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**A. BILATERAL ENGAGEMENTS**

**OFFICIAL VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT TO SWITZERLAND AND GERMANY**

President Mr. Ramchandra Paudel paid an official visit to Switzerland and Republic of Germany from 11 to 19 June 2024. During the visit, the President held separate bilateral meetings with President of the Swiss

Confederation Ms. Viola Amherd in Bern and President of the Federal Republic of Germany Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier in Berlin, where the top leaders discussed the whole gamut of bilateral relationship between the two countries.

The President also visited German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ), Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and Research Institute for Sustainability (RIFS) in Germany.



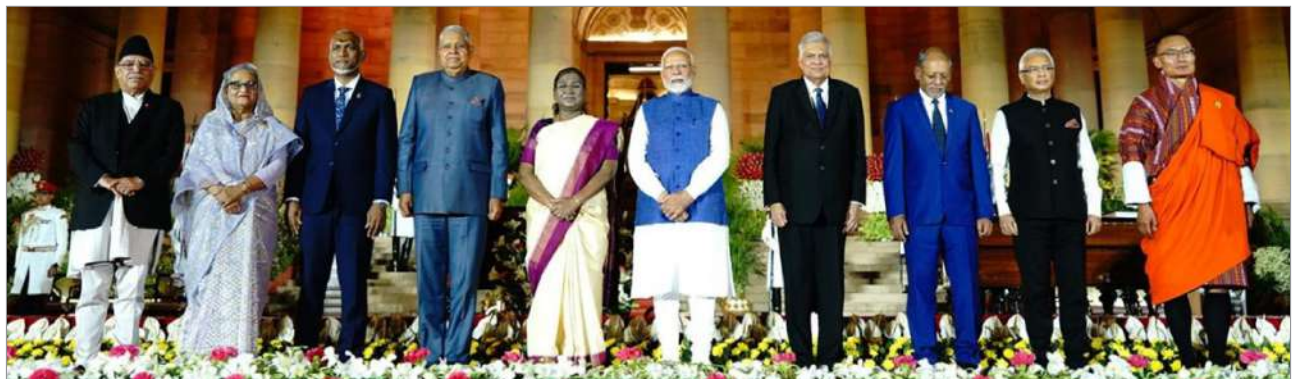
*President of Nepal with Presidents of Switzerland (left) and Germany (right)*

**OFFICIAL VISIT OF THE PRIME MINISTER TO INDIA**

Prime Minister Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' paid

an official visit to India on 9-10 June 2024 at the invitation of

the Prime Minister of India. The Prime Minister participated



*Prime Minister of Nepal at the Swearing-in Ceremony of the Indian Prime Minister*

in the swearing-in ceremony of the newly appointed Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi on 9 June 2024 in New Delhi.

During the visit, Prime Minister Dahal paid a courtesy call on the President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on 10 June 2024. Likewise, Union Minister of

India Dr. S. Jaishankar, who was later assigned the portfolio of the Minister for External Affairs, paid a courtesy call on the visiting Nepali Prime Minister.



*Prime Minister with the President and the Prime Minister of India (left) and with Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar (right)*

## REOPENING OF THE TRADITIONAL TRADE POINTS BETWEEN NEPAL-CHINA



*Reopening Ceremony of Nepal-China Traditional Border Trade Points*

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Narayan Kaji Shrestha, leading a Nepali delegation, attended

the reopening ceremony of 14 traditional border trade points between Nepal and China. The ceremony was organized at

Chentang of Tibet, China across Kimathanka of Sankhuwasabha, Nepal on 25 May 2024.

## MEETING OF THE NEPAL-CHINA DIPLOMATIC CONSULTATION MECHANISM

The 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Nepal-China Diplomatic Consultation Mechanism was held on 25 June 2024 in Kathmandu. Ms. Sewa Lamsal, Foreign

Secretary of Nepal led the Nepali delegation and Mr. Sun Weidong, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of China led the Chinese delegation. During the

Meeting, the two sides reviewed the whole gamut of bilateral relations between Nepal and China and assessed the progress made in the implementation of

agreements and MoUs signed and the decisions made in the past. They expressed firm commitment to further promote cooperation in mutually agreed areas and to work in realization of economic opportunities for mutual benefits.

During his visit to Nepal, Vice Minister Mr. Weidong paid courtesy calls on President Mr. Ramchandra Paudel, Prime Minister Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' and Deputy



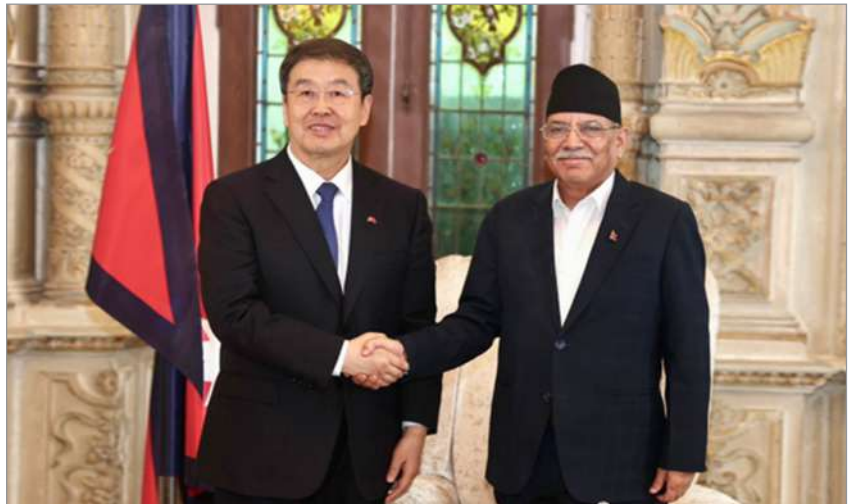
*16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Nepal-China Diplomatic Consultation Mechanism in Kathmandu*

Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Narayan Kaji Shrestha.

### VISITS OF SENIOR CHINESE OFFICIALS TO NEPAL

A delegation led by Mr. Bateer; Vice Chairman of National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference visited Nepal on 5-7 June 2024. The delegation paid courtesy calls on Vice President Mr. Ram Sahay Prasad Yadav, Prime Minister Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Narayan Kaji Shrestha and Deputy Speaker of House of Representatives Ms. Indira Rana Magar.

Mr. Liu Guixiang, Justice and Member of the Adjudication Committee of the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China visited Nepal from 16 to 19 June 2024. He paid



*Prime Minister Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' and Mr. Bateer*

courtesy calls on Chief Justice of Nepal Mr. Bishwambhar Prasad Shrestha and Minister for Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Mr. Padam Giri.

Similarly, Mr. Ye Hanbing, Vice Governor and Commissioner of Public Security Department of

Sichuan Province of China visited Nepal from 18 to 20 June 2024 and held delegation level talks with Home Secretary Mr. Eak Narayan Aryal. During the visit, he paid courtesy call on Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs Mr. Rabi Lamichhane.

### SECOND NEPAL -FINLAND BILATERAL CONSULTATION MEETING

The Second Meeting of Nepal-Finland Bilateral Consultation Mechanism was held in Kathmandu on 5 June 2024.

Mr. Ganesh Prasad Dhakal, Head of the Europe America Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Pasi Hellman,

Under Secretary of State for International Development, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland led their respective



*Second Bilateral Consultation Mechanism meeting between Nepal and Finland*

delegations to the meeting. During the meeting, the two sides discussed different aspects of

Nepal-Finland relations including development cooperation and trade, as well as matters of global

concern such as climate change and multilateralism.

### **MEETING OF JOINT EXPERT GROUP ON NEPAL-CHINA BORDER MATTERS**

The Meeting of Joint Expert Group on Nepal-China border matters was held in Beijing from 18-19 June 2024. The

Nepali delegation was led by the Director General of Survey Department Mr. Prakash Joshi and included officials from

Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Survey Department of the Government of Nepal.

### **SENIOR PAKISTANI CIVIL SERVANTS VISIT NEPAL**

A delegation of senior civil servants from Pakistan (participants of National Management Course from NSPP, Pakistan) visited Nepal on 18-23 May 2024. The delegation paid a courtesy call on Foreign Secretary Ms. Sewa Lamsal on 20 May 2024. The visiting delegation also had meetings with the Policy Research Institute, Nepal Rastra Bank and the Nepal Administrative Staff College.



*Pakistani Delegation with the Foreign Secretary of Nepal*

## **B. REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS**

### **PRESIDENT PARTICIPATES IN THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE**

President of Nepal Mr. Ramchandra Paudel participated in the 112<sup>th</sup> International

Labour Conference in Geneva, Switzerland and delivered a keynote address at the Inaugural

Session of the Global Coalition for Social Justice held during the Conference on 13 June 2024.

Delivering his address, the President emphasized that Nepal's Constitution has enshrined labor rights, the right to employment, the right to form trade unions, and the right to participate in collective bargaining as fundamental rights. He also highlighted that to implement these constitutional provisions, Nepal has made legal and institutional arrangements such as the Labor Act, Trade Union Act, Employment Rights Act, Contribution-based Social Security Act, and National Employment Policy.

During the visit, President Mr. Paudel held meeting with the ILO Director-General Mr. Gilbert



*The President delivering statement in the 112<sup>th</sup> International Labour Conference*

F. Hougbo. The two leaders discussed cooperation between Nepal and ILO to advance decent work and promote social justice. The President reaffirmed the commitment of the Government of Nepal to embrace social justice for all in all areas and to implement the 'Decent Work Agenda' and the

Decent Work Programme (2023–2027) in Nepal, which includes employment rights, and social dialogue.

The Conference was also attended by a high-level delegation of Nepal, led by Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security Mr. Dol Prasad Aryal. In his address to the Plenary session of the Conference on 11 June 2024, Minister Aryal expressed Nepal's commitment towards social justice and promotion of decent work in Nepal.



*Meeting between the President and ILO Director-General*

## NEPAL PARTICIPATES IN THE NINETEENTH ACD MINISTERIAL MEETING

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Narayan Kaji Shrestha participated in the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Foreign Ministers of Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Members States held on 24 June 2024 in Tehran, Iran.

In his address, DPMFM Shrestha reiterated Nepal's strong commitment to regional cooperation and stressed the need to implement ACD vision 2030 as well as ACD Blueprint 2021-2030 for achieving shared objectives

of growth, sustainability and prosperity including SDGs 2030. The Meeting endorsed Guiding Principles for the Functioning of Asia Cooperation Dialogue Secretariat; ACD Rules of Procedure; and adopted Tehran



*DPMFM Shrestha addressing the Ministerial Meeting*

Declaration. The Ministerial Meeting was preceded by the Senior Officials Meeting on 23

June 2024. Earlier, the previous Senior Officials Meeting of ACD was held virtually on 5 June 2024

to gear up preparatory works of the Ministerial Meeting.

### **NEPAL PARTICIPATES IN THE BIMSTEC FOREIGN MINISTERS' RETREAT**



*Ministers and Dignitaries participating in the Retreat*

Foreign Secretary Ms. Sewa Lamsal participated in the Second Retreat of Foreign Ministers of BIMSTEC Member States hosted

on 11-12 July 2024 in New Delhi, India. This Retreat reviewed status of progress in agreed areas of cooperation within BIMSTEC and

discussed organizational reform agendas as well as regional and global issues of mutual interests.

### **NEPAL HOSTED INTERNATIONAL EXPERT DIALOGUE IN KATHMANDU**

Ministry of Forests and Environment of Nepal organized an International Expert Dialogue on Mountains, People and

Climate Change on 22-23 May 2024 in Kathmandu. Minister for Agriculture and Livestock of Bhutan Mr. Younten Phuntsho and

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate of Bangladesh Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury as well as representatives of mountainous

countries, climate change experts and partnering agencies attended the Dialogue. During their visit to

Nepal, the visiting Environment Ministers paid separate courtesy calls on Prime Minister Pushpa

Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' in Singha Durbar.



Prime Minister of Nepal with visiting Ministers of Bhutan (left) and Bangladesh (right)

### NEPAL PARTICIPATES IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SIDS

Leading the Nepali delegation, Foreign Secretary of Nepal Ms. Sewa Lamsal participated in the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4) held in Antigua and Barbuda on 27-30 May 2024 under the theme of “Charting the Course toward Resilient Prosperity”. The Foreign Secretary delivered a statement at the general debate of the Conference on behalf of the group of least developed countries (LDCs).

In her statement, she emphasized that LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS are hardest hit by the impacts of compounding and intersecting crises from the pandemic to climate change, conflicts to geopolitical competition and rivalry, and ever-rising cost of living due to external shocks and underlined the high cost paid by the countries in special situations due to climate change and urged the international community to support them. She also congratulated SIDS for adopting ambitious and action-oriented

Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS) and expressed LDCs’ solidarity with SIDS.

Foreign Secretary Ms. Lamsal also had a meeting with Mr. António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations on the sidelines of SIDS4 where they held discussions on Nepal-UN partnership, Nepal’s graduation from the LDC category, UN’s contribution to Nepal’s development efforts, issues related to climate change, and the importance of effective multilateralism, among others.



Foreign Secretary Lamsal delivering her statement in the Conference



## NEPAL PARTICIPATES IN ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL CONSULTATION

Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai, Joint Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs participated in the Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation on the 2025 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture

organized by the Government of the Republic of Korea on 28 May 2024 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

The objective of this consultation was to discuss global and regional peacebuilding challenges

and opportunities, share best practices and lessons, and provide substantive inputs reflecting the perspective of the Asia-Pacific region into the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review.



*Joint Secretary Mr. Rai participating at the Consultation*

## BIMSTEC SECRETARY GENERAL VISITS NEPAL

BIMSTEC Secretary General Mr. Indra Mani Pandey paid an introductory visit to Nepal on 19-22 May 2024. During the visit, he paid separate courtesy calls on President Mr. Ramchandra Paudel, Prime Minister Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', Deputy Prime Minister and

Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Narayan Kaji Shrestha, and other high officials of the Government of Nepal. The Secretary General apprised the leaders on the status of progress in regional cooperation in BIMSTEC.

The visiting Secretary-General delivered a keynote address on

“Harnessing Regional Synergies for Development and Prosperity in the BIMSTEC Region” at an event organized by the Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA) at Tribhuvan University on 20 May 2024.



*BIMSTEC Secretary General during calls-on with the President and the Prime Minister*

## C. DEVELOPMENT DIPLOMACY

### INTERACTION PROGRAM ON PROMOTION OF EXPORT AND INVESTMENT

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized an interaction program on 27 June 2024 on the role of the Ministry and Nepali missions abroad in promoting exports and investment. The program was attended virtually by the Ambassadors and Embassy officials of Nepali missions abroad and physically by senior government officials as well as senior officials of the relevant agencies and private sector. Senior officials from the Investment

Board Nepal and Trade and Export Promotion Centre (TEPC) made presentations on trading and investment opportunities in Nepal and shared updates on recent policy reforms. The officials from FNCCI, CNI, NCC and FEEN delivered remarks on their strengths and expectations from Nepali missions to promote trade and investment.

Foreign Secretary Ms. Sewa Lamsal addressed the program highlighting the need to forge

synergy among all stakeholders to promote the common goal of facilitating the growth of Nepal's potentials in trade and investment sector. Delivering concluding remarks, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Narayan Kaji Shrestha stressed the growing need of promoting economic interests of the nation by Nepali missions abroad, in collaboration with relevant government agencies and private sector in Nepal.



*Dignitaries participating in the interaction (left), participating from Nepali Missions abroad (right)*

### PROVINCE LEVEL INTERACTION PROGRAM ON ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized a province-level interactive discussion program on economic diplomacy in Dhangadhi, Kailali on 6 June

2024. The program focused on the promotion of exports, investment and tourism in relation to Sudurpaschim Province. The program was attended by senior

officials from the provincial government, and representatives from the industrial and tourism sectors of the province.



*Attendees of the Program on Economic Diplomacy*

## D. PUBLIC DIPLOMACY AND POLICY INTERACTIONS

### THIRD EDITION OF PROF. YADU NATH KHANAL LECTURE SERIES HELD

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized the third edition of the Professor Yadu Nath Khanal Lecture series on 14 May 2024 in Kathmandu. Prof. C. Raja Mohan, visiting professor and former director of the Institute of South

Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, delivered a lecture titled “Nepal-India relations: Prospects and Pathways”. The event was attended by dignitaries including ministers, former foreign ministers, members

of parliament, diplomats and academicians, among others. The lecture, speeches and video of the program are available in the Ministry’s website.



*DPMFM Shrestha alongside Former Ministers, Prof. C. Raja Mohan and the Foreign Secretary (left), Participants at the program (right)*

### EXCURSION FOR THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY IN KATHMANDU

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with the Nepal Tourism Board, organized a diplomatic excursion for the diplomatic community in Kathmandu on 2-4 June 2024 in Pokhara.

Residential Ambassadors of foreign diplomatic missions, Heads of United Nations, and International Organizations in Kathmandu participated in the programme, along with their spouses.

The first day involved a brief hike around Dhampus and a subsequent dinner hosted by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and also attended by



*Attendees at the Eco-Village in Astam*

the Foreign Secretary, followed by a cultural program. On the next day, the attendees celebrated the Annapurna Day, commemorating the first successful ascent of Mt. Annapurna. Addressing the program, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, highlighted the importance of Annapurna Day and emphasized Nepal's potential for tourism development. Post celebration, participants enjoyed the



*Annapurna Day Celebration*

excursion with boating on Fewa Lake and a cable car ride to

Sarangkot for panoramic views.

### **PREPATORY CONSULTATION PROGRAM ON SAGARMATHA SAMBAAD**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized a consultation program on preparations for Sagarmatha Sambaad on 3 July 2024 in Kathmandu. The consultation aimed at recommencing preparations for the Sagarmatha Sambaad which was previously postponed due to unanticipated consequences of the COVID-19

pandemic. The program was organized under the convenorship of the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr. Narayan Kaji Shrestha. Foreign Secretary Ms. Sewa Lamsal, Heads of the Divisions of the Ministry and Directors General, National Security Advisor, former Foreign Ministers, former foreign

secretaries, former Ambassadors, the Executive Director of the Institute of Foreign Affairs, the Executive Chairperson of the Policy Research Institute participated in the consultation and provided their inputs and feedback.



*DPMFM Shrestha and Foreign Secretary with the participants of the program*

## INTERACTION ON BRAIN GAIN CENTER



*DPMFM Shrestha and Foreign Secretary with the participants*

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized an interaction program on the Brain Gain Center in Kathmandu on 5 July 2024. Held with the objective of rejuvenating the centre, the consultation session was led by the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr. Narayan Kaji Shrestha. It was

attended by the Foreign Secretary Ms. Sewa Lamsal, along with Joint Secretaries and Under Secretaries of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It featured a presentation by Mr. Santosh Gautam, former facilitator of the Center. The presentation elucidated the concept of the center, its current

status, and a prospective roadmap to effectively restart and revitalize the initiative. This was followed by a deliberation among the participants on strategies to propel this initiative forward and formulate recommendations.

## INTERACTIVE PROGRAM ON E-PASSPORT SERVICE DELIVERY

With a view to make e-passports related service delivery more people friendly and smooth in the coming days, the Department of Passports organized a province level program entitled “Passports of Nepal: Way Forward” on 29 June 2024 in Kathmandu. Participants in the program included Chief District Officers and other representatives of District and Area Administration Offices of Bagmati Province.



*Presentation during the program*

## INTERACTION WITH CONSULAR OFFICIALS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

The Department of Consular Services, Kathmandu, on 21 May 2024, organized an interactive program with consular officials

of the foreign diplomatic missions in Kathmandu. The program was aimed at fostering cooperation among the consular

officials based in Kathmandu and to acquaint them with online consular services provided by the department including immunities

and exemption services for those missions. More than 60 diplomats, consular officers and officials from various diplomatic missions, and international and regional bodies including, SAARC, ADB, and UN participated in the program.



The Department team at the interaction program

## E. PROTOCOL UPDATES

### FOREIGN AMBASSADORS PRESENTED THEIR LETTERS OF CREDENCE

Non-Residential ambassadors-designate of the following countries presented their

respective Letters of Credence to President Mr. Ramchandra Paudel amidst a special ceremony

organized at Rastrapati Bhawan, Maharajgunj on 30 May 2024.

S. N.	Country	Name of the Ambassador-Designate	Ceremony Date
1	Republic of Ghana	Dr. Winfred Nii Okai Hammond	30 May 2024
2	Republic of Bulgaria	Mr. Nikolay Yankov	30 May 2024
3	Eritrea	Mr. Alem Tsehaye Woldemariam	30 May 2024
4	Republic of Philippines	Mr. Josel Francisco Ignacio	30 May 2024

## F. SERVICE DELIVERY AT THE HEADQUARTERS

### NON-RESIDENT NEPALI (NRN) IDENTITY CARD

S. N.	Services (from the Ministry)	Number
1	Issuance of NRN Cards	32

### PASSPORT SERVICES

S. N.	Services	Number	Remarks
1	e-Passports issued	2,48,723	Ordinary
		53	Diplomatic
		1,372	Official
2	MRPs/Travel Documents issued	39	Ordinary Passports
		19	Travel Documents
3	Total passports issued	2,50,206	Including districts and missions
4	E-mails responded	4,990	Official email
5	Responses through social media	364	Department Call Center
6	Calls received and responded	10,870	Department Call Center

7	Verification of citizenship and minor ID records	2,735	In coordination with District and Area Administration Offices
8	Revenue collected (in NRs.)	63,09,99,801/-	Department of Passports

### CONSULAR

S. N.	Services	Number
<b>A</b>	<b><i>Consular and Legal Counselling</i></b>	
1	Recommendation letters	19
2	Issuance of NOC for education abroad	62
3	Recommendations for police verification	126
4	Recommendations for procurement of chemicals and explosives	29
5	Documents issued for compensation cases abroad	71
6	Search and rescue correspondences	151
7	Correspondences for repatriation of deceased Nepali nationals	60
8	Correspondences for citizenship renouncement	30
<b>B</b>	<b><i>Visa and Exemption</i></b>	
1	Issuances of diplomatic/official/gratis visa	232
2	Issuance of diplomatic/official Cards	41
3	Issuance of SAARC visa stickers	15
4	Issuance of recommendation letters for exemption	436
5	Other correspondences and recommendations	113
6	Number of visa recommendations	323
<b>C</b>	<b><i>Attestation</i></b>	
1	Number of documents attested	1,41,833
2	Number of service recipients	1,18,342
3	Revenue collected at the Department (in NRs.)	7,12,71,000/-

**Chief Patron: Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba**  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

**Patron: Ms. Sewa Lamsal**  
Foreign Secretary

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