

# SAJHEDARI YOUTH DEMAND

Echoes of Unheard Voices from Madhesh



"क्यानभासमालोकतन्त्र संवादमानागरिक"  
लोकतांत्रिक सवलिकरणमा यूवाहरूको भूमि  
डक फोटो प्रदर्शनी



#Accountablegovernment

मेरो देशमा  
वेथिति छ,  
म चुप बस्दिन् !

Kayapalat  
An Effort for change

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## Kayapalat

An Effort for change 

*For human rights, democracy, climate justice, quality  
education, and good governance*

## KAYAPALAT

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# **SAJHEDARI YOUTH DEMAND**

**Echoes of Unheard Voices from Madhesh**

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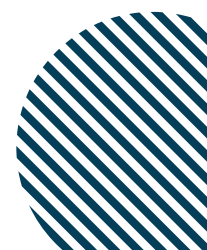
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# 1

# Acknowledgement

This book represents more than just a collection of demands; it is the shared dream of countless minds and hands that have supported Kayapalat throughout this journey.

First and foremost, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office in Nepal (FCDO) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI) for providing technical and financial support and for placing their trust in Kayapalat to gather, consolidate, and present the authentic voices of Madhesh's youths as a clear set of demands. Your belief in this effort has made it possible.

We are deeply grateful to the Sajhedari Youth Network (SYN), the entire Kayapalat team, our Board members, dedicated campaigners, and the passionate youths who contributed. Your endless patience, thoughtful discussions, critical insights, and constant encouragement guided us through long nights of drafting. Without your unwavering support and understanding, this Charter of Demand (CoD) simply would not exist.

Kayapalat is especially thankful to the vibrant, non-political young people of Madhesh Province, the aspiring policymakers, youths, and citizens we met and listened to across the districts. Your lived stories, daily struggles, hopes, and straightforward demands for better public goods and services, quality educational institutions, accessible hospitals and free health services, clean drinking water, and sanitation, meaningful jobs, and equitable opportunities have inspired every word and shaped this charter of demand (CoD). These demands spring directly from your real experiences, free from any political agenda. Thank you for opening up and trusting us with your voices.

Special appreciation goes to our Kayapalat program colleagues who reviewed early drafts, offered candid feedback, and helped refine our ideas, in particular Ashok Sah, Hurendra Narayan Sah, Balram Kumar Sah, Samita Kumari, Kamlesh Thakur, Pratyush Kumar Thakur, and the entire Sajhedari Youth Network team. Your thoughtful input strengthened the clarity, depth, and impact of this document.

We also warmly thank the local community teams and everyone who welcomed us into their locality and shared their experiences during our travels throughout the Madhesh Province. Your kindness, hospitality, and openness touched us deeply and enriched this effort.

Finally, I would like to thank every person who quietly believed that this initiative could contribute to real change. Thank you from the inner core of our hearts. We hope this book shines fairly, sheds light on the genuine, everyday needs of youths of Madhesh Province, and helps us to move closer towards an inclusive future, a better community, and enhances youths and human rights-friendly environments.

**With Regards,**

Diwakar Uprety

Founder / Executive Director

10 March 2026

# 2

## Background and Context

Like many parts of Nepal, Madhesh Province is still facing big challenges in the political ups and downs, unfair economic gaps, and people feeling left out of society and decisions. Even after Nepal moved to federal democracy in 2062 B.S. and executed its new Constitution in 2072 B.S., many ordinary citizens, especially the youth, felt they had been left behind in how things are run.

Young people in Madhesh often feel cut off from job opportunities, education, and chances to grow. This pushes thousands to leave Nepal every year to work abroad. In districts like Mahottari (36.8%), Siraha (34.2%), Sarlahi (32.4%), and Dhanusha (31.5%), the number of youth going abroad for jobs is very high and in ascending order, according to the Annual Labour Migration Report 2023 from the Department of Foreign Employment. When so many young people migrate, it weakens local communities and reduces youth participation, making it challenging for the democratic process to sustain and weakening advocacy and policy interventions at the grassroots level.

At the local level in Madhesh Province, governance is often weak. Many municipalities fail to conduct public hearings, social audits, or involve citizens in the budgeting process, and fail to share budget details. Because of this, people are not well-known about their rights to take part in the decision-making process and make leaders accountable, responsible & transparent.

Due to these factors, a growing anger has been clearly seen in the recent Gen-Z movement across Nepal on 8 and 9 September 2025. Thousands of young people, including those from Madhesh Province, came out on the streets against corruption, bad governance, nepotism, and limits on freedoms like social media. The movement started as frustration over government actions but quickly grew into a big call for better transparency, good jobs, and fair opportunities. The movement has seen how strongly young Nepalese want change and how deep the trust gap is with the leaders and traditional parties and their leadership, which have not been able to deliver good results in decades.

The Gen-Z protests highlighted a real leadership gap among youth and divisions on issues like the Constitution and federalism. But the core message was clear: young people want to be heard, included in meaningful participation, and see real improvements in their daily lives.

This is why we at Kayapalat, with technical support from the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and financial help from FCDO, started to identify, consolidate, and formulate CoD. We wanted to bring youth demands together from Madhesh, listening to their real stories and needs accordingly.

This has turned them into a clear Charter of Demands (CoD). Through the loose provincial network of non-political youth, Sajhedari Youth Network (SYN) worked at the local level to collect ideas, hold discussions, and build understanding.

They see how poor delivery of services at the provincial and local levels causes daily frustration. They also know that the same leaders have been around for 30 years, yet the youth voices of this new generation (Gen-Z) are still ignored. This frustration was one big reason the Gen-Z movement exploded.

In today's context, thousands of Nepalese youth migrate abroad not just for jobs but also for higher education and better opportunities. The Charter of Demands (CoD) in this report comes straight forward from their real-life experiences and issues: better public goods and services, quality education, hospitals, deliverables, clean water and sanitation, fair changes, good governance, and job opportunities inside Nepal.

This book also shares youth case stories from Madhesh Province and explains the Charter of Demands clearly. It reminds elected representatives at every level, such as local, provincial, and federal, to pay attention to ensure the youth voices are heard. In the federal system, every government has a duty to deliver services and respond to people's needs. Leaders must be aware of these demands from non-political youth and prepare to address them seriously.

Governments at all levels should focus on accountability, responsibility, and transparency to build good governance and trust. When youth demands are heard and acted on, people feel included, migration reduces, and democracy grows stronger from a bottom-up approach.



# 3

## Executive Summary

This book brings together the real voices and Charter of Demands (CoD) from non-political youth across Madhesh Province. To gather these demands, the Kayapalat team, with strong support from the Sajhedari Youth Network (SYN), had visited 8 districts and local palikas (rural/municipalities) of each district for open consultations and dialogues.

After collecting ideas from the ground, Kayapalat (KAP) held a provincial-level consultation and meeting with youth to discuss, refine, and finalize the CoD. Through this process, including Artivism activities, KAP also learned that rural and urban youth often see governance and democracy differently, and are in a dilemma to raise their voices quite differently. Yet, their core concerns are shared and are empowered to voice.

The youth demands in this Charter are straightforward and came straight from non-political young people, not from any political party or hidden agenda. Young people are demanding better infrastructure, more transparency in how things are run, effective regular health facilities included in the government budget, program and polices, quality education that actually enhance their quality life, clean drinking water and sanitation in every community, real job opportunities in Nepal, strong accountability from leaders, and proper e-governance at local, provincial, and federal levels.

This small contribution of the book, with real youth stories and a clear Charter of Demands, sheds light on the needs of Madhesh's young people. It calls on policy and decision makers and people's representatives at every level to listen seriously, act with real accountability and transparency, and help build an inclusive future where youth no longer have to leave home to chase and fulfill their dreams.



# 4

# Objectives

This book brings together the voices, experiences, and aspirations of non-political youth from Madhesh Province. Through consultations, discussions, and case stories from different districts, it highlights the real challenges faced by young people in their daily lives. The book aims to transform these concerns into a clear Charter of Demands (CoD) so that policymakers and leaders can better understand youth priorities.

Ultimately, it seeks to encourage inclusive development and meaningful youth participation in governance.

- To document and disseminate the real voices of non-political youth from Madhesh Province, highlighting their experiences, challenges, ambitions, and aspirations.
- To identify and document key issues faced by youth in areas such as education, health, employment, governance, and infrastructure through consultations across the districts of Madhesh Province.
- To develop a clear Charter of Demands (CoD) that reflects the genuine priorities of youth and can guide policymakers and stakeholders at different levels of government.
- To promote meaningful youth participation and accountability in governance and decision-making processes, encouraging leaders to listen to youth voices and work toward inclusive and sustainable development.



# 5

# Methodology and Limitations of the Study

After the Gen-Z movement (8-9 September 2025), many Madhesi youths were in a dilemma as their voices remained unheard and their concerns had not been properly addressed. In response to this situation, this initiative aimed to collect and consolidate the demands and perspectives of youths from Madhesh Province.

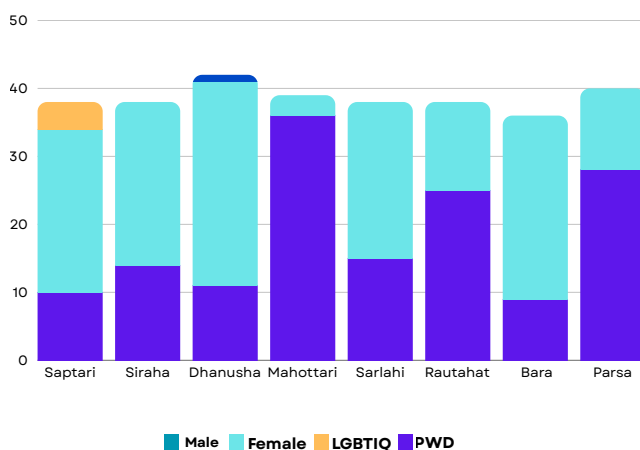
To gather these insights, the study used two participatory approaches: the World Café Model for group discussions and the Problem Tree Analysis to clearly identify the root causes and issues. Through the World Café Model, three non-political youths from each district of Madhesh Province were brought together and connected through a loose provincial network called the Sajhedari Youth Network (SYN). Members of this network worked at the local level to hold discussions, collect ideas, and listen to the experiences and concerns of young people in their respective communities.

After the initial discussions and consultations, the Problem Tree Analysis approach was applied. Youth members of SYN were encouraged to identify the key issues affecting their communities, explore the root causes behind those issues, and determine the relevant authorities responsible for addressing them. Through this process, youth participants were able to convert their concerns into structured demands. The collected demands were then compiled, categorized into nine thematic clusters, and further analyzed and filtered to develop a clear and meaningful Charter of Demands (CoD).

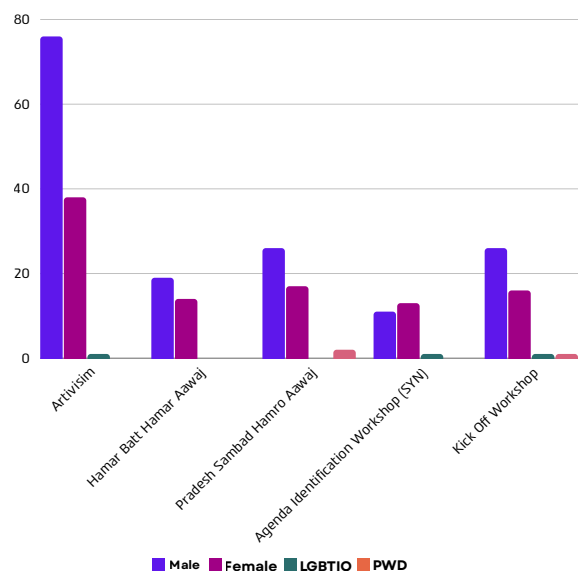
## Geographical Coverage:

The study covered all eight districts of Madhesh Province, where youth consultations and discussions were facilitated through the Sajhedari Youth Network at the local level and Provincial Youth Dialogues and Workshops. Inputs were gathered from both rural and urban communities to reflect diverse perspectives of youth across the province.

**District Event**  
Hamar Batt Hamar Aawaj



**Provincial Youth Event**



## Limitations of the Study:

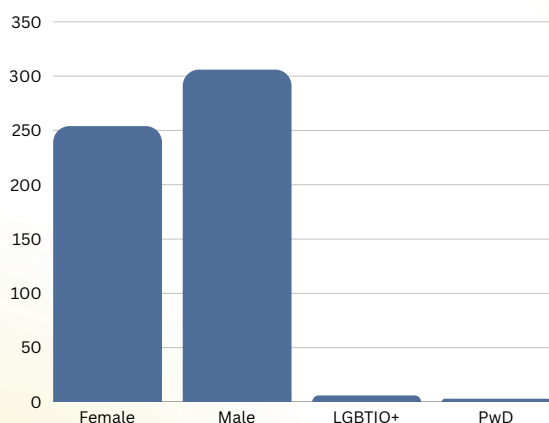
One of the main limitation of this study was the difficulty in ensuring broad and full representation of all non-political youth across Madhesh Province. Since only a limited number of youths participated directly in the consultation process, it was challenging to capture the views of every young person from the region. In many rural areas of Madhesh, young people were also not fully aware of the roles and responsibilities of their elected representatives at the local, provincial, and federal levels, which sometimes limited deeper discussions.

In addition, the study mainly relied on discussions and consultations facilitated by members of the Sajhedari Youth Network, which may have influenced the depth and scope of the information collected. Due to time and resource constraints, broader consultations with larger youth groups and other stakeholders were not always possible.

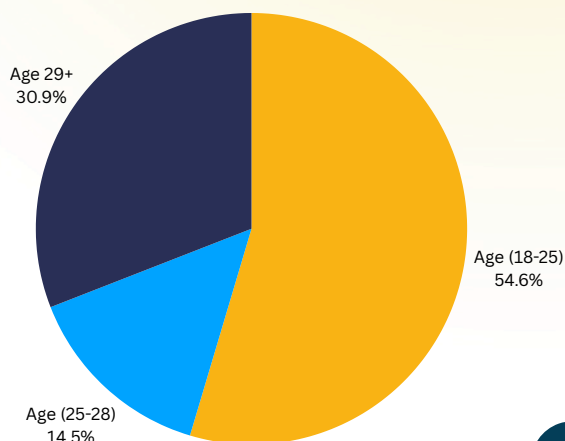
Despite these limitations, the use of the World Café Model and Problem Tree Analysis helped create open and participatory spaces for youth dialogue. The discussions and consultations generated meaningful insights, and the voices captured in this book reflect genuine, ground-based perspectives of non-political youth from Madhesh Province.



### PwD and Gender-based Participation



### Participants [Age-Group]

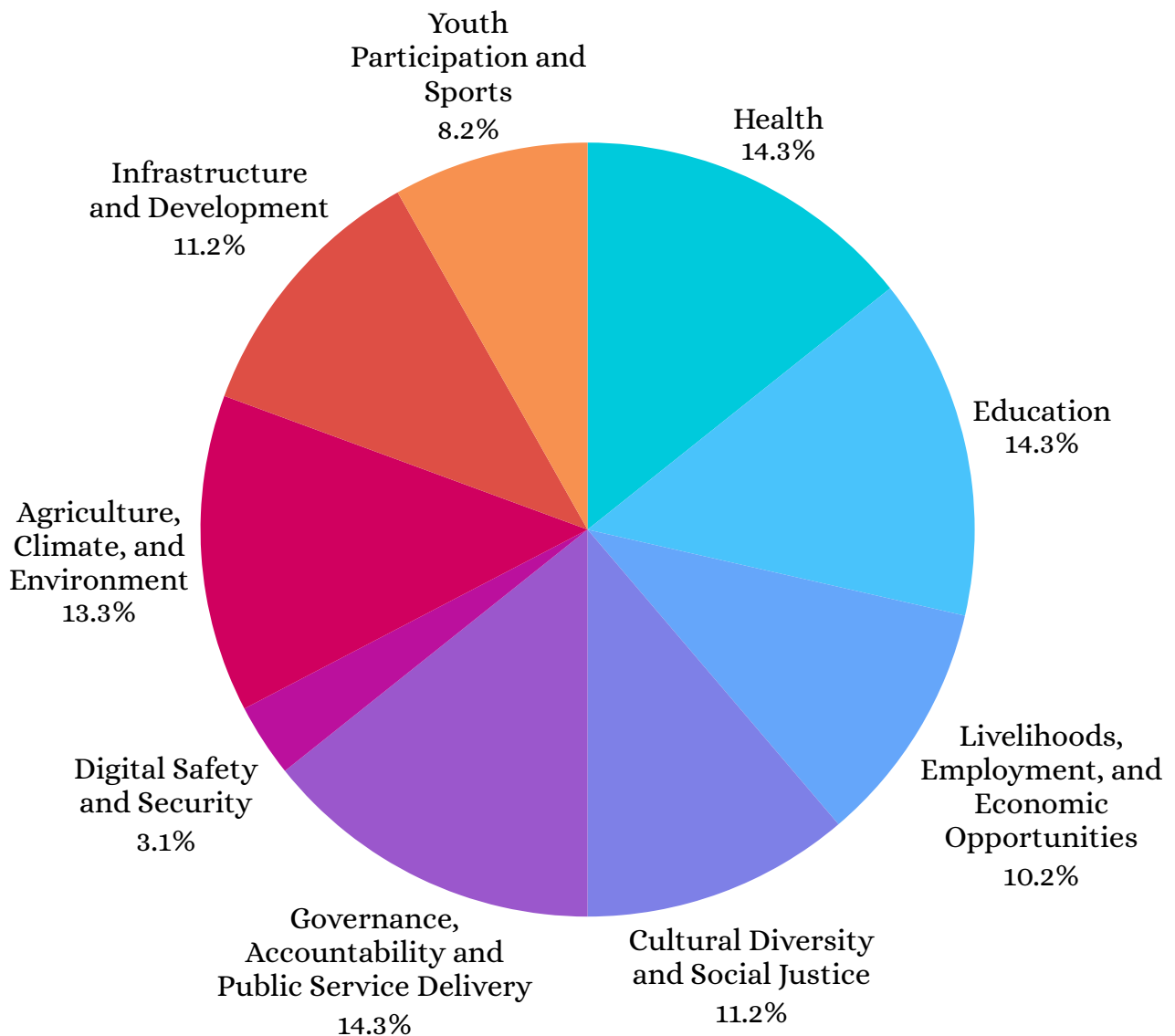


# 6

# Charter of Demands

The Charter of Demands (CoD) presented in this section reflects the collective voices, experiences, and priorities of non-political youths across Madhesh Province. These demands were identified through consultations, discussions, and participatory analysis with youth from different districts. The CoD highlights key issues affecting everyday life, including education, health, governance, social justice, environment and agriculture, and youth participation and sports. Each demand outlines the major challenges, the expected actions, and the responsible authorities to address them. This section aims to provide a clear and practical reference for policymakers and stakeholders to respond to the genuine needs of youth and communities in Madhesh.

## Pie-Chart of Thematic Charter of Demands



# Health

Access to quality and affordable healthcare remains a major concern for many communities in Madhesh Province. Youth participants highlighted several challenges such as weak local health facilities, shortage of skilled health workers, lack of medicines, limited emergency services, and low awareness about health insurance and preventive care. Issues related to maternal health, mental health services, sanitation, and access to clean drinking water were also frequently raised during the discussions. These concerns reflect the need for stronger health systems, better management, and community-focused health services at the local level.

Here are the demands identified by youth :

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
1. There should be strengthening of local health facilities with medicines and skilled staff.		
Political interference, Non-skilled staff	Avoid political power, enhance health facilities, ensure medical stock, and officers should be deployed by the Public Service Commission (PSC)	Public Service Commission (PSC), Local/ Provincial / Federal Governments and the Ministry of Health and Population
2. There should be free health services and medicines for the public (poor and vulnerable).		
Medicine is available, but is not provided to poor and vulnerable people.	Proper monitoring of Health facilities. Provide all the medicine and check the data on medicines. Meaningful Participation of the community in the health facilities	HFOMC (Health Facilities Operation Management Community)
3. People should have free ambulance availability.		
Poor availability of vehicles (Ambulance), Provision of ambulance.	There should be the availability of ambulance services 24/7 in each municipality.	Local Government responsible authority
4. There should be health insurance and social security services for the community.		
Lack of Awareness of health insurance	Provide health education awareness about health insurance	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, District Health Offices
5. There should be the availability of qualified and expert doctors according to the population ratio.		
Frustrated doctors and Patient Party.	Production of qualified health manpower. Placement of health manpower. Dr./Nurse proportionally.	Ministry of Health and Population to increase the number of seats. Member of Parliament
6. There should be youth counseling centers and mental health services.		
Lack of availability of adolescent health services, Lack of awareness	Health education about one's own health (Awareness/Reproductive), Awareness about mental health issues.	Local health Care Centers
7. There should be hospitals with cleanliness and proper management.		
(Cross-contamination) hospital-related infection	Isolated rooms for their disease condition. Improve their cleanliness. Use sterilized techniques.	Hospital Authorities
8. There should be health posts and hospitals at each ward or palika level.		
There are no hospitals or Health posts at the local levels	Establish hospitals & health posts according to the community. Make a policy 'one ward= 1 hospital/health post'.	Municipality/Palikas (Local Government)
9. There should be emergency health services available.		
24 hr emergency health service is not provided. No availability of health workers. Lack of medicine	24 hrs health facilities should be at the local level	Hospitals and the Local Level Government

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
10. There should be the establishment of birthing centers and maternal health care services		
Still preferring and practising the traditional way of child delivery (Delivering a baby at home)	There should be adequate birthing center. Punishment for negligence on licensed health personnel. Set up a blood bank in all birthing centers	Local/Provincial - Hospitals' responsibilities
11. There should be nutrition, vaccines, and preventive health services.		
No facility for nutrition counselling, vaccines, and preventive health services	There should be awareness regarding a balanced diet ( Sunaulo Hajar Din), Preventive Health (Non-Communicable Disease/ Mental Health issues), Environmental Factor, Diet, Pollution, Cleanliness, and a healthy lifestyle.	Health Workers from Local Wards, Local Level Government, and Provincial Level Government
12. There should be health awareness and community programmes.		
Lack of meaningful participation in awareness campaign, knowledge, attitude, and practice towards non-communicable diseases	There should be a Public Awareness Program, Mobile Camp.	Full consciousness of the MoHP (Ministry of Health and Population)
13. There should be clean drinking water and basic utilities.		
There is unavailability of Clean and Safe Drinking Water in Dry Season (Summer)	There should be proper supply of clean and safe drinking water. ———	Ministry of Water Supply, and Water Supply and Sanitation Department
14. There should be free health and eye camps.		
The community people have insufficient access to free health and eye camps. The government camps are not useful.	There should be easy access and reliable free health and eye camps at the community level. The specialized hospitals and Health Posts are to make mobile camps in the communities.	Local/Provincial - Hospitals' responsibilities



# Education

Education was identified as one of the most important priority by youth across Madhesh Province. Many participants highlighted challenges such as lack of quality education, political interference in educational institution and shortage of trained teachers and technical manpower, and limited access to practical and skill-based learning. Issues like poor infrastructure, absence of laboratories and libraries, and unequal access for marginalized communities were also commonly raised.

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
1. There should be free and qualitative education.		
There is lack of money with the poor and vulnerable people to pay educational fees and extra fees. Their children have no access to quality education.	There should be a guarantee for free, qualitative, and equal education without any additional charges and fees.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, and The Ministry Of Education
2. There should be practical, experimental, and science-based education.		
Theoretical education can't develop skills	There should be practical class and lab management.	School Management Committee, Local Government, and the Ministry of Education
3. There should be technical, life-skills, and employment-oriented education.		
Lack of qualitative education, Lack of awareness related to technical education	There should be the gurantee of skilled-based and qualitative education.	CTEVT, the federal government, and the local government
4. There should be the availability of libraries, science, computer, and ICT labs in the schools.		
Lack of finance, lack of infrastructure, lack of proper management	Ensuring materials from basic education to higher education.	Ministry of Education, Ministry of Information and Communications, Provincial, and Local Government
5. There should be qualified, trained, and adequately deployed teachers (darbandi anusar ko shikshak).		
More importance is given to contractual staff, and less capable teachers are appointed	Need for qualified and skilled teaching staff	Local Government, Provincial Government, and School Management Committee (SMC)
6. There is a need for a child-friendly, inclusive school environment		
Discrimination makes it difficult for students from the backward groups to have equal education	An inclusive education environment should be fulfilled by moral education, and maintaining inclusive, child-friendly education is needed at present.	Social bodies, Local Government, and teachers' Committees
7. There should be free transport and school bus services.		
There are problems in going to the schools located at a distance.	There should be a free transport facility for school going children.	Local Government, Ministry of Education, and Transport Department
8. Educational Institutes should be free from politics. There should be no political interference.		
Nepotism and the appointment of political figures in contracts must end, the political teachers' union must be abolished, and there must be no political student union.	Teachers should be free and independent from political parties.	School Management Committee, Local Government, Provincial Government, Federal Government, and Ministry of Education
9. There should be digital, online, and technology-based education.		
Lack of infrastructure, adequate material, and trained human resources	Experienced teacher, training, infrastructure, and technical materials are required	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Education Coordination Unit, SMC, Teachers, Parents
10. Appropriate monitoring, governance, and government investment are required.		
Inactive School Management Committee, Irresponsible Teachers	Effective rules and regulations, financial support, and responsible teachers and students	Local Government, School Management Committee, and the head teacher



# Livelihoods, Employment and Economic Opportunities

Youths across Madhesh Province expressed serious concerns regarding the lack of local employment opportunities, domestic industries, lack of government support in innovative and new companies, sustainable livelihood options. Limited access to skill development, entrepreneurship support, and fair economic opportunities has pushed many young people to migrate abroad in search of work, capital/money.

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
1. There should be skill-based training, entrepreneurship, and seed money for youth.		
Lack of a seed money and rules/policy for startups, and skilled manpower.	Skill-based Training and Management, Establishment of skill-based educational institutions, Formation of policies, and a platform to implement and showcase their skills.	Local representatives, NGOs, Local Government, Educational Institutions
2. There should be employment opportunities for youth within Nepal.		
Lack of industries, skill and there is no provision of 0% loan interest opportunities for youth-led startups, and the influence of nepotism.	Establishment of industries, Influence of private investors among them to prioritize fresher and provide equal opportunities	Investors, political leaders, and the three tiers of government
3. There should be the facility of Loksewa Preparation (PSC) classes for youth.		
Local Government is not allocating budget for the PSC preparation for the youth, and Lack of training.	Local Government should manage classes for Loksewa preparation. More vacancies should be opened for the 'Nijamati' service.	Local Government, Public Service Commission
4. There should be market price control and livelihood protection.		
Lack of policy awareness & implementation, Fluctuation in price between the company wholesalers as the wholesalers want more benefits, lack of institutions that monitor and control excise duty of the product.	Monitoring and Supervision from the local government, a healthy and trustworthy relationship between the retailer, wholesaler, company, and customer	Government, companies, security agencies, public awareness with market management committee
5. There should be fair and equal job opportunities/ no political appointments in jobs.		
Political appointments and bureaucrats' selection should be out of political affairs and interventions	The right man at the right place based on the skills. No benefits should be allocated for newly appointed bureaucrats based on the hiring and firing during the 10-year working period	Nepal Government-related authority and the Public Service Commission
6. There should be expansion of industries, organizations, and factories at the local level.		
Local government isn't ready to invest in local production, Lack of skilled manpower and infrastructure, and irresponsible local politics	Local government isn't ready to invest in local production, due to a lack of skilled manpower and infrastructure, and irresponsible local politics	Local people and the Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
7. There should be market system improvement and value chain development.		
Lack of a Citizen charter, Market/Shop, Secured E-commerce management, the foreign investors show less interest in investing because of unstable politics.	There should be a policy for the regulation of E-commerce, and product details must be shown along with the product.	Market Management Committee, Government, stakeholders, and Investors
8. There should be taxation based on business size and purpose.		
Lack of a specified taxation system, or lack of taxation system	There should be proper implementation of Specified Taxation System.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
9. The job vacancies should be increased.		
No demand-based staff appointment in the public/governmental sector, and there is unemployment.	Organization and Management Survey (OnM) of each municipality should be done by the federal government in every 5 years. Skilled and experienced manpower should get employment opportunities. Service delivery should be more realistic and inclusive based on the number of demands.	Federal Public Service Commission, Provincial Public Service Commission
10. There should be a fair salary structure for Non-Governmental staff.		
Lack of effective governmental supervision of the private sector, no salary chart disclosed, and limited supervision by the Local Government	The salary chart must be transparent and there should be government supervision.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments



# Cultural Diversity and Social Justice

Youth emphasized the importance of establishing and promoting an inclusive society where all individuals are treated with dignity, respect, and equality, regardless of caste, gender, religion, or social background. They highlighted the need to address discrimination, harmful social practices, and ensure equal opportunities and protection for marginalized communities.

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
1. The society should be non-discriminatory and provide equal access for all.		
There is discrimination based on caste, creed, colour, and gender. community.	There should be effective implementation of the law for a society to end discrimination.	Community people should understand their own responsibilities. We should think about others' rights too.
2. There should be an end to gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful social practices.		
Increasing GBV, toxic, and harmful social practices.	OCMC should be established in every municipality, and a meaningful program should be conducted in the community for awareness.	Administration of Municipality, Community, Hospital, and Lawyers.
3. There should be meaningful participation of marginalized groups.		
Lack of meaningful participation. Marginalized communities have no access to awareness-related campaigns.	There should be a meaningful participation, no discrimination, and increased access to education.	District Administration Office. For Policies- Local/Provincial/Federal Governments.
4. The dowry system should be ended.		
Because of the dowry, girls commit suicide.	A society is built that abolishes the dowry system. Instead of providing dowry, the women and girls should be educated and empowered.	It should be ended not only by legal means but also by behavior. Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Courts and Lawyers and Right Activists.
5. There should be priority and recognition for marginalized communities.		
An illiterate marginalized group. Discrimination by the community towards the marginalized groups.	Free education for marginalized communities, and punishment for the culprits.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
6. There should be religious tolerance, cultural respect, and social harmony.		
Religion-based discrimination, showing disrespect towards other cultures, and making it hard to maintain social harmony.	Religion-based discrimination should be ended. There should be respect towards every religion and culture.	Community-based stakeholders and the District Administration Office. For Policies- Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
7. There should be safety and protection for women, children, and senior citizens.		
Women are pulled back of opportunities. There is insecurity, and women are forced for caring children and elderly people in the family.	Only the old people get incentives, not others. Women and children should be given rights and opportunities. Women should be given freedom in society. They should be educated and empowered more.	Community Stakeholders and the Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
8. There should be land and housing rights for the marginalized and vulnerable groups.		
No piece of land and houses for the Sukumbasi (Landless) people are provided.	Legal land should be provided to the Sukumbasi. Rights and participation should be ensured for the Sukumbasi people.	Office of the Land Reformation, the Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
9. There should be control over alcohol near educational institutions.		
Running of an alcohol shop near the school premises, and the number of such shops is increasing every day.	Ban on running alcohol shops near school premises and shut down the running ones. Alcohol shops should be legally banned near educational institutions.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
10. There should be language access and translation services.		
Inability to understand the language while getting the government facilities at the government offices.	The government authority should allocate a translator ( <i>Dovase</i> ) in every governmental institution. Or, the officials should understand the local languages.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments



# Governance, Accountability and Public Service Delivery

Participants highlighted the need for transparent, accountable, and citizen-friendly governance at all levels. They emphasized the importance of reducing corruption, ensuring fair and quality public service delivery, and promoting meaningful citizen participation in planning and decision-making processes.

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
1. There should be transparency, accountability, and anti-corruption in society.		
Lack of transparency and weak corruption control mechanism in the public sector, Lack of transparency in budget allocation at the local level, There is no planning of the budget into 7-steps.	There should be transparency, Mandatory Participation of local citizens in the budget allocation, a public disclosure program should be carried out, and corruption regulation bodies should work neutrally.	Commission of Investigation of Abuse of Authority(CIAA), Local Government, Civil Society, Youth Networks
2. There should be public hearings, social audits, and citizen participation.		
Citizens interest in public hearings is not well recognized, not realize the responsibility of social audit, public audit, and feedback collection	Meaningful participation of the public must be ensured, feedback collection, and equal and inclusive participation.	Meaningful participation of the public must be ensured, feedback collection, and equal and inclusive participation
3. There should be a qualified, skilled, and merit-based bureaucracy (Right Person, Right Place).		
Political intervention in the appointment of bureaucrats and staff is high through nepotism and favouritism. An unqualified person is appointed for the service delivery. Employees are appointed through financial manipulation and irregularities.	Implement a transparent examination system, ensure the right person is in the right place, and appoint employees based on merit.	Federal Government, Public Service Commission, Private sectors, and Local Government
4. There should be political reform and qualified political leadership.		
Selfishness in politicians, lack of morals, incapacity of government, and family priority in politics	Civil society must be trained in political activity, improved, qualified, and capable leadership development, and inclusive theory must be practiced in political opportunity.	Political Party and Politician
5. There should be digitalization, information access, and local language use.		
Lack of digital literacy, Lack of technological development in service delivery, Not delivering information in the local language.	Delivery of service digitally, Access to information, Delivery of information in the local language.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, relevant stakeholders
6. There should be efficient, accessible, and citizen-friendly public services.		
Governmental staffs involvement in politics and social work should be transparent.	Neutral, Non-political, responsible staff should be appointed, services should be provided in an accessible & transparent way.	Government, Public Service Commission (PSC)
7. There should be participatory planning and need-based budgeting.		
The project and budget aren't allocated as per the people's need, no meaningful participation in budget allocation.	Ensure meaningful participation in budget formulation, budget allocation as per the need assessment.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
8. There should be monitoring of salaries, assets, and resources.		
Lack of proper monitoring of salaries, assets, and resources; irresponsible staff, and earning income through activities such as corruption and bribery.	Strong monitoring of salary, assets, and resources, staff should be transparent and responsible.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Commission of Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA), Auditor general office
9. There should be youth engagement and youth-focused institutions.		
There is lack of youth related enthusiastic subjects, youths are pre-occupied with addiction and bad habits.	Youth engagement, installation of youth focused organization, related issue/topic discussion in youth friendly environment, a youth mentorship facility, emphasis on youth-targeted programs, and make youth sensible towards their responsibility.	The Ministry of Youth and Sports, National Youth Council, Local/Provincial/Federal Governments

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
10. There should be infrastructure and urban services.		
No infrastructure and modern technological development, Lack of urban services	Emphasis on building modern infrastructure, raising awareness related to urban services, and the urban system delivery institution	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Facilitation by Civil Society
11. There should be citizenship and administrative reform.		
Citizenship and administrative procedure are cumbersome	There should be simplified services through citizenship & administrative reforms.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Ministry of Home Affairs
12. There should be an effective implementation of the PM's 'Learning by Earning' Program.		
There comes a question mark on PM's program 'Learning by Earning'.	There should be the implementation of the 'Learning by Earning' program with policies, it should be clearly conveyed, and the federal government itself should be proactive in such programs.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Social Organizations, Community People
13. There should be a rule of law, social order, and public discipline.		
Chaotic, Discrimination and Corruption	There should be discrimination free society, those involved in chaotic activities are monitored and punished, and government agencies must be accountable and corruption free.	Government, Society, Social Organizations



# Digital Safety and Security

Digital access, cyber security and the responsible use of technology and artificial intelligence have become increasingly important in today's society. Strengthening digital literacy, improving cybersecurity systems, and protecting people from online crimes, misinformation, and digital exploitation are essential for a safe digital environment.

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
1. Youth should have access to digital literacy and infrastructure.		
Youth don't have access to digital literacy. There is no development of digital infrastructure in the community.	The government should have guaranteed digital literacy and infrastructure at the community level. It should be taught from the basic level to the students.	Federal/Provincial/Local level governments, ECU (Education Coordination Unit), PABSON, NPABSON, MPABSON, schools, education boards, and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and service-providing agencies
2. There should be cyber-crime investigation and cybersecurity.		
There is weak cybersecurity. Online phishing attacks, online violence, theft, harassment, misinformation, disinformation, scamming, cyberattacks, cyberbullying, and misuse of AI.	There should be strong cybersecurity. The strength of the CIB department should be added. There should be the establishment of an ICT department at the local and provincial levels.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, ICT Department, Cyber Bureau, Ministry of Information and Communication
3. There should be open border management and security.		
Drug abuse, human trafficking, increment of the crime rate in the border area. Children are used for trafficking, and they misbehave after consuming alcohol at the border with the security personnel. Access to lower-priced goods has led to a decline in local innovation and border security issues, such as the misuse of Indian vehicles in the border areas.	There should be a tight border security, CCTV use, border fencing, a border treaty/policy should be developed and implemented, border monitoring by satellite, and there should be a speed limit for vehicles in the border areas. The cross-border disputes should be solved diplomatically.	Federal governments, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, CIB, APF, and Nepal Army



# Agriculture, Climate, and Environment

Voices raised concerns about the challenges faced by farmers, including lack of agricultural resources, climate impacts, and environmental degradation. They emphasized the need for sustainable agricultural practices, climate-friendly development, reducing the use of chemical fertilizer and better support systems for farmers and local communities.

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
1. There should be the availability of fertilizers, seeds, agricultural materials, and timely availability.		
Lack of raw materials, lack of availability of fertilizers on time, shortage of agri-Industries	There should be tax-free import of agricultural goods and make it easy access for the farmers.	Ministry of Agriculture, Provincial Government, and Local Level Governments
2. There should be irrigation facilities and irrigation problem resolution.		
No irrigation facilities from the irrigation unit or department	Drip irrigation and irrigation greenhouses should be managed.	Agri Department of the Local Government, Provincial Agri Ministry, Agricultural Knowledge Center, Agri related respective stakeholders
3. There should be agricultural subsidies, incentives, and financial support.		
There is lack of financial resources for farmers.	There should be an access to agricultural subsidies for farmers and sharing information on the subject.	Local government and Agriculture Knowledge Center
4. There should be waste management and pollution control.		
Low yield of crops, crop damage	There should be the use of innovative agri-technology.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Water Supply and Sanitation Office
5. There should be afforestation, plantation, and forest control.		
Abnormal pattern of rainfall, Low rainfall	There should be afforestation, forest conservation, run awareness campaigns	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments' Agriculture Department
6. There should be skilled human resources, training, and technical support.		
Lack of accurate agricultural information and traditional farming	Agricultural information management and modern agricultural crop management are needed.	Local/Provincial and Federal Agriculture Ministry/Department
7. There should be modernization of agriculture and the use of modern techniques.		
Low yield, decrease in land fertility	There should be an arrangement of training in modern farming methods with agricultural equipment.	Ministry of Agriculture, Local Level Government
8. There should be climate-friendly development and climate justice.		
People are exploiting the resources in the name of development that is creating adverse effect on climate.	There should be climate-friendly development.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Community People
9. We should have women, marginalized groups, and GEDSI in agriculture.		
Lack of inclusiveness in agricultural activities	There should be equal participation of women, marginalised groups, and GEDSI in agriculture.	Clubs, Cooperatives, Public Voice at the Local Level
10. There should be industrial pollution control and environmental safeguards.		
Different types of diseases are appearing in agri-crops.	There should be the use of modern technology and equipment for industrial pollution control, and an environmental safeguarding policy should be implemented.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Irrigation Department. Environmental Control Board
11. There should be agricultural insurance and risk protection.		
Lack of Information and Hybrid Seed	Spread information on agricultural insurance to farmers.	Ministry of Agriculture, Local Level Government



# Infrastructure and Development

Improved infrastructure and balanced development are essential for strengthening connectivity, access to services, and overall quality of life in communities. Priority should be given to building reliable roads, sustainable development of public goods, services and facilities and equitable development projects that address the real needs of local people.

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
1. There should be clean and safe drinking water facilities.		
Spread of communicable diseases and high risk to health because of unsafe drinking water.	Spread of communicable diseases and high risk to health because of unsafe drinking water.	Local Government, Ministry of Water Supply.
2. There should be public toilets and sanitation facilities.		
Polluted Environment and high risk of disease.	There should be public awareness programs for sanitation and public toilets.	Youth clubs, Ministry of Water Supply, and Community People
3. There should be playgrounds, parks, and sports infrastructure.		
Lack of playgrounds, stadiums, and sports infrastructure	Engage youth in physical activities, and arrange sports infrastructure such as playgrounds and stadiums	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, and Local Youth Clubs
4. There should be roads, streets, and basic urban infrastructure.		
Water potholes on the road during the rainy season.	Climate-friendly and sustainable roads should be constructed.	Federal/Provincial/Local Government, Road Department
5. There should be streetlights, CCTV, and public safety infrastructure.		
Lack of streetlights, CCTV, and public safety infrastructure leads to an increase in the crime rate.	There should be streetlights on each electric pole, and CCTV installation at different places.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
6. There should be an educational infrastructure (schools, libraries, and technical colleges).		
Lack of school buildings and its infrastructure	There should be qualitative and well-equipped schools, libraries, and technical colleges.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments.
7. There should be inclusive and accessible infrastructure.		
Lack of Inclusive (Child/PwD friendly) infrastructure	There should be inclusive, disabled, and child-friendly infrastructure constructed.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
8. There should be monitoring of development commitments and budget use.		
Lack of transparency in the allocation of the budget, missing quality standard work as per the budget allocation.	Transparent work carried out by the Consumer Committee; they should take accountability and transparent.	Related stakeholders, and the Local level Government
9. There should be a disaster response and energy infrastructure.		
Desertification and Soil Erosion	Management of disasters and training regarding pre-preparation	District Administration Office
10. There should be bridges and connectivity infrastructure.		
It is difficult to reach the destination on time, and have to pay more for the transportation.	Electric vehicles should be used, along with the electrical products, for more connectivity in the infrastructure context. Incentives and low taxation should be provided for the commercial vendors.	Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport, the Ministry of Finance
11. There should be a health and social support infrastructure.		
There is a lack of health education.	There should be a public awareness-raising program and healthy behavior development activities.	Health Posts, Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), Social Support Groups



# Youth Participation and Sports

Meaningful participation of young people in decision-making processes is essential for inclusive and democratic development. At the same time, promoting sports, creative and innovative ideas and recreational activities can support youth leadership, teamwork, physical well-being, and positive community engagement.

Issues	Demand	Responsible Authority
1. There should be meaningful youth participation in planning, policy, and implementation.		
There is lack of meaningful Youth Participation in policy and local-level planning processes.	Publishing information of opportunities for Youth, 40% of youth participation should be ensured at every planning process at the local/provincial level. A digital information medium should be ensured for youth opportunities and participation.	Provincial Government, Federal Government, Local Government, Educational Institutions, NGOs, INGOs and stakeholders
2. There should be youth representation in committees and decision-making bodies.		
Political Intervention, Political pressure and Threat	Ensure assurance of the active participation of youth.	Sports Council, Related Stakeholders
3. There should be youth and women-centric budgeting and priority programs.		
Improper budget distribution for youth and women because of patriarchy, and pressure from family and society.	There should be youths and women-targeted programs and a guarantee of an inclusive budget.	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Sports, Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
4. There should be youth collaboration, networking, and a collective voice.		
Division and weak coordination among the youth	There should be youth collaboration, a youth network, a forum, and cooperative networking programs from the government.	National Youth Council, Local Youth Clubs, Local/Provincial/Federal Government
5. There should be transparency and public disclosure of government plans and progress.		
There is corruption and lack of Right to Information (RTI) act implementation.	There should be transparency and public discourse on the project and budget allocation.	Public Bodies, and Local/Provincial/Federal Governments
6. There should be an address of youth unemployment and socio-economic impact.		
Lack of skill and experience for employment, employment migration, and unemployment	Experience-based employment creation, internships for the +2 students should be ensured, skill training for community-level youths, and support to develop entrepreneurship among youth through grants and an easy loan system.	Labour Department, Prime Minister's Employment Program, and Social Welfare Council. Provincial Sports and Social Welfare Ministry, Madhesh Province, Local Government, Federal Youth and Sports Ministry
7. There should be sports, physical development, and youth capacity building.		
There is lack of playground and opportunities for youth in games.	There should be playgrounds, training, an increase in competition, and sports materials.	Local Government, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Information and Technology
8. There should be a youth priority in the governance and development agenda.		
Lack of youth participation in decision-making and lack of opportunity for youth	Ensure Youth Leadership Development and participation at the policy level.	The Chief Ministry and Ministry of Council Office and National Youth Council
9. We should have women, marginalized groups, and GEDSI in agriculture.		
Lack of Inclusiveness in agricultural activities	There should be equal participation of women, marginalised groups, and GEDSI in agriculture.	Clubs, Cooperatives, Public Voice at the Local Level
10. There should be industrial pollution control and environmental safeguards.		
Various types of diseases occur in agri-crops, including drought	Use of modern technology and equipment to control industrial pollution, and there should be environmental safeguards.	Local/Provincial/Federal Governments, Irrigation Department. Environmental Control Board
11. There should be agricultural insurance and risk protection.		
Lack of Information, Lack of Hybrid Seed	There should be an agricultural insurance.	Ministry of Agriculture, Local Level Government



# 7

## Demand of Political Youths

Alongside the collection and prioritization of non-political youths' agendas by Kayapalat, efforts were also made to understand the perspectives of youths who are actively engaged in political parties. In this regard, Dalit Sarokar Manch Nepal (DSMN) facilitated discussions to identify and gather the voices and concerns of politically engaged youths. The consultations aimed to understand how young members within political parties view the current political system and what reforms they expect from their respective parties.

During these discussions, many young political actors emphasized the need to strengthen internal party democracy, transparency, and accountability within political structures. The demands collected from these discussions reflect the aspirations of politically engaged youth, who seek constructive reforms within their parties and the broader political system.

Questions	Demand	Responsible Authority
Youth participation and leadership transfer in political parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mandatory representation:</b> The meaningful participation of at least 40% youth (18–40 years) and 50% of them women in the executive committees of every level of political parties (from ward to center) should be ensured in the statute. If 50% women are not reached, the remaining seats should be reserved in order from Dalits, Muslims and minority communities.</li> <li>• <b>Leadership transfer:</b> An age limit of 60 years should be imposed on key positions in the party and a term limit of no more than 2 terms in the same position should be implemented.</li> <li>• <b>Ticket distribution:</b> The selection of candidates should be based on the recommendation and 'merit' of the local constituency, not on the decision imposed by the center.</li> </ul>	Federal, Provincial, and Local Committees of Political parties, the Election Commission
Economic security, self-employment and reducing migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Industrial Development:</b> Industries should be operated under the leadership of the provincial government with an investment of at least Rs 100 crore per district to provide employment to 1,000 to 2,000 local youth.</li> <li>• <b>Subsidized Loans:</b> A 'Youth Self-Employment Fund' (Rs 50 million per municipality) should be established to provide loans of Rs 20 to 30 lakhs without collateral at an interest rate of 1%.</li> <li>• <b>Agricultural Modernization:</b> Cold storage and modern agricultural markets should be constructed in all 136 municipalities of Madhesh and a 'minimum support price' should be set for the products produced.</li> </ul>	Federal, Provincial, and Local Committees of Political parties, the Election Commission
Political Education and Institutional Leadership Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Compulsory schooling:</b> Parties should make 'monthly leadership development and political training' mandatory for youth, where they should be taught about legislation, policies and technology.</li> <li>• <b>Mentorship:</b> An institutional 'mentorship' system should be introduced to connect the experience of senior leaders with the enthusiasm of youth.</li> <li>• <b>Competency-based appointments:</b> A 'merit-based digital database' should be prepared for political appointments and distributed transparently.</li> </ul>	Training department of political parties, youth organizations, all levels of Nepal government

Questions	Demand	Responsible Authority
Political cleansing, an end to nepotism, and healthy competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ending dynasty: Strictly implement the policy of 'one person, one post' and 'one family, one post' and decentralize opportunities.</li> <li>Age limit: Implement an age limit of 60 years and a two-term limit for the leadership position of the party (chairman/president).</li> <li>Equal distribution of opportunities: Prepare a transparent digital database based on 'contribution and merit' for opportunities and appointments within the party.</li> </ul>	Political Parties, and Civil Society
Protection of political freedom and critical consciousness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Right to Criticism: End the practice of taking action against youth who make constructive criticism and ensure respect for 'internal democracy' and 'different opinions' in the constitution.</li> <li>Protection against corruption: Youth who speak out against corruption within the party should be protected as 'whistleblowers'.</li> <li>Limitation of independent decision-making and 'whip': Youth should be allowed to exercise their free will without any pressure or 'whip' in the internal discussions and policy-making stages of the party. Upper committee interference in the decisions of youth organizations should be stopped and they should be given the right to set the agenda autonomously.</li> </ul>	Relevant Political Parties, Party Disciplinary Commission, Top Leadership
Socio-familial support and positive image	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The local level should launched a 'Positive Politics and Youth Leadership' campaign for parents, teachers, and community leaders to make them understand that politics is a 'clean service' and a 'medium of policy making'.</li> <li>The local government should mandatorily promote youth-led street plays, door-to-door visits, and awareness programs against social vices such as drugs, dowry, and child marriage through the annual budget and administrative support.</li> <li>Priority should be given to skill-based training and professional opportunities according to their qualifications so that the youth who enter politics do not become a financial burden on their families. The local government should introduce a special program to engage the youth in productive work to establish that politics is not a 'profession' but a 'volunteer'.</li> </ul>	Local Level (Municipality), Police Administration, Social Organizations
Decent youth mobilization and clean elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital Transparency: The Election Commission Nepal should ensure that election expenditure is 100% digital (banking) and that it is publicly audited.</li> <li>Citizen Monitoring: A youth-led 'Election Expenditure and Code of Conduct Monitoring Group' should be formed at the ward level.</li> <li>Right to Information: All decisions and budgets of local governments should be made 100% transparent through miking, online and media.</li> </ul>	Election Commission, Local Government, Information Commission, Civil Society, Media
Social justice, inclusion and environmental sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strict policy against corruption: People's representatives or workers who take/give dowry should be immediately removed from office. A special 'incentive budget' should be given to dowry-free wards.</li> <li>Environmental justice: The 'One Person, 10 Plants' program and the 'Tree Plantation on Birthday' campaign should be made mandatory at the ward level and a 'Chure Conservation Monitoring Group' should be formed.</li> <li>Inclusive quota: Special reservations should be ensured in party and government programs for Dalits, Muslims and marginalized youth</li> </ul>	Election Commission, Local Government, Information Commission, Civil Society, Media



# 8

## Case Stories

### Case-I

### Alcohol Shop in School Building

Schools are meant to be strict no-smoking and no-alcohol zones, ensuring a safe and healthy environment for children. National Policy and Laws clearly state that the sale and use of alcohol, tobacco products, and drugs is strictly prohibited within a 500-meter radius of any school. However, in Manara Sishwa Municipality, Mahottari district, this policy has been openly violated. A liquor shop has been operating inside a school building, directly exposing students to alcohol related activities within their learning space. This situation not only contradicts the existing laws and policies but also puts children's safety, dignity, and mental well-being at risk.

Durga Secondary School, a government school located in Manara Sishwa municipality, has leased space for operating a liquor shop within its school building. According to a resident of Manara Sishwa municipality-2, Itaharwa, Mr. Nishant Kumar Ojha, the liquor shop has been running inside the school building for the past 5-years.

*"Children in my village bring Ganja (marijuana), tablets, and other things from India to Nepal at night," he said. "Criminals supply them with old and broken motorcycles to transport these items from India under the cover of darkness at nighttime."*

He explained that, "After alcohol was banned in Bihar, a bordering state of India, many liquor shops began opening on the Nepal side of the border." Due to this ban, the number of liquor shops increased rapidly in Nepal, particularly in border areas. In the same way, this liquor shop was started in this school building.

**Ojha claims that most customers visiting there are Indians rather than Nepalese.**

As alcohol consumption in the border area increased, temporary shops also began to open around the school. Liquor shops were also opened in the school's building. This situation has had a serious negative impact on children's mental well-being and has also contributed to an increase in criminal activities in the area.



A few years ago, the municipality decided to declare the area an alcohol-free zone and even introduced a law to ban liquor shops. However, the Supreme Court later ordered to allow liquor shops to operate again. Since then, Ojha believes it has become very difficult to control their spread.

According to him, liquor shops are increasing rapidly, leading to a rise in family violence and creating disputes between people living in that society because of alcohol addiction and rage. "Now almost every household in that area is affected by violence," he said. Poor families spend their hard-earned money on alcohol, which creates financial stress at home. Alcohol consumption is also harming people's health and, in some cases, has even taken lives.



*A few years ago, the municipality decided to declare the area an alcohol-free zone and even introduced a law to ban liquor shops. However, the Supreme Court later ordered to allow liquor shops to operate again.*

Young people submitted a written complaint to the armed police regarding this issue. In response, police installed CCTV cameras near the border and promised to stop alcohol consumption and drug use across the border. However, Ojha says that no effective action has been taken so far.

"Children in my village bring Ganja (marijuana), tablets, and other things from India to Nepal at night," he said. "Criminals supply them with old and broken motorcycles to transport these items from India under the cover of darkness at nighttime."

He complains that local leaders are not making any real effort to address this problem. According to him, they are only concerned about securing votes, which is why they do not speak out publicly. If any young person tries to raise their voice, they often face threats from these leaders and their allied criminals.

Ojha believes people need to be honest about their intentions, not just make rules. He says that before creating policies at the municipal or provincial level, authorities should conduct proper surveys and involve communities to develop a plan that actually works.




## Case-II Lives in a Hut without Land Ownership

Kamal Tamang is a resident of Jitpur Simara Sub-Metropolitan City-13 in Bara district. He says, “He wants to build a safe house with access to clean drinking water. He wants to move from the darkness of a Dibia (clay lamp) to the light of the lamp (Electrical lamp), that is, he wants to use electricity. However, in the absence of land ownership documents, he has not been able to benefit from any of the government services and facilities mentioned above.



According to Tamang, this is not only the issue of the Tamang families who have been living in huts on Seven Dhur government-owned land, but also of 14 percent of the marginalized citizens of that ward. This figure was identified when the NGO named NAFAN surveyed 507 households in the area. Referring to this data, Hemanti Majhi, Bara Coordinator of the Sajhedari Youth Network (SYN), said that the constitutional right of every citizen to have a secure shelter to live is being violated.

 ***The local ward asks us to fill out declaration forms. Even after filling them out, we are not receiving any response.***

According to Majhi, the citizens there are deprived of government services and facilities, which is also affecting their health. “Because they do not have a building permit, they have not been able to build a safe house. They have had to face many problems due to the lack of safe housing,” She said. “Not only this, but because of not having safe houses, the spread of disease is also common from time to time.” She added that when the communicable disease cholera broke out in Parsa around the end of July/August month, the entire village was in panic.

Article 37 of the Constitution of Nepal, 2072 provides that every citizen has the right to housing. Sub-section (1) states that every citizen has the right to adequate housing, and sub-section (2) states that no citizen shall be evicted or deprived of their residential space except in accordance with the law. She said that the local government has been threatening them from time to time, ignoring these rights.

According to her, “There are so many exciting activities during the June/July month and election time. One side promises houses with government subsidies, while the other side stops them,” she said. “But to date, the marginalized citizens of the settlement have only received assurances.”

The NAFAN organization has been raising this issue locally for eight years. In 2017, they reached Kathmandu on a large scale and raised their voices, but the citizens again received only assurances. Now, she says, the local government is not interested either. “The local ward asks us to fill out declaration forms. Even after filling them out, we are not receiving any response,” she said. “They don’t listen to us. They don’t take an interest.” She adds that even though the problem is serious, the citizens are still forced to suffer despite occasional concern shown by the local government.



## Impact of Chure Destruction: Rising Encounters of Wild Animals in Villages

Until a decade ago, the residents of Mithila Municipality in Dhanusha lived in peace. They were earning a good income through farming. However, recently they have been troubled by the growing threat posed by wild animals. Investment in agriculture is going to waste. The reason, they say, is the exploitation of the Chure region.

Dipika Lama of Dhalkebar, Mithila Municipality-6, is also suffering due to wild animals attacking her farmland. She has been earning a living by cultivating vegetables, but wild animals such as monkeys, boar (Bandel), elephants, and antelope (Nilgai) have been causing damage.



The 23-year-old Lama is currently studying for her Bachelor's Degree. She said there was no such problem in the village when she was in school. "This problem started appearing after the local government was formed. Exploitation has been taking place at the foothills of the Chure, and no standards have been followed," she said. "After the destruction of the Chure and forests, animals living in the forest have started entering the village."

The people here make a living by growing vegetables, corn, and sugarcane. Mostly Dalits, marginalized groups, and tribal communities live in these areas. However, she complained that animals from the nearby forests destroy all the crops planted in the village fields. She recalled that just a few days ago, elephants destroyed four houses in Kemalipur, Mithila Municipality-7. "First, people destroyed the animals' homes by clearing the forest. Now, the animals are destroying our houses," she said. "The local government is to be blamed for this."

She said that the wild animals also destroy potato fields, lychee trees, and acacia trees. Monkeys, she added, also damage vegetable crops. According to Lama, marginalized communities live in this area. They lease land and grow vegetables, but wild animals come and destroy the crops. She said, "They had not received any compensation because there was no insurance for their crops."

"The settlement is expanding. Forest are being cut down to establish new settlements. The local government is also exploiting rivers and chure hills without any restrictions," she said. "After destroying the homes of the animals, none of the government representatives have come to visit us."



*“The settlement is expanding. Forests are being cut down to establish new settlements. The local government is also exploiting rivers and chure hills without any restrictions,” she said. “After destroying the homes of the animals, none of the government representatives have come to visit us.”*

She expressed that she was unaware of the local government’s policy on the exploitation of rivers and streams and on deforestation. She said that after the incidents occurred, only financial assistance was provided, but no long-term measures were taken. She accused the government of ignoring such a serious issue. According to her, especially at the edge of the forest, poor and tribal people live on open land. Those who are not financially strong depend on the forest for their survival. She added that people also cut down forests out of necessity.

She said that non-governmental organizations have not addressed this issue yet. Lama claimed that she has been working to create awareness among the youth under her own leadership. “We have conducted awareness programs on the effects and challenges,” she said. “But people have taken it for granted. The problem is increasing every year, yet no one has done anything serious about it.” She added that it is difficult to raise her voice due to the lack of accurate data. According to her, local youths seem to be aware of the importance of protecting the environment. However, she said that the problem will become more complicated if the government does not take action or provide alternatives.



## Rural Roads: Unsafe and Waiting for Street Lights

Pooja Chaudhary of Bara, Jitpur Simara Sub-Metropolitan City-14, had to walk 30 minutes to reach Dumarbana to reach school early in the morning. She also had to take the same route to reach the market in the evening. However, Pooja says that she always walks with fear in her heart because the road is unsafe. There are potholes, and there are no streetlights. She says that this road, which looks normal during the day, becomes a symbol of fear in the morning and evening. She also mentions that she cannot walk in the afternoon due to the dust.



*“For students, this is not just a road, but a path of fear, insecurity, and mental stress,” she said. “There are no lights on the road. During winter, there is thick fog. How can we walk?”*

This struggle is not unique to 22-year-old Pooja but is representative of many roads that lack adequate lighting. Pooja dropped out of school while she was in her first year of graduation. However, fear has not left her mind. Even now, students in the village are forced to use the same road. “For students, this is not just a road, but a path of fear, insecurity, and mental stress,” she said. “There are no lights on the road. During winter, there is thick fog. How can we walk?”

She said that no single student went to school alone on a day without a friend. According to her, once she ran away in fear when she heard someone’s footsteps coming from the opposite direction on a dark street. Later, she found out that it was someone she knew. But the fear that had been instilled in her mind at that moment has not gone away to this day. She said that even today, around 50 students use the same route to school every day. “It is difficult to walk alone. The chances of road accidents increase,” she said. “Children, teenagers, the elderly, and people with disabilities are at greater risk.” She used to think this would just happen, unaware that there was a streetlight policy and plan. But now, through her engagement in the programs and campaigns, she became aware. She says, “This work is the responsibility of the local government. Why have they not fulfilled their responsibilities? I will warn them now.”



*“This work is the responsibility of the local government. Why have they not fulfilled their responsibilities? I will warn them now.”*

Her understanding is now being transformed into a demand. She says have planned to talk to the ward about the road problem. She insists that youth and women should actively participate in planning and budgeting. “Roads are not just transportation infrastructure; they are a basic right linked to the safety of citizens,” she said. “A well-lit road is not just a source of light; it is confidence. It is freedom and a path to a safe life in the rural areas.”



There are 23 community schools in the Pokhariya Municipality of Parsa District. According to the Integrated Information System (IMS), ten thousand students are studying, of which 4,927 (52.14%) are female students. However, most students are affected by the lack of female-friendly toilets in schools.



Anita Kumari of Pokhariya Municipality-9 said that she also faced the same problem while studying in school.

According to her, most schools in Pokhariya do not have separate toilets for men and women. “Because of this, female students had to drop out of school,” she says. “Sometimes they would go home to use the toilet. Sometimes they would leave school and go home. Those whose homes were far away would leave one person in front of the toilet to watch while the other used it.”



*She says that students often skip school during their periods. She recalls that menstrual pads were not provided at school. Most of the time, they were told that pads were not available.*

She says that students often skip school during their periods. She recalls that menstrual pads were not provided at school. Most of the time, they were told that pads were not available. She says that since they had to ask male teachers for pads, many students did not feel comfortable asking. Recalling the problems she faced while studying at school, she says, “After overcoming all these problems, the lack of women-friendly toilets became an even bigger problem.”

She says that on other days, girls are forced to urinate outside the school or use a toilet cubicle with shame. This not only affects the studies of the girls but also their health. “Even female teachers ignored it,” she said. According to her, there is no School Management Committee (SMC) in the school, and no one has taken responsibility.

She says that people’s representatives have been making many excuses and avoiding the issue. Anita, who is not aware of the policy details, estimates that many students could benefit if women-friendly toilets were built.



*Recalling the problems she faced while studying at school, she says, “After overcoming all these problems, the lack of women-friendly toilets became an even bigger problem.”*



## When Contracts are Embraced and the Deserving are Rejected

It has been six and a half years since the formation of the Provincial Public Service Commission in Madhesh Province. The commission, which was established on Asoj 4, 2076, has so far advertised recruitment for 400 employees, while 1,000 employees are required.

Om Prakash Yadav, from Rajbiraj Municipality, Ward No. 15, Deuriharuba, is currently staying at Rajbiraj Municipality, Ward No. 2, Tetigachhi states that every year in our country, more than 100,000 students pass the entrance exams. That means around 100,000 students are ready for employment each year. But the government creates employment opportunities for only a few thousand. What will the rest of the students do? If we look at contract jobs, all contract employees are appointed through political favoritism. So, what will we youth do? The government does not seem to be paying attention to this issue.

18-year-old Yadav keeps on saying, “Due to unemployment, many young people have been going abroad. Most of the youth who are supposed to build the country are working in the Gulf countries.” Many young people have fallen into drug addiction. They have brain drain. Without employment, the youth are unable to get married. Corruption has increased day by day due to political interference.

*Around 100,000 students are ready for employment each year. But the government creates employment opportunities for only a few thousand. What will the rest of the students do? If we look at contract jobs, all contract employees are appointed through political favoritism.*

The government has not been able to provide employment opportunities equally. Not everyone has been able to feel included or treated fairly. Seeing that even educated youth are unemployed, many poor youths are now going abroad without completing their education. We have not done any organized work on this issue. Everyone wants employment, but no one is willing to speak up about it. The main problem is that people in leadership positions do not want to meet us. Even when we manage to meet them, they do not listen to us.

Nothing has changed. Everyone should be given equal opportunities, and there should be youth leadership. Young people should be involved in policymaking, action plan preparation, and related processes. The public should be informed about which office is responsible for what work, and various organizations should be established as needed.



# 8

## Learning Outcomes, Key Findings, Recommendations and Conclusion

### Learning Outcomes

- The consultation process helped understand the real concerns, needs, and expectations of youth across different districts of Madhesh Province.
- It created a platform where young people could openly discuss local problems and identify key issues affecting their daily lives and future opportunities.
- The process strengthened collaboration among youths through the Sajhedari Youth Network (SYN), encouraging youth-led dialogue and collective thinking.
- The study highlighted the importance of participatory approaches such as the World Café Model and Problem Tree Analysis in gathering grassroots perspectives.
- The initiative demonstrated that young voices can contribute meaningfully to policy discussions and local development planning process.

### Key Findings

- Madhesh based youth feel that their voices and concerns are often unheard in decision-making processes at the Local/Provincial/Federal levels.
- Access to quality education, healthcare services, employment opportunities, and basic infrastructure remains a major concern for youth across the province.
- Youth expressed strong interest in better governance, transparency, and accountability in public service delivery.
- Social issues such as discrimination, inequality, and lack of social justice continue to affect communities and young people in different ways.
- Limited awareness about the roles and responsibilities of elected representatives and public institutions was observed among many rural youths.
- Youths highlighted growing concerns about digital and cyber safety, climate change impacts, and the need for sustainable agriculture and environmental protection.

### Recommendations

- Government institutions at all levels should actively engage youth in policy dialogue and development planning processes.
- Programs should be developed to improve awareness among young people about governance systems and the roles of their elected representatives.
- Investment in quality and lifelong education, skills development, entrepreneurship, and employment opportunity should be prioritized for youth.

- Public service delivery in areas such as health, education, and infrastructure should be strengthened to ensure equitable access for all communities.
- Policies promoting social justice, cultural inclusion, and protection from discrimination should be effectively implemented.
- The effective service oriented mindset must be enhanced of local leaders, personnels, and decision makers. The province and federal government must facilitate for the individual people's representative work performance evaluation.

## Conclusion

This book reflects the voices, concerns, and aspirations of non-political youth from different districts of Madhesh Province. Through consultations, discussions, and participatory methods such as the World Café Model and Problem Tree Analysis, the initiative created a space where young people could openly share their experiences and identify the key issues affecting their lives and communities.

The findings show that youth are deeply concerned about areas such as education, health, employment opportunities, governance, social justice, infrastructure, and environmental sustainability. At the same time, the process revealed that many young people, especially in rural areas, have limited awareness about the roles and responsibilities of their elected representatives and governance structures. Despite these challenges, the consultations provided valuable grassroots insights and highlighted the strong willingness of youth to contribute to positive change in their communities.

Overall, the discussions and consultations conducted through the Sajhedari Youth Network present a realistic and ground-based picture of the expectations and demands of youth in Madhesh. The voices captured in this book serve as an important reminder for policymakers, leaders, and institutions to listen to young people and involve them meaningfully in decision-making processes. Addressing these concerns and demands can help create a more inclusive, responsive, and youth-friendly development pathway for the future.



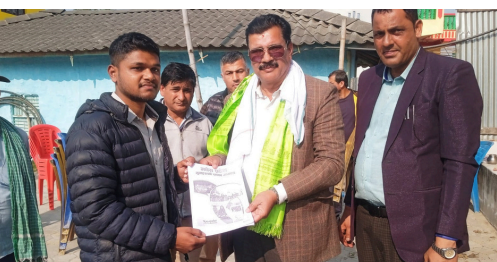
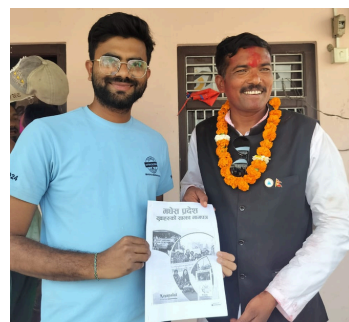
# Members of the Sajhedari Youth Network

Name	District
1. Dipika Lama	Dhanusha
2. Bipul Kumar kushwaha	Sarlahi
3. Anjana Shrestha	Sarlahi
4. Nishant Kumar Ojha	Mahottari
5. Anrud Kumar Mahato	Mahottari
6. Gunjan Kumari Yadav	Mahottari
7. Sujita Kumari Mahara	Siraha
8. Khusbu Sah	Siraha
9. Sanjay Kumar Chaudhary	Dhanusha
10. Rajan Das	Dhanusha
11. Binda Kumari Yadav	Saptari
12. Anjali Yadav	Saptari
13. Sanjay Singh	Saptari
14. Gaytri Kumari	Rautahat
15. Sabina Kumari Yadav	Rautahat
16. Amit Kumar Sahani	Rautahat
17. Mukesh Kumar Kalwar	Parsa
18. Puja Kuswaha	Parsa
19. Saran Gupta	Parsa
20. Avijit Kumar Ram	Bara
21. Hemanti Kumari Majhi	Bara
22. Puja Kumari Paswan	Bara
23. Khushi Jha	Dhanusha
24. Krish Yadav	Dhanusha
25. Jyoti Kumari	Dhanusha

# ANNEX-I Glimpses of Event



# Glimpses of Event

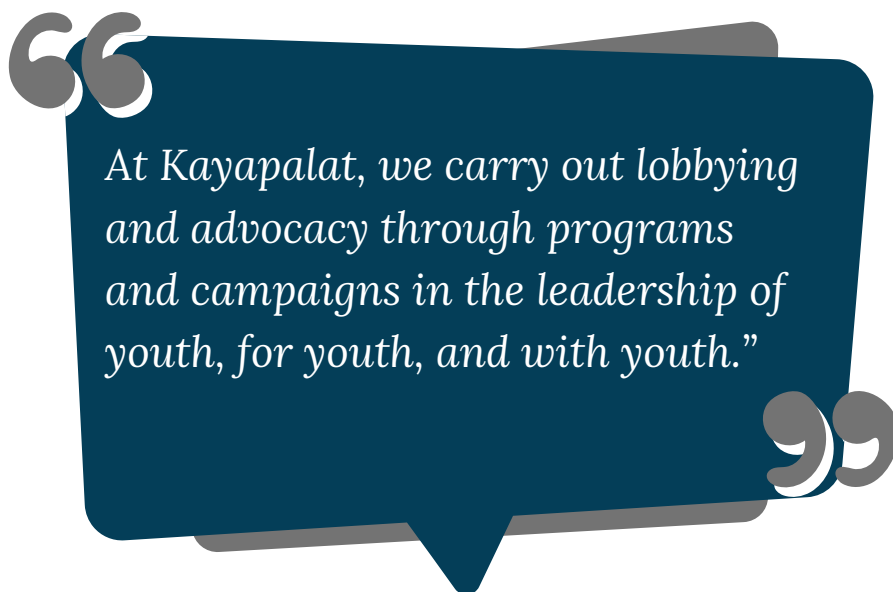


## About Kayapalat

Kayapalat (KAP) is a non-profit, non-partisan, youth-led organization that started its work in 2019 during the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization was formally registered in 2022 at the District Administration Office in Dhanusha and is affiliated with the Social Welfare Council. KAP mainly works in Madhesh Province and the Kathmandu Valley, with its activities gradually expanding to other parts of Nepal. The organization aims to empower young people to understand, claim, and defend their rights by promoting democratic accountability, human rights, good governance, gender inclusion, climate justice, and education.

KAP works with different national and international partners to strengthen youth engagement and democratic participation. Through these collaborations, the organization conducts youth-focused campaigns, dialogue programs, and policy advocacy initiatives related to governance, democracy, and social inclusion. These efforts help create spaces where young people can express their ideas, share their concerns, and participate in discussions that influence social and policy issues.

The organization has also played an important role in encouraging youth participation in local governance processes, particularly in Kathmandu, Janakpurdham, and nearby municipalities. By mobilizing young people and facilitating discussions with local stakeholders, KAP supports youth in raising their voices in decision-making processes. With a network of more than 160 youth members and committed leadership, KAP continues to work towards strengthening democratic participation and promoting accountable governance in Nepal.



# Kayapalat

An Effort for change

*For human rights, democracy, climate justice, quality  
education, and good governance*

## KAYAPALAT

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