municipality–3, Badniyar Bazaar, and found tin and wires wrapped in tape intended for bomb-making. Similarly, in Inarwa, Birgunj Metropolitan City–16, three people were arrested with bomb-making materials by Shreejang Gan. Around 2 a.m. on March 3, during a special search led by Shreejang Gan in Birgunj, Krishna Yadav, Rohit Patel, and Abajit Yadav, residents of the same area, were arrested with nine handmade bombs and white wires, according to Shreejang Gan's deputy commander Vikas Marhath. DSP Hari Bahadur Basnet confirmed that investigations into the arrests are ongoing.

## Bagmati Province

### Kathmandu

According to **INSEC representative Anmol Pant**, a suspicious pressure cooker found in a street in Budhanilkantha Municipality-2, Chapali, Kathmandu, was defused by the Nepal Army's bomb disposal team. The pressure cooker, found at midnight along the road section leading from Chapali to Upper Bhangal and from Masala Factory to Chunikhel, was wrapped in paper with wires attached.

Police Superintendent Pawan Bhattarai of Kathmandu District Police Office stated that the army bomb disposal team found pieces of brick inside the cooker. The pressure cooker had a matchstick inserted and was wired. Further investigation is ongoing.

In Nagarkun Municipality-2, Tighare area, a suspicious object wrapped in red cloth was found on the morning of March 4. The Nepal Army defused it after local residents reported it. During defusal, a four-liter paint bucket containing sand, wires, and plastic materials was discovered. Police confirmed that further investigation is ongoing.

Additionally, Madhunani Maharjan monitored the polling center located in Deukhel, Ward No. 5, Kirtipur Municipality.



**INSEC observer Lima Paudel** monitored the polling center in Ward No. 16, Bansthali.



### Makwanpur

According to **INSEC representative Manita Mainali**, all preparations have been completed in Makwanpur district for the House of Representatives election to be held on March 5. According

to the Chief Election Officer's office, all staff and security personnel, along with ballot boxes, have reached all polling centers.



According to polling officer Shreeram Pudasaini at Bhutandevi Secondary School in Hetauda, notices regarding the constituency declaration have been posted at the polling center, and an all-party meeting has also been completed. Along with this, all necessary preparations to conduct the election fairly and peacefully have been completed.

The counting centers in both electoral constituencies of the district have also been properly prepared. Four rooms have been allocated for vote counting in the Bhutandevi Secondary School building in Hetauda-4. The counting center has been secured with wire fencing and equipped with CCTV cameras.



According to Chief District Officer Basant Adhikari, mobile phones are prohibited at the counting centers. Security arrangements have been tightened to control any potential disorderly activities. Arrangements have been made for party representatives to stay outside the wire fencing, and the system is set up to allow counting from four locations simultaneously.

After voting concludes, vehicles have been arranged to safely transport the ballot boxes to the counting centers. However, it has been reported that it may take up to four hours to bring ballot boxes from some remote villages in Makwanpur after voting is completed.

Overall, the administration has completed all necessary preparations to conduct a peaceful and orderly election in the district.

## Nuwakot

INSEC observer Sagar Adhikari monitored the polling centers of Wards 2 and 3 in Suryagadhi Rural Municipality.



## Lalitpur

According to INSEC representative Deepak Prasad Ghimire, on March 3, four individuals were arrested by the police after allegedly attacking and throwing stones at patrolling officers from the Lubhu police outpost in Mahalaxmi Municipality-7, Changathali area. SP and Information Officer of District Police Office Jawalakhel, Gautam Mishra, reported that those arrested include Buddha Tamang (resident of Makwanpurgadhi, living in Lalitpur), Ramesh Shahi (resident of Salyan, living in Bhaktapur), Shankar Shahi (same address, Bhaktapur), and Raju Magar (resident of Rukum, living in Bhaktapur). To control the situation, police fired one round in the air in self-defense and deployed additional personnel. Injured police officers are receiving treatment at KIST Hospital, Imadol, according to SP Mishra.

Similarly, on March 1, eight individuals were arrested for allegedly misbehaving with police officers on duty in front of The Grove Restaurant, Jhamsikhel, Lalitpur Metropolitan City, in a

state resembling intoxication. The Lalitpur District Court extended the investigation period by seven days, and injured police personnel are receiving treatment at Alka Hospital, Jawalakhel.

INSEC observers Savitri Humagain conducted on-site monitoring at Saraswati Secondary School in Thecho and Bajrabarahi Secondary School in Ward No. 11, Godawari Municipality, Lalitpur.



Similarly, INSEC observer Raju Ghimire conducted on-site monitoring at Mahendra Secondary School in Ward No. 4, Mahalaxmi Municipality, Lalitpur.



### Dolakha

According to INSEC observer Krishna Bhujel, all polling centers in Dolakha held all-party

meetings yesterday and today. Security arrangements have been tightened, and so far, the situation has remained normal at all locations.

### **Chitwan**

**INSEC observer Sanjiv Paudel** conducted monitoring at two polling centers in Ward No. 10 of Bharatpur Metropolitan City.



### **Dhadhing**

According to **INSEC representative Sitaram Adhikari** and **INSEC observer Tulsi Jung Thapa**, in the context of the House of Representatives election to be held on March 5, the highly sensitive polling centers in Dhadhing Election Constituency No. 1 were monitored on March 4, 2026. INSEC district representative Sitaram Adhikari, observer Tulsi Jung Thapa, and journalist Keshav Adhikari conducted pre-election monitoring of polling sites in Benighat-Rorang Rural Municipality. Buddhi Bikash A.V. Charaundi, Chandrodya M.V. Benighat, Bageshwari M.V. Richoktar, Pipalbhanjyang M.V., and other polling sites were observed, and discussions were held regarding areas that required improvement. The team requested that polling centers ensure arrangements such as giving priority to disabled, elderly, and postpartum women voters, and providing seating areas while they wait for their turn. Dhadhing district has 275,280 registered voters, with 114 polling sites, of which 108 polling sites are highly sensitive. Dhadhing Constituency No. 1 has 53 polling sites with 152 polling centers covering 136,686 voters. Dhadhing Constituency No. 2 has 61 polling sites with 158 polling centers covering 138,594 voters. In Dhadhing, during the silent period, RSP, Nepali Congress, CPN, Rastriya Prajatantra Party, and UML did not hold assemblies or rallies, but voter interactions were still observed. At night, candidate supporters were seen moving around the villages on motorcycles during monitoring.



From the Nepali Communist Party, INSEC representative reported that the candidate for Dhadhing Constituency No. 1, Rajendra Prasad Pandey, hosted a feast for 50–60 people on March 4, 2026, at Thakre Rural Municipality Ward No. 10, Pokharidanda.

### **Bhaktapur**

INSEC observers Khilendra Luintel and Loknath Ghimire conducted monitoring at the polling center in Bhaktapur Municipality Ward No. 4.



## **Gandaki Province**

### **Kaski**

According to INSEC representative Sanjay Ranabhat, preparations in Kaski have been made to start counting votes within two hours after the ballot boxes arrive at the Election Officer's office. Chief Election Officer of Kaski, Himalal Belbase, stated that once counting begins in this way, the results are planned to be published within 24 hours.

Belbase stated that the vote counting for the House of Representatives election in Kaski Constituency No. 1 will take place at the office in Pokhara Metropolitan City–12. Counting for Constituency No. 2 will be at the location of its Election Officer's office, and for Constituency No. 3 at the location of its Chief Election Officer's office. He added that the counting centers will be organized with wire fencing and monitored via CCTV. Chief Election Officer Belbase also mentioned that there are two temporary polling centers in Kaski for prisoners at the district

jail and government employees who were not deployed for the election. According to him, employees listed in the voter register and assigned to polling centers will be able to cast proportional votes through their assigned polling centers. Most polling centers are in schools, and in some places without buildings, tents and other arrangements have been made accordingly. He urged all voters to cast their votes confidently and to assist the staff deployed at polling centers.

For the election, 2,184 staff and 1,092 volunteers have been deployed across the three constituencies of Kaski, according to Rudra Nyaupane, Information Officer at the Provincial Election Office in Pokhara.

Kaski has a total of 153 polling sites and 363 polling centers. According to election office data, Kaski Constituency No. 1 has 116,878 voters, Constituency No. 2 has 84,134, and Constituency No. 3 has 107,560 voters. Among the 153 polling sites in Kaski, 56 are classified as highly sensitive, 54 as sensitive, and 43 as normal.

INSEC stated that 1,057 Nepal Police and 2,008 Election Police will be deployed in Kaski, according to DSP Haribahadur Basnet, Information Officer at the District Police Office, Kaski. For security, 12 mobile teams will be deployed, with four in Pokhara Metropolitan City and two in each rural municipality, Basnet added.

### **Gorkha**

According to **INSEC representative Hariram Upreti**, polling officers, staff, and security personnel have reached all polling centers in the district. Staff for the remote Chumunubri area had been deployed four days earlier. Election Officer Tek Bahadur Koirala of the Gorkha District Election Office stated that by Tuesday, staff had arrived at all polling centers. “Staff and security personnel, along with polling materials, have reached the respective polling centers and begun preparations,” he said. “All-party meetings have been held, and the boundaries of the polling centers have been marked.” There is a provision to announce the polling center by covering an area of 300 meters around the center.

For the House of Representatives election, Gorkha has 229,058 voters. Constituency No. 1 has 120,525 voters, and Constituency No. 2 has 108,533 voters. Across the district, there are 225 polling sites and 331 polling centers, with staff and security personnel already deployed. Constituency No. 1 has 131 polling sites and 181 polling centers, while Gorkha Constituency No. 2 has 94 polling sites and 150 polling centers.

### **Lamjung**

According to INSEC representative Sumitra Bhujel, staff and election materials have reached all polling centers in the district, the District Election Office stated. Voting materials have been delivered to all 192 polling centers, and the construction of polling sites is underway, District Election Officer Yadav Acharya said. Staff, including polling officers who have arrived at the centers, held all-party meetings on March 3 to post necessary notices. On March 4, booths are being actively constructed at all polling centers. Booth construction work, from marking lines to hanging curtains, has been completed. Separate booths have been made for women, men, and persons with disabilities, Anil Regmi, polling officer at Chaitanyaday Mavi ‘Kha’ polling center in Dordi Rural Municipality-4, Nauthar, reported.

Lamjung has 130 polling sites and 192 polling centers. Among these, 30 polling sites are classified as highly sensitive. Security committee analysis shows 77 polling sites as sensitive and 25 as normal.

## **Mustang**

According to INSEC representative Amrit Prasad Paudel, during the silent period, while Congress workers were traveling toward Lomanthang, the Armed Police conducted a check and found Rs. 500,000 in the vehicle. Political parties in Mustang protested in Jomsom Bazaar, alleging that the Congress candidate was distributing money to voters, violating the election code of conduct, and demanded his disqualification. Seven political parties in Mustang registered a complaint at the Chief Election Officer's office, claiming a violation of the election code during the silent period. The complaint demanded the disqualification of Nepali Congress candidate Yogesh Gauchan Thakali, alleging that financial manipulation affected the election.

The seven parties that filed the complaint announced a joint movement and submitted memorandums to the Chief Election Officer and the District Administration Office. They warned they would not participate in the election process until action was taken against those involved in financial manipulation. Following the incident, an all-party meeting was convened. The complaint was signed by Indradhara Dadhu Bista (CPN-UML), Nguthuk Gurung (Nepali Communist Party), Adhityachandra Thakali (Rastriya Swatantra Party), Ajay Bik (Aam Janata Party), Yambahadur Gurung (Mongol National Organization), Kamala Lalchan (Rastriya Prajatantra Party), and Dr. Surendra Sherchan (Ujyaalo Party), according to the Chief Election Officer's office.

## **Baglung**

According to INSEC representative Amrit Prasad Paudel, a temporary polling site has been prepared in Baglung for prisoners. The District Jail in Baglung houses 53 voter prisoners, for whom a temporary polling site has been set up. Since prisoners also have voting rights, a polling site was constructed inside the jail, Chief of the Baglung District Election Office, Yagyaraj Rizal, stated. He added that prisoners can only vote based on their identification cards. Security arrangements have been tightened to ensure a proper voting environment. Two temporary polling sites have been set up in Baglung, including the jail. With 107 polling sites and 230 polling centers in Baglung, the two temporary polling sites allow prisoners and staff to cast proportional votes. The District Coordination Committee has also arranged for prisoners, staff, and security personnel to vote at the Chief Election Officer's office, where they can cast only proportional votes.

Similarly, Prakash Gaire, the polling officer at Ramuwa Basic School, Galchok Municipality-10, Baglung-2, has been removed from responsibility. Election Officer Bhim Prasad Subedi of Constituency No. 2 stated that Gaire was removed from his duty after giving inappropriate statements in the polling officers' WhatsApp group. His statements and actions were seen as potentially negatively affecting the cleanliness, fairness, and credibility of the election. Gaire was instructed to immediately hand over all ballots and election materials to the security authorities and contact the Election Officer's office. Bhuvan Bahadur Kunwar has been assigned as the new polling officer at Gaire's polling center, Subedi added.

## **Syangja**

According to INSEC representative Amrit Prasad Paudel, two polling centers in Syangja will be run entirely by women for the upcoming election. At Putalibazar Municipality-3, Kajiman Herity Secondary School, and Andhikhola Rural Municipality-5, Saraswati Primary School, Setidobhan, women-led teams have been deployed, the Chief Election Officer's office stated. At the Kajiman Herity polling center, Dr. Supriya Paudel is leading as the polling officer. Assistant polling officers and staff include Shantikumari Parajuli, Bindu Gautam, Shobha Regmi, Sangam Lamsal, and Chuna Godar. The centers have been managed according to a women-friendly approach. Officer Paudel stated that a conducive environment for women

voters has been ensured. Similarly, at Saraswati Primary School, Setidobhan polling center, a women-led team has also been deployed. Polling officer Rajwati Nepali leads the team including Budhamaya Blan, Lakshmidewi Sharma, Sangita Kumal, Geeta Pandey, and Vishnukumari Pokhrel.

### **Myagdi**

According to INSEC representative Amrit Prasad Paudel, for the House of Representatives election on March 5, monitoring and additional infrastructure arrangements have been completed at 120 centers across 82 polling sites in the district. Chief District Officer Kulprasad Acharya stated that the monitoring of polling centers and sites was conducted under the leadership of Chief District Officer Ravindra Acharya. During monitoring of centers in rural areas, identified problems have been resolved. The physical infrastructure, roads, drinking water, toilets, fencing, and electricity at polling centers have been inspected, and all centers are reported safe by the Myagdi District Administration Office. To ensure a peaceful and fear-free election, monitoring of physical infrastructure and security, along with discussions with local representatives and relevant stakeholders, was conducted. Across the district, 82 polling sites and 120 polling centers have been established. The District Election Security Committee has classified polling centers based on geographic and security considerations: 15 as highly sensitive, 58 as sensitive, and eight as normal. There are 86,397 voters in the district for the House of Representatives election: 42,332 male, 44,064 female, and one sexual and gender minority voter.

### **Tanahu**

According to INSEC representative **Prakash Chandra Bhattarai**, in Vyas Municipality–10, a dispute occurred between Nepali Congress and Rastriya Swatantra Party workers after Nepali Congress workers allegedly distributed money to voters. On March 3 at night, as Nepali Congress workers distributed money in Bote Gaun, Rastriya Swatantra Party workers protested, leading to a dispute between the two parties. Nepali Congress Vice-Chairman of Byas Municipality–10, Ramakant Dhungana, stated that during the incident, the dispute escalated when Congress workers met Rastriya Swatantra Party workers on the way while going to Bote Gaun. Police arrived at the scene that night. DSP Shrawan Kumar Bik of Tanahu District Police Office stated that upon checking bags and belongings of both sides, no money or items influencing voters were found. He emphasized that people should remain cautious as rumors and unrest can spread during the silent period. DSP Bik also warned everyone not to go out at night during the silent period.

### **Nawalparasi East**

According to INSEC representative **Dayaram Acharya**, a youth who intimidated security personnel on duty outside a polling center was arrested by police. On March 3, 27-year-old Anis Mahato from Kawasoti Municipality–14 arrived on a scooter (LU 31 P 9806) at the polling site at Balakalyan Primary School, Kawasoti Municipality–14, repeatedly intimidating the deployed security personnel. After being informed, Mobile 07 Commander Bhuvan Chandra Bhatt's team pursued and arrested him at Kawasoti Municipality–17, Balakalyan Chowk. Police recovered a sharp weapon from him, and the scooter was also seized.

### **Manang**

According to INSEC representative **Amrit Prasad Paudel**, the House of Representatives election is expected to proceed smoothly in the Himalayan districts of Manang and Mustang. Although snowfall required relocating some polling centers, warmer recent weather allows voting at the designated centers, Narayan Dhakal, Chief of the Provincial Election Office,

Pokhara, stated. Dhakal added that preparations for the election in the Himalayan district of Manang are complete. Manang has only one House of Representatives constituency with a total of 7,000 voters. Being the district with the lowest number of voters in the country, 29 polling centers have been established, including one temporary center. A total of 171 staff have been deployed to conduct the election, the Chief Election Officer's office stated.

## Lumbini Province

### Rupandehi

According to INSEC representative **Reema BC**, all necessary preparations have been completed in Rupandehi district for the House of Representatives election to be held on March 5. Chief Election Officer Ashok Kumar Basnet stated that polling center management, staff deployment, and security arrangements have been strengthened in all five constituencies of the district.

According to Chief Election Officer Basnet, staff, including polling officers, have been deployed at all 736 polling centers across the district. A total of 4,404 staff have been deployed to carry out the election, and 2,203 volunteers have also been deployed to assist in facilitation.



To ensure the election is conducted in a clean, fair, and fear-free environment, Basnet stated that a “three-layer” security cordon has been established. Within the inner layer, the Nepal Police, Election Police, and Armed Police Force Nepal will be deployed inside the polling centers, while the outer layer will have the Nepali Army stationed around the polling centers.

He further stated that army patrol teams will be deployed at five-minute intervals, with each constituency having an army deployment under the command of a major. Considering election security, the main and auxiliary border points of Rupandehi connected to India were sealed

from the night of March 2, and a heavy deployment of security personnel has been arranged on rural paths as well.



Voting will be conducted on March 5 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Voters who have entered the polling center by 5:00 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

After voting is completed, the ballot boxes will be collected, and according to the decision of the all-party meeting, counting will begin either the same night or the next morning (Falgun 22) from 8–9 a.m., Chief Election Officer Basnet stated. The goal is to publish the results of the direct votes within 48 hours of the start of counting.

In Constituency No. 3, counting will be conducted from three rooms. According to the all-party meeting's decision, it will be determined whether the counting of direct and proportional votes will be done simultaneously or separately.

CCTV has been installed in the rooms where the ballot boxes are kept, and arrangements have been made for uninterrupted electricity 24 hours a day. A separate media room has also been arranged for journalists, Basnet informed.

Chief Election Officer Basnet has called on the district voters to confidently exercise their right to vote. He mentioned that all administrative and security preparations for a clean and fair election have been completed and urged voters to vote freely for their preferred candidates. Since only two ballots will be used this time, the voting and counting process is expected to be faster and smoother compared to the past.

To ensure secure and orderly counting, 10-foot high wire fencing has been installed at all five counting centers in Rupandehi. According to Chief Election Officer Ashok Kumar Basnet, the fencing around the counting centers was installed keeping security challenges in mind.

The counting center for Election Constituency No. 1 is designated at Devdaha Adarsha Bahumukhi Campus, Sittalnagar. In Constituency No. 2, it is at the Ward Office, Devinagar, Butwal Sub-Metropolitan City-11; in Constituency No. 3 at Bhairahawa Namuna Secondary School; in Constituency No. 4 at the Assembly Hall, Kotahimai Rural Municipality Office; and in Constituency No. 5 at Gaidahawa Rural Municipality Office.

According to Basnet, CCTV cameras have been installed at the counting centers, and rechargeable lights have been provided to ensure smooth electricity supply. Except for staff and security personnel deployed for counting, no one else is allowed inside the fencing. Representatives of candidates and stakeholders are allowed to observe from outside.

Similarly, the Lumbini Province Office of the National Human Rights Commission and INSEC Rupandehi conducted a pre-election monitoring of various polling centers in Constituency No. 1 of Rupandehi on March 4.

The monitoring team, led by Chief Santosh Acharya of the Commission, along with Human Rights Officers Ajit Kumar Thakur, Sagar Pokhrel, and INSEC representative Reema B.C., observed the overall preparedness and management of the polling centers.

During monitoring, it was found that most polling centers were operating according to the directives of the Election Commission. Separate lines were arranged for senior citizens, the disabled, persons with disabilities, sexual and gender minority communities, and pregnant or postpartum women.

Furthermore, to conduct the election in a clean, fair, dignified, and fear-free environment, the all-party meeting agreed to proceed with the voting process on a consensus basis.

During monitoring, at the polling center at Shri Mahamaya Bhawani Secondary School, Devdaha Municipality-4, out of 24 deployed staff, 10 reported that their names were not on the voter list, preventing them from casting proportional votes. Similarly, at Shri Shankar Lower Secondary School, Devdaha Municipality-11, five out of 12 staff could not cast proportional votes because their names were missing from the voter list.

At most polling centers, ballots had already arrived, and all preparations were completed for voting to start at 7:00 a.m. on March 5.

### **Nawalparasi (West Susta)**

According to INSEC representative Narayan Parajuli, all necessary personnel and election materials have been delivered to all polling booths in West Nawalparasi for the March 5 House of Representatives election. The District Election Office stated that the construction of polling centers at the sites is progressing rapidly.

A total of 122 polling sites and 297 polling centers have been designated in the district. Of these, Constituency No. 1 has 62 polling sites and 148 polling centers, and Constituency No. 2 has 60 polling sites and 149 polling centers.

From a security perspective, 12 polling sites in the district are classified as highly sensitive. Constituency No. 1 has 8, and Constituency No. 2 has 4 highly sensitive polling sites. Additionally, there are 29 sensitive polling sites in Constituency No. 1 and 28 in Constituency No. 2. General polling sites include 25 in Constituency No. 1 and 28 in Constituency No. 2.

The total number of voters in the district is 254,157, of which Constituency No. 1 has 123,080 and Constituency No. 2 has 131,077. Among the total voters, 129,183 are male, 124,970 are female, and four are others, according to the District Election Office.

The Election Office stated that preparations for security and management have been completed to ensure a clean, fair, and fear-free election.

### **Dang**

According to INSEC representative Jaynarayan Pun, the District Election Office stated that all preparations for the House of Representatives election on March 5 have been completed.

According to Chief Election Officer Prakash Prasad Pandit, all preparations, including polling center construction, distribution of voter ID cards, and appointment of polling representatives, have been completed.

Along with election preparations, arrangements for counting centers in the district have also been made. Counting for Constituency No. 1 will be held in the Lamahi Municipality building, Constituency No. 2 at the District Court building, and Constituency No. 3 at the High Government Advocate's office.



The INSEC election monitoring team has observed the election preparations in all three constituencies of Dang.

Two counting rooms have been prepared in each of the three constituencies. The counting for the first-past-the-post (direct) system and proportional representation will be conducted in

separate rooms, according to Dang Constituency No. 3 Chief Election Officer Chandrabhadur Sinjali.

This time, the counting for direct and proportional votes will be conducted simultaneously. For this purpose, separate counting centers with wire fencing and CCTV cameras have been prepared, the office stated.

The INSEC election monitoring team has monitored the election preparations in all three constituencies of Dang.

On March 2, 19, and 20, the team visited all three constituencies, met with the election officers, and monitored and observed the counting centers and various polling centers. The team monitored the state of election preparations, the roles of various stakeholders, security challenges, voter education, and public access and sensitivity to information.

The team included former INSEC executive member and security expert Shobhakar Budhathoki, INSEC central information officer Krishna Gautam, human rights worker and monitoring expert Prakash Gyawali, observer Binod KC, and INSEC district representative Jaynarayan Pun. They held discussions with Chief Election Officer Prakash Prasad Pandit in Ghorahi, Dang Constituency No. 2, Election Officer Krishna Nepal in Constituency No. 1, and Election Officer Chandrabhadur Sinjali in Constituency No. 3.



In the meetings, information was gathered regarding election preparations and the readiness of counting centers. Similarly, on-site observations were conducted at polling centers in Raksachaur, Haripauri, and Rihar, Padmodaya in Ghorahi, and Gairagaun, interacting with election officers, security command chiefs, and officials involved in election preparations.

Overall, the election officers stated that all preparatory work had been carried out in a coordinated manner. Despite challenges such as short time, deployment of adequately trained personnel, and some logistical materials, the entire election mechanism was engaged to ensure a clean, fair, and fear-free election in all three constituencies.

### **Rolpa**

According to **INSEC representative Tilak Gharti Magar**, all preparations for the House of Representatives election to be held on March 5 have been completed in Rolpa. According to Assistant Chief Election Officer Gokarna Lamsal, necessary preparations have been completed at 180 permanent and 2 temporary polling centers among the 86 polling locations in the district. He stated that manpower, materials, and arrangements have been made at all polling centers.

Chief District Officer Gangabhadur Kshetri informed that voting can be conducted confidently from 7 AM to 5 PM on Thursday. He stated that security and administrative preparations have been completed to ensure a clean, fair, and peaceful election, and that the environment allows voters to cast their votes with confidence.

In Rolpa, 149,597 voters will participate. Among them, 74,907 are female and 74,690 are male voters. The district has 10 local levels and 72 wards. In this election, candidates from 10 political parties are competing from Rolpa.

### **Palpa**

According to INSEC representative Yajnamurti Timilsina, all preparations for the House of Representatives election to be held on March 5 have been completed in Palpa. According to Chief Election Officer Hari Prasad Sharma Upadhyay Pageni, all polling locations and polling centers in the district are ready. He stated that the necessary arrangements have been made to conduct the election in a clean, fair, and peaceful manner.

In the two constituencies of Palpa, preparations for vote counting have also been completed. Counting for Constituency No. 1 will be conducted in Rampur Municipality, and for Constituency No. 2 in Balmandir, Tansen.

Chief District Officer Binu Bajracharya Kunwar stated that security arrangements including CCTV cameras have been made at the counting centers. He informed that an environment has been created for voters to vote confidently.

### **Gulmi**

According to **INSEC representative Toplal Aryal**, all preparations for the House of Representatives election to be held on March 5 have been completed in Gulmi. The relevant authorities have stated that polling center construction work has been completed throughout the district.



Chief District Officer Badrinath Gaire of the District Administration Office, Gulmi, informed that the security arrangements have been strengthened to create a situation where voters can cast their votes in a clean and fear-free environment.



According to him, the monitoring of the silence period is also being carried out through an integrated security plan. Considering the possibility of adverse weather conditions, necessary precautions have been taken, Gaire stated. It has been reported that the administration and security agencies are in full readiness to conduct the election peacefully and fairly.

### **Arghakhanchi**

According to **INSEC representative Kul Bahadur Nepali**, the District Election Office has stated that all necessary preparations have been completed at all polling centers in the district to conduct the House of Representatives election on March 5. According to Election Officer Buddha Prakash Paudel, all tasks—including the construction of polling booths, multi-party meetings, discussions and agreements on necessary policies and regulations, and the selection

of polling representatives—have been completed to ensure that voting is conducted in a clean, fair, and fear-free environment.



The administration and security agencies are in a state of readiness to ensure an organized and secure election process. The office has reported that the election code of conduct is in effect during the silence period and that no violations have been recorded so far. The District Election Office has urged voters to participate in the voting process without fear.

### **Banke**

According to the Lumbini Province Office, on the eve of the House of Representatives election, a team comprising INSEC Executive Committee member Advocate Bikash Acharya, Observer Senior Advocate Sunil Kumar Shrestha, and Lumbini Province Coordinator Bhola Mahat conducted on-site monitoring of preparations in Banke Constituencies No. 1 and 2.

During the monitoring, the team inspected the office of the Election Officer in Constituency No. 1 and the counting center at Agaiya, engaging in discussions with staff, security personnel, and volunteers. Election Officer Sarojanidhi Wagle reported that peace and security measures have been strengthened, election materials have been delivered to designated locations, and all necessary arrangements have been completed.



Constituency No. 1 has 124,700 voters. In this area, 48 polling sites and 141 polling centers have been designated. The Election Officer reported that during the transportation of election materials, one ballot box was found to be damaged and was returned, after which a new ballot box was sent. It has been stated that ballot boxes used in the previous election have also been brought into use this time.



Security patrols have been strengthened in all election areas of Banke. The concerned authorities have reported that no untoward incidents have occurred in the district so far.

### **Pyuthan**

According to **INSEC representative Ravindra Pandey**, Chief Election Officer Hiranyaprasad Bhandari informed that all preparations have been completed in the district for the House of Representatives election on March 5. Chief Election Officer Bhandari stated that all preparations for voting have been completed at 158 polling sites and 230 polling centers across the district. He added that meetings were held with representatives of political parties at the polling centers to ensure necessary coordination and complete the required procedures. Nepal Police, Election Police, Armed Police Force, and the Nepali Army have been deployed at all polling sites and centers in the district.

According to District Police Chief DSP Narahari Adhikari, an environment has been created where voters can cast their votes with confidence. He stated that security arrangements have been strengthened to ensure that the election is conducted in a clean, fair, and peaceful manner.

## **Karnali Province**

All polling centers in Karnali Province have received election materials along with staff for the House of Representatives election scheduled on March 5. According to Information Officer Nandarama Chaulagain of the Karnali Province Election Office in Surkhet, election staff and security personnel of all levels, including the Nepali Army, have reached 941 polling sites and 1,137 polling centers across the province with election materials. In the districts of Dolpa, Humla, and Mugu, staff have reached polling centers via helicopter and on foot, he added.

Chief District Officer Junu Hamal of the District Administration Office, Dolpa, reported that in 20 polling centers in Upper Dolpa, election staff and materials were delivered with the help of Nepali Army helicopters, while in three polling centers, staff and materials reached after a three-day trek. According to him, there are 70 polling centers in Dolpa, including two temporary ones, for prisoners and staff. Similarly, Chief District Officer Khadananda Khatri of Mugu reported that security personnel and election staff with materials have reached all 70 polling centers in the district, including one temporary center. Chief District Officer Tekkumar Regmi of Humla stated that election staff and materials were delivered by helicopter to four polling centers. According to him, Humla has 60 polling sites and 65 polling centers, including one temporary center.

Karnali Province has a total of 1,037,247 voters, comprising 527,886 men and 509,361 women. The highest number of voters is in Surkhet, with 248,943, while Dolpa has the fewest, with 24,115 voters.

### **Surkhet**

According to INSEC Karnali Province Office, a joint team of INSEC, Niyog, and FDWL observers monitored seven polling centers on March 4 in Wards 1, 5, 7, and 8 of Birendranagar Municipality, informed INSEC Province Coordinator Narayan Subedi. During the monitoring, it was observed that polling representatives were appointed on March 4, polling center construction had reached its final stage, and some centers were in the process of appointing volunteers.

At the Chisapani-based Shri Nepal National Secondary School polling center in Birendranagar-5, Election Officer Govinda Prasad Pandey received complaints that the polling center was too small for the number of voters. There are 3,890 voters at this center, which is one of four polling centers in the ward.

Similarly, at Shri Siddha Bahira Balak Secondary School in Birendranagar-8, Election Officer Mirakumari Gautam reported difficulties as the polling center is located in a residential school, which houses around 150 children.

In Birendranagar-7, a polling center was set up at the Nepal Police School, staffed entirely by 12 women, serving 1,132 voters. Most of the work at this center was completed during the daytime.

Observer organizations including INSEC monitored polling centers at Shri Krishna Sanskrit Mavi, Nepal Police School, Bhairav Mavi in Bhairavsthan, Health Post in Hilekhali, Dipmala Basic School in Bangesimal, Shri Nepal National Mavi in Chisapani, and Shri Siddha Bahira Balak Mavi in Khajura.

During monitoring, it was observed that separate lines were arranged for men and women, provisions were made for senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and pregnant women to avoid standing in line, a confidential voting area was set up, security personnel were deployed, arrangements were made for voters to queue, and seating areas were organized for party representatives and staff. The Nepali Army also conducted patrols near the polling centers.



Similarly, during monitoring, it was observed that all preparations for the election had been completed at the polling centers in Barahatal Rural Municipality, Panchapuri Municipality, and Chaukune Rural Municipality of Surkhet district.

At Vidyapur in Panchapuri Municipality-9, during a multi-party meeting held on March 3, former Ward Chairperson and UML representative Shanti Kharal took a stance that after voting, ballot boxes should not be left solely under the responsibility of security personnel. He demanded that party representatives should also accompany the ballot boxes.



For the House of Representatives election scheduled for March 5, the Nepali Army will conduct aerial patrols over polling sites designated as highly sensitive. Since March 4, aerial patrols have begun in six districts under the Northwestern Command Headquarters. Deputy Commander Dipeshjung Shah of the Northwestern Command Headquarters stated that, targeting tomorrow's election, aerial patrols will monitor and observe polling centers in districts identified as highly sensitive. He added that aerial patrols will be conducted over Kalikot, Jajarkot, Dolpa, Surkhet, Banke, and Bardiya for two days. "There are 356 highly sensitive polling sites in the districts under our command. In case of necessity, troops can be deployed by air, which is why aerial patrols are being conducted in sensitive areas. On election day, we plan to conduct aerial patrols with the necessary forces," he said.

According to data from the Karnali Province Police Office, out of all polling sites in the province's 10 districts, 359 are highly sensitive, 422 are sensitive, and 160 are considered normal.

Following reports of fuel shortages in Birendranagar market, the Nepal Oil Corporation Regional Office in Surkhet confirmed there is no actual shortage. Regional Office Chief Dipak Prasad Ghimire stated that supplies are sufficient, and there is no possibility of shortage. "We have supplied double the daily demand to the market. So far, 80,000 liters of petrol and 160,000 liters of diesel have been supplied for today. On the 22nd, the same quantities will be supplied. We want to assure all consumers that the petroleum supply system is regular and smooth," he said. The Corporation also requested that people refrain from storing excess fuel or crowding petrol pumps unnecessarily, to prevent panic or false rumors.

Monitoring by INSEC showed that in the western Surkhet districts—Barahatal Rural Municipality, Panchपुरी Municipality, and Chaukune Rural Municipality—leaders and cadres

of the CPN-UML, Nepali Congress, Rastriya Swatantra Party (Rspapa), and Rastriya Prajatantra Party (Rastriya Prajatantra Party) have carried out house-to-house campaigns.

### **Humla**

According to **INSEC representative Nanda Singh**, a team from the National Human Rights Commission arrived in Humla to monitor the 2026 House of Representatives election. Organizations such as INSEC, Niyog, Human Rights Forum, GESUS Federation, and EOSI have been authorized to observe the election in the district. The National Human Rights Commission discussed election-related activities before, during, and after the election with local observers.

Reviewing previous elections, it was noted that many polling centers did not allow independent voting, parties involved children in campaigns, government vehicles were misused, and many voters were unable to exercise their voting rights. Observers also reported difficulties in monitoring due to the remote geography of Humla, and that during elections, Dalits, women, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized individuals were sometimes prevented from voting while others cast ballots on their behalf.

### **Jumla**

According to **INSEC representative Manadatt Rawal**, preparations for the House of Representatives election on March 5 have reached the final stage. Election staff and security personnel have reached all polling sites along with election materials. Since all polling sites in Jumla are accessible by road, staff arrived at the polling centers as early as March 3.

Assistant Election Officer Harikrishna Timilsina stated that even the most remote polling centers—Chotra in Guthichaur Rural Municipality, Sipti Marfan in Kanakasundari, Kavra, Jhyari, Sudi and Ghode in Chautha Tila, and Tamti Bahragaun in Tatopani—have received staff and security personnel. According to him, all 85 polling sites in Jumla have held multi-party meetings. Jumla has 75 polling sites and 110 polling centers, with election officers conducting multi-party and multi-stakeholder meetings at all 85 polling sites.

There are 10 candidates in the race, including one independent. All nine political parties, through participation of municipal and ward committee officials and members, have agreed to conduct the election in a peaceful, orderly, fear-free, and fraud-free environment. Furthermore, arrangements for accessible voting lines for men, women, persons with disabilities, and senior citizens have been completed at most polling sites.



In Jumla, 654 staff members have been deployed for the election. Although there are no current security threats in this election, security arrangements at polling centers have been strengthened based on their sensitivity, Chief District Officer Deepak Paudel reported.

Meanwhile, in Litakot, Tatopani Rural Municipality-3, the Deputy Chairperson of the rural municipality, Revati Rawal, was attacked at her home on the evening of March 3, according to her husband, Bhaktabahadur Rawal. He stated that members of the local Sarkee family—including Aite Sarkee, her son Nari Sarkee, two daughters, and two daughters-in-law—carried out the assault. According to him, the attackers were under the influence of intoxicants, and the deputy chairperson sustained serious injuries. Deputy Chairperson Rawal has been receiving treatment at the Karnali Health Science Academy Teaching Hospital in Jumla since March 3. Doctors reported that she is currently having difficulty speaking and has sustained a severe head injury.

Following the incident, the victims filed a complaint at the Jumla District Police Office on March 3 for necessary legal action. The police have confirmed that an investigation is underway. Deputy Chairperson Rawal stated that the attack occurred despite there being no prior dispute. DSP Rabin Babu Regmi of Jumla District Police Office confirmed that the police received a complaint and are attempting to summon and discuss the matter with the accused.

Rastriya Prajatantra Party (Rastriya Prajatantra Party) candidate Gyanendra Shahi claimed that on the evening of March 3, a group, including the brother-in-law of Nepali Communist Party candidate Naresh Bhandari, surrounded his house. He posted a video of the incident on social media, which he later deleted. No formal legal proceedings have been initiated regarding this matter.

In Sinja Rural Municipality-6, Ruga village, a Rastriya Prajatantra Party worker was assaulted by Nepali Communist Party (NCP) cadres. The victim, 18-year-old Jayalal Budha, is receiving

treatment at Karnali Health Science Academy Teaching Hospital in Jumla. The attack reportedly occurred after a scuffle broke out when votes were allegedly being bought and distributed during the silence period. Although the police were informed, no formal complaint has been filed, DSP Rabin Babu Regmi stated.

### **Dailekh**

According to **INSEC representative Amar Sunar**, preparations for the House of Representatives election on March 5 are progressing rapidly in Dailekh. Staff deployed from the Chief Election Officer's office are reaching various polling sites to set up polling centers. The staff are engaged in managing the polling sites, constructing polling booths, arranging fencing, and organizing areas for voters to queue.



In addition, necessary election preparations are being carried out through multi-party meetings with local political party representatives. Janak Nyaupane, Ward Chairperson of Ward No. 6, Narayan Municipality, observed the Kandachaur polling site and stated that election preparations are progressing well. He urged that all necessary arrangements be made to ensure voters can cast their ballots in a convenient environment.

Dr. Manoj Bishwakarma, the election officer at the Kandachaur polling center, reported that preparations at the polling site—including booth construction, fencing, and voter line management—are underway. He stated that all arrangements are being completed to ensure the election is conducted in a clean, fair, and organized manner. Similarly, Election Officer Pramod Acharya at the 'B' polling center in the same location confirmed that necessary materials, staff deployment, and security arrangements are being prepared.



He stated that work is underway to create an environment where voters can cast their votes conveniently. The District Election Office reported that staff and security personnel have already been deployed to ensure the election is conducted in a clean, fair, and secure manner. According to the Chief Election Officer's office, 210 election officers and 210 assistant election officers have been deployed across the district. In Constituency No. 1, there are 73 polling sites with 106 polling centers, while Constituency No. 2 has 66 polling sites with 104 polling centers. The District Election Office also stated that 21 candidates, including representatives of various political parties and independents, are contesting in the election.

### **Dolpa**

According to **INSEC representative Bishnu Devkota**, election staff deployed at polling centers in the high-altitude areas of Dolpa were rescued after falling ill. At the polling center located in Ward No. 6 office building of She-Phoksundo Rural Municipality-6, five staff members became unwell on the afternoon of March 4 due to cold weather and low oxygen levels. The District Administration Office, Dolpa, reported that they were evacuated by Nepali Army helicopter.

The rescued staff included assistant staff (Ditha) from the District Court Gorkha Bahadur Thapa, office assistant Dhan Bahadur Mahtara from Salt Trading Corporation, and three election police personnel—Krishna Jhakri, Atmaram Bohora, and Indraman Dharal. They experienced fever, headache, cough, vomiting, and breathing difficulties due to high altitude. After evacuation, they were sent to the District Hospital, Dolpa for treatment. The Nepali Army noted that the polling center is located in an extremely remote area about six days on foot from the district headquarters Dunai, making immediate medical assistance necessary. There are 40 voters at this polling center, and these staff had been deployed there via helicopter for the election. Alternative arrangements at the polling center were also planned to ensure operations continued despite the staff falling ill.

### **Rukum**

**West**

According to INSEC representative Jeevan Khadka, Election Officer Mohanlal KC reported that polling center construction is ongoing at all polling sites in Rukum West.

## **Mugu**

According to INSEC representative Nand Bahadur Rokaya, preparations for the House of Representatives election in the Himalayan district of Mugu have reached the final stage. Election staff, security personnel, and election materials have already reached the upper polling sites, and all election-related preparations have been completed, according to Nand Kumar Bisht, the election officer at Khari polling center.

Assistant Election Officer Premraj Khaniya stated that all polling sites in the remote Mugum Karmarong Rural Municipality, including Mugu and Dolfu Kimri, have received staff and security personnel.

## **Sudurpaschim Province**

Preparations for the House of Representatives election scheduled for March 5 have been completed in all nine districts of Sudurpashchim Province. Chief of the Provincial Election Office in Kailali, Premraj Bhatt, stated that all election preparations are complete and that security personnel and staff have been deployed to all polling sites since March 2.

Election officers deployed at the polling sites began tasks such as selecting locations to post election-related notices from March 2 onward. The province has 16 constituencies, 1,176 polling sites, and 2,199 polling centers. A total of 1,716,660 voters are registered across these constituencies. INSEC observers and sources have reported the following pre-election conditions in the districts:

### **Baitadi**

According to **INSEC representative Naridatt Badu**, preparations for the House of Representatives election in Baitadi, which has one constituency, have been completed. All polling sites have received staff along with election materials, and management of the polling sites has been completed. Pre-election multi-party meetings were organized, and all political parties have committed to conducting the election in a clean, fair, and fraud-free manner, according to the District Election Office.

**INSEC observer Bhagirath Awasthi** reported that on March 4, police arrested one person in Baitadi with cash and election training materials. The Armed Police patrol team apprehended 52-year-old Bhanadev Bhatt from Khochlek, Dogadakedar Rural Municipality-3. Inspector Suraj Singh of Baitadi District Police Office stated that 79,000 NPR in cash and election training materials were recovered from him. As the arrest occurred during the election silence period with cash and sample ballots, Bhatt was handed over to the police for investigation. Preliminary questioning revealed that Bhatt claimed to be a Congress worker. Inspector Singh said, “The Armed Police patrol team detained Bhatt with cash and election training materials, and further investigation is underway.”

Dipendra Bahadur Chand, Deputy Secretary of Nepali Congress Baitadi, added that the Congress had sent a letter to the local administration requesting monitoring because Bhatt and others were allegedly distributing money to voters in coordination with UML workers. After Bhatt opposed Congress, the party requested oversight from the administration.

## Darchula

According to **INSEC representative Narendra Singh Karki**, all preparations for vote counting in Darchula, which has one constituency, have been completed. Mahendra Model Secondary School in Khalanga has been set up with wire fencing and CCTV for secure and transparent counting. Chief Election Officer Bhuvan Giri explained that counting will be conducted under CCTV monitoring, with election representatives observing from outside the fencing.

He stated, “All necessary arrangements have been completed to ensure vote counting is safe, transparent, and fair.” Preparations include carpeting, wire fencing, CCTV installation, and backup generators for electricity.

Darchula has nine local bodies and 61 wards. There are 92,948 registered voters, including 45,193 women and 47,755 men. Eleven candidates are contesting in the election. Across the district, there are 112 polling sites and 143 polling centers, including two temporary centers. A polling center has been designated within the prison for incarcerated voters, accommodating 23 voters and seven staff, for a total of 30 people. Additionally, a polling center has been established at the Domestic and Small Industries Office for proportional voting. Based on geography and security, the District Security Committee has classified 22 polling sites as highly sensitive and 41 as sensitive.



Across the district, election staff and security personnel have been actively preparing polling centers. With voting scheduled to begin at 7 a.m., preparations are being finalized today.

Even at Gaurishankar Secondary School in Nagu, Ward No. 1, Naugad Rural Municipality—which had decided to boycott the House of Representatives election—the polling center has been set up and made ready. According to Vishnu Prasad Awasthi, Information Officer and Assistant Election Officer at the Chief Election Officer’s office, teams of election officers, staff, and security personnel have arrived in Nagu to prepare for the election. Election Officer Chandra Singh Khati, who arrived to conduct the election, stated that although no party representatives attended the multi-party meeting, preparations were carried out with local participation. Meeting participants agreed that no one attempting to vote would be obstructed.

Because of the election boycott announcement, no candidates have visited the area to seek votes. The Gaurishankar Secondary School polling center in Nagu has 602 registered voters.

In Darchula, two polling centers are being managed entirely by female staff. These are Mahendra Model Secondary School, Khalanga, in Mahakali Municipality-4 (district headquarters), and the Changru polling center in Ward No. 1 of Byans Rural Municipality.

According to Bishnu Prasad Awasthi, all staff at both polling centers are women. At the Mahendra Model Secondary School, Khalanga, female-led polling center, there are a total of 793 registered voters, 404 women and 359 men. The polling officer assigned is Maheshwari Dhami, an engineer from Byans Rural Municipality, and the assistant election officer is Sapana Singh, also from Byans Rural Municipality.



Voters at two polling centers in the district have decided to boycott the House of Representatives election scheduled for March 5. The voters at Gaurishankar Primary School in Nagu, Ward No. 1, Naugad Rural Municipality, and at Dudhila Primary School in Api Himal Rural Municipality-3, Jhusku, have chosen not to participate in the vote.

Even though the Chief Secretary of Sudurpashchim Province, Baikuntha Aryal, visited Nagu for discussions with the local community at the last moment, the voters were not willing to cast their ballots. Aryal had traveled by helicopter from Dhangadhi on Wednesday afternoon to meet with the Nagu Development Struggle Committee. According to Karan Singh Dadal, coordinator of the committee, the local residents, who have been standing for the “No” vote campaign since Magh 1, have maintained their decision not to vote. Although the provincial government assured addressing their demands in the upcoming budget, the people were not convinced. Due to the delayed proposal from the provincial government, there was insufficient time for meaningful discussion with the community.

Earlier, on February 7, a team led by Chief District Officer Anil Paudel had visited Nagu to persuade the residents. Election Officer Chandra Singh Khati, sent to conduct the election in Nagu, said that although no party representatives attended the multi-party meeting, preparations had begun with local participation. Participants agreed not to obstruct anyone attempting to vote. However, due to the community’s unified stance, no voting is expected. The Gaurishankar Secondary School polling center in Nagu has 602 registered voters.

Similarly, some residents of Api Himal Rural Municipality-3 have been running a “No” vote campaign since February 27. Following the 2018 ward division, many settlements in Ward

No. 3 were left with a ward office located far away. These residents decided not to vote until the ward division issue is resolved, according to local resident Kamal Singh Rokaya.

At Dudhila Primary School in Ward No. 3 of Api Himal, a meeting was held in the presence of the polling officer and other officials, where voters reiterated their decision not to participate. Residents of Jhusku, Chaud, Chhavis, and Bhattar villages under this polling center have reaffirmed their boycott. The polling center has 346 registered voters.

During the election silence period, on March 4, a water pipe was seized from an ambulance in Malikarjun Rural Municipality. Police detained the ambulance driver, Jay Singh Dhami, and local resident Kalyan Singh Dhami for questioning. One water pipe and the ambulance were taken into custody.

### **Bajura**

According to **INSEC representative Padma Bahadur Singh**, preparations for the House of Representatives election scheduled for March 5 are in full swing, with all polling centers in Bajura receiving election materials and polling stations being set up rapidly.

According to Angat Mahat, Information Officer at the District Election Office, polling officers, assistant polling officers, supporting staff, and volunteers have reached their respective polling sites by Monday and Tuesday. Bajura has 77 polling sites, one temporary polling site, and 118 polling centers, all in the final stages of preparation. All necessary arrangements are expected to be completed by Wednesday evening.

The Chief Election Officer's office in Bajura stated that a total of 709 staff have been deployed across the district. Each of the 118 polling centers has up to six staff members, including the polling officer and assistant polling officer. An additional temporary polling site has been established at the Divisional Forest Office in Martadi, with four staff assigned there.

Bajura has 87,861 registered voters, 45,428 men, 42,431 women, and 2 others. The district has one House of Representatives constituency, with eight candidates contesting the election: seven from political parties and one independent. Voting will begin at 7 a.m. on March 5. The District Election Office confirmed that the administration and security forces are fully prepared to ensure a peaceful, fair, and organized election.