INTERNET SAFETY AND RISKS OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO CHILDREN IN NEPAL

2019

ECPAT
LUXEMBOURG

A STUDY ON
INTERNET SAFETY AND RISKS OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO CHILDREN IN NEPAL
2019

INTERNET SAFETY AND RISKS OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO CHILDREN IN NEPAL

With the rise of internet users in Nepal, there was a need of an assessment on internet safety and risks of new technology to Nepali children. To identify whether Nepali children are using internet technology in a safe way and to identify possible risks of new technologies to these children, ECPAT Luxembourg conducted a nation-wide survey among children, teachers and parents on the issue.

COVERAGE

Metropolitan cities	2
Sub-metropolitan cities	3
Municipalities	8
Rural municipalities	14

Sudoorpaschim · Karnali · Gandaki · Province 3 · Province 5 · Province 2 · Province 1

Darchula, Bajhang, Baitadi, Bajura, Mugu, Humla, Dadeldhura, Doti, Achham, Kalikot, Jumla, Dolpa, Kanchanpur, Dailekh, Jajarkot, Mustang, Kailali, Rukum (West), Rukum (East), Manang, Surkhet, Salyan, Myagdi, Kaski, Lamjung, Gorkha, Rasuwa, Bardiya, Rolpa, Baglung, Pyuthan, Gulmi, Parbat, Syangja, Tanahu, Nuwakot, Sindhupalchok, Dolakha, Solukhumbu, Sankhuwasabha, Taplejung, Dang, Arghakhanchi, Palpa, Dhading, Kavre, Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga, Khotang, Bhojpur, Terhathum, Panchthar, Kapilbastu, Rupandehi, Nawalparasi (East), Nawalparasi (West), Chitwan, Makwanpur, Sindhuli, Udayapur, Dhankuta, Ilam, Parsa, Bara, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusa, Siraha, Saptari, Sunsari, Morang, Jhapa

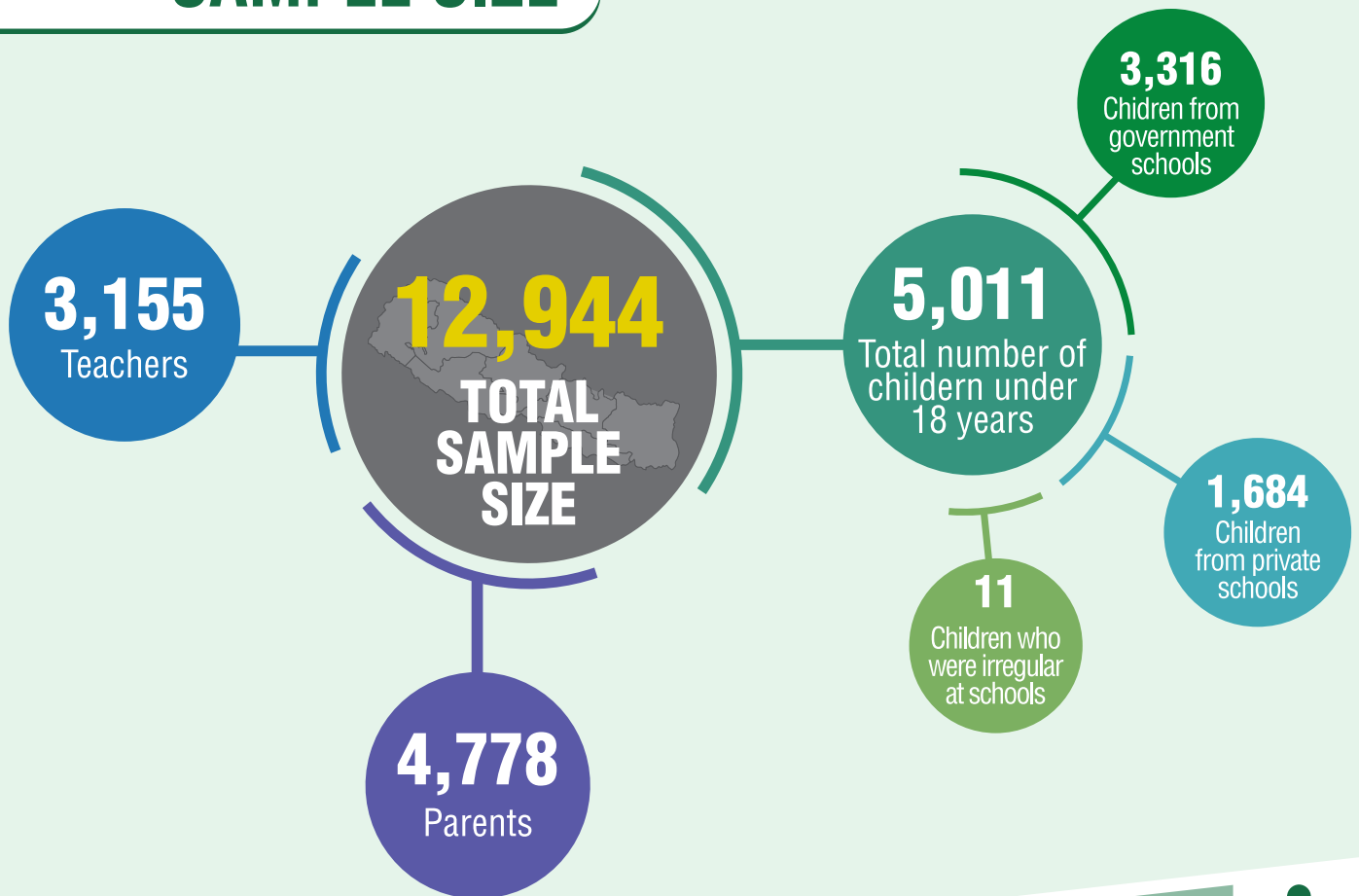4 Mountain + 6 Hill + 5 Terai = 15 Total

RESEARCH METHOD & SAMPLE

- **Multistage sampling method** was applied for selecting region, districts, municipalities, schools, and respondents

- **Rigorously examined, reviewed and consulted** with officials of the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Nepal Telecom Authority (NTA), Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB), and experts in research methodology.

- With **confidence level of 95% and 5% margin error** sample size was determined from the total population of teachers from schools in enumerated municipalities/rural municipalities.
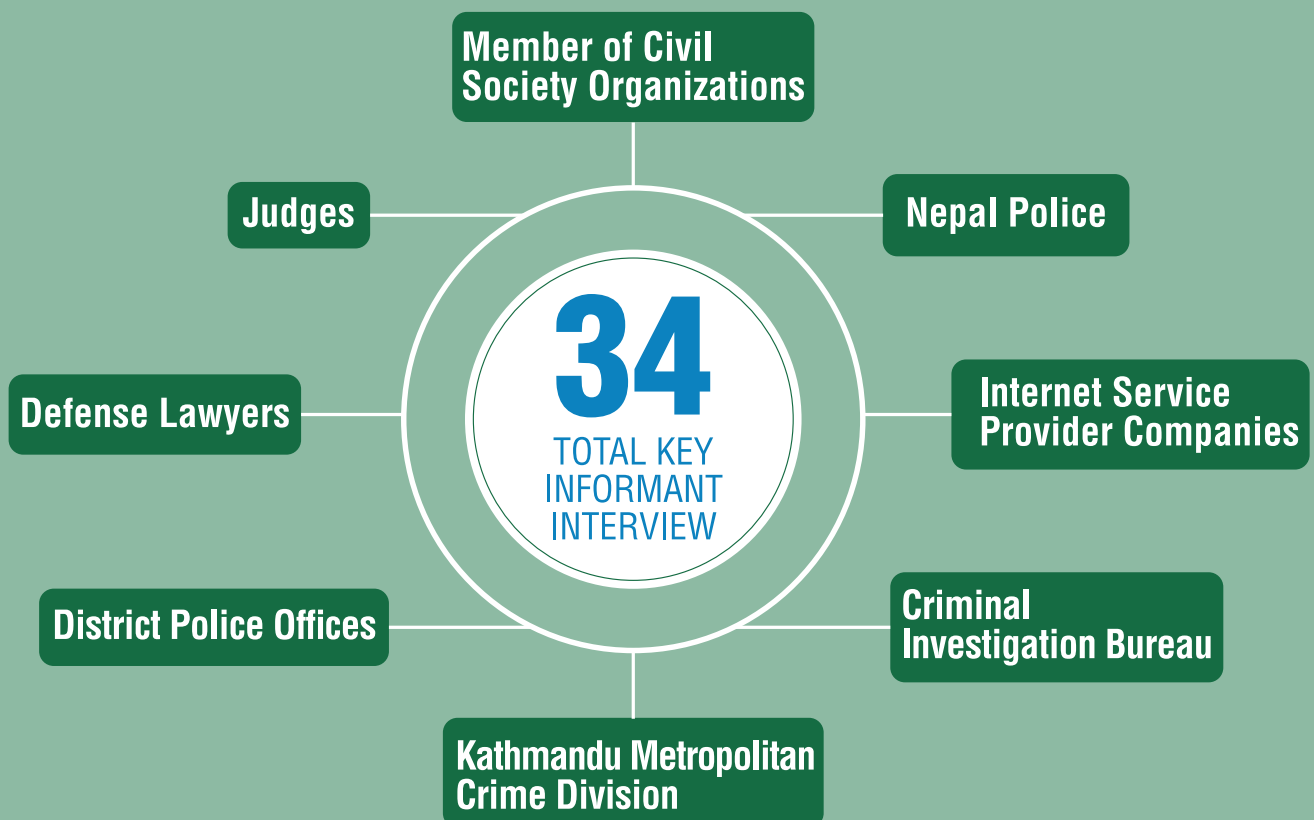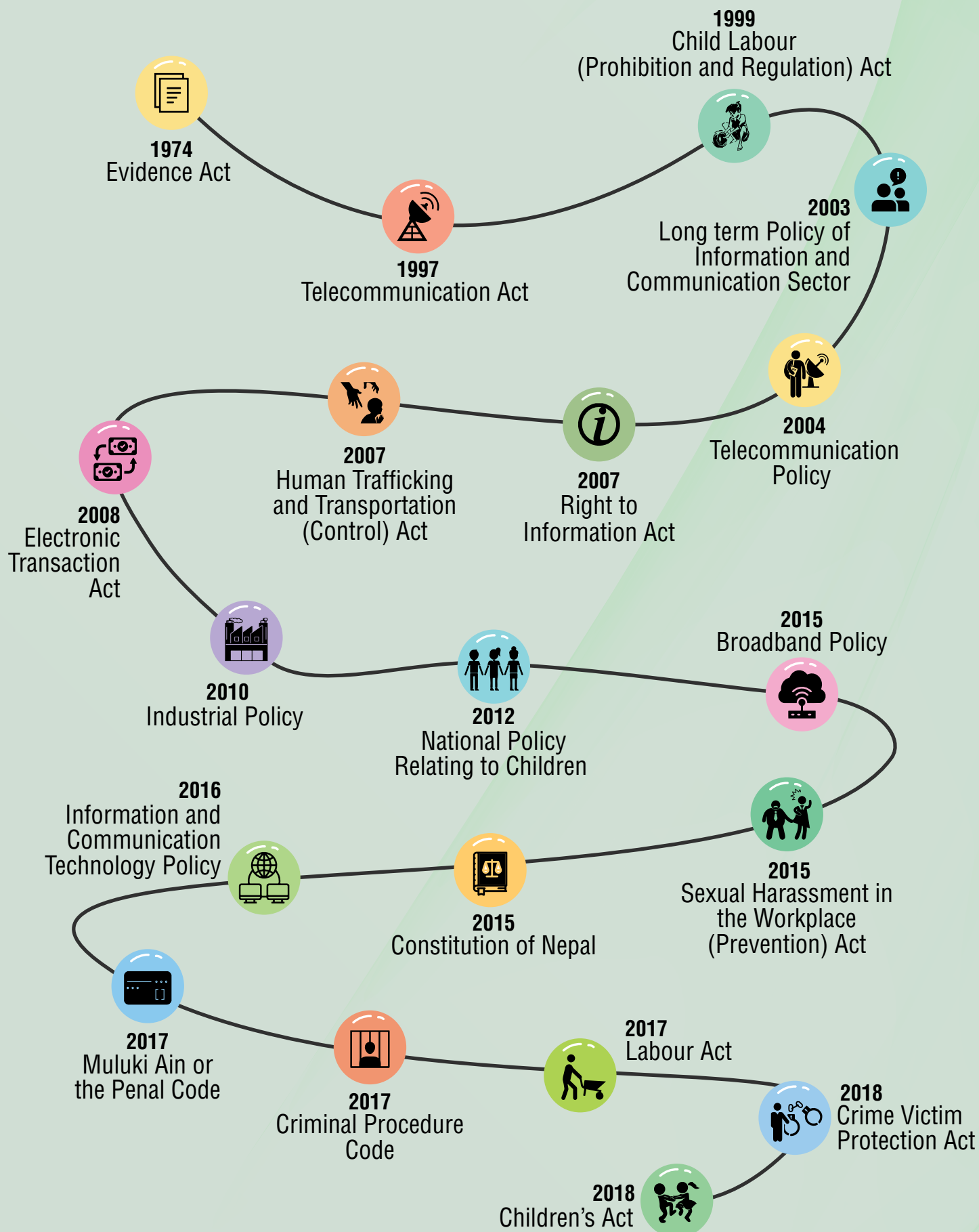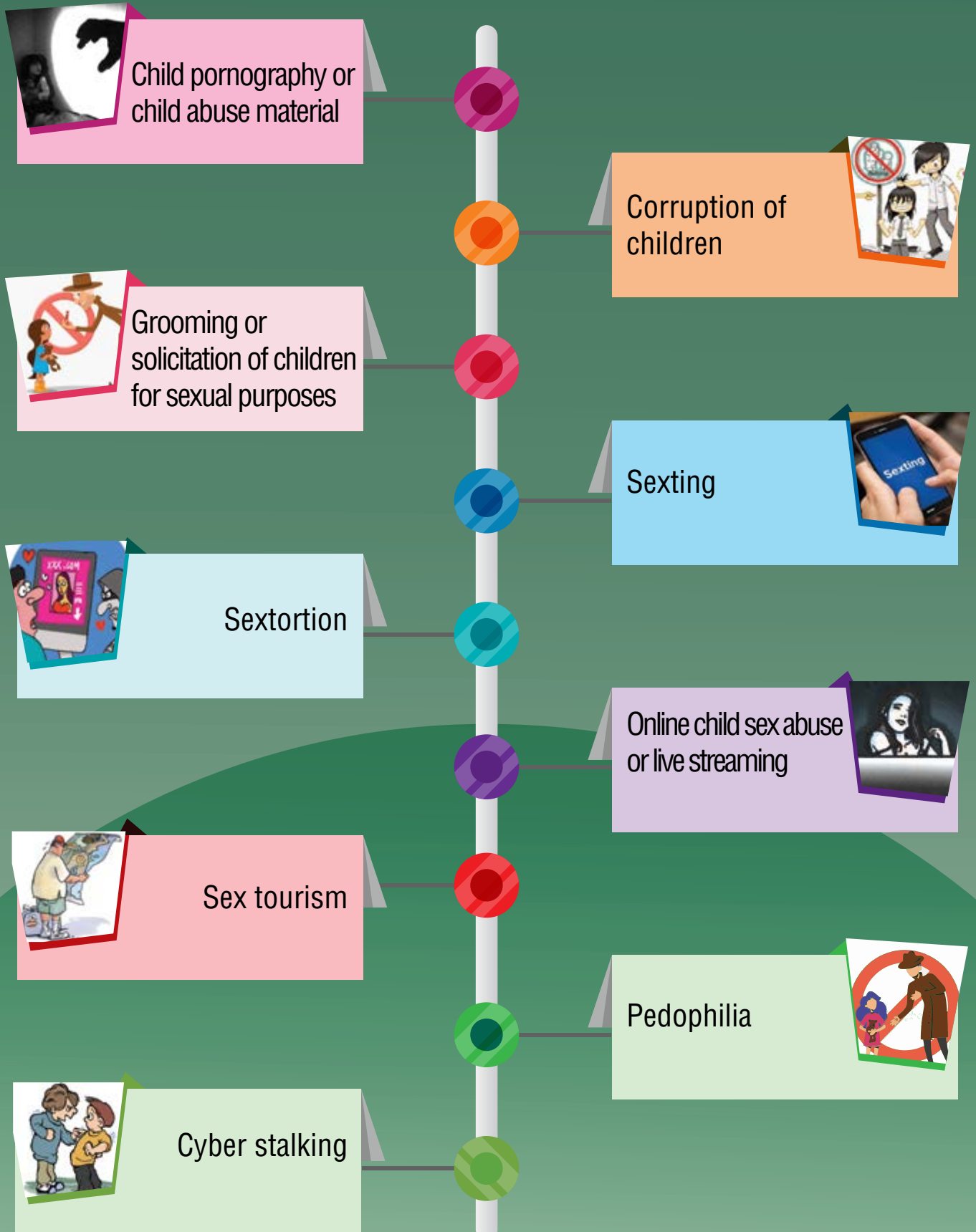
internet user

SAMPLE SIZE

3,155 Teachers

12,944 TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE

4,778 Parents

5,011 Total number of childern under 18 years

3,316 Chidren from government schools

1,684 Children from private schools

11 Children who were irregular at schools

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW

34 TOTAL KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW

Member of Civil Society Organizations

Judges

Nepal Police

Defense Lawyers

Internet Service Provider Companies

District Police Offices

Criminal Investigation Bureau

Kathmandu Metropolitan Crime Division

LAWS AND POLICIES FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN ONLINE IN NEPAL

1974
Evidence Act

1997
Telecommunication Act

1999
Child Labour
(Prohibition and Regulation) Act

2003
Long term Policy of
Information and
Communication Sector

2004
Telecommunication
Policy

2007
Human Trafficking
and Transportation
(Control) Act

2007
Right to
Information Act

2008
Electronic
Transaction
Act

2010
Industrial Policy

2012
National Policy
Relating to Children

2015
Broadband Policy

2015
Sexual Harassment in
the Workplace
(Prevention) Act

2016
Information and
Communication
Technology Policy

2015
Constitution of Nepal

2017
Muluki Ain or
the Penal Code

2017
Criminal Procedure
Code

2017
Labour Act

2018
Children's Act

2018
Crime Victim
Protection Act

Newly enacted Children's Act 2018 provides legal base for the protection of children from abuse and exploitation, including online exploitation. This Act also has some limitations as it does not define critical concepts/terminologies:
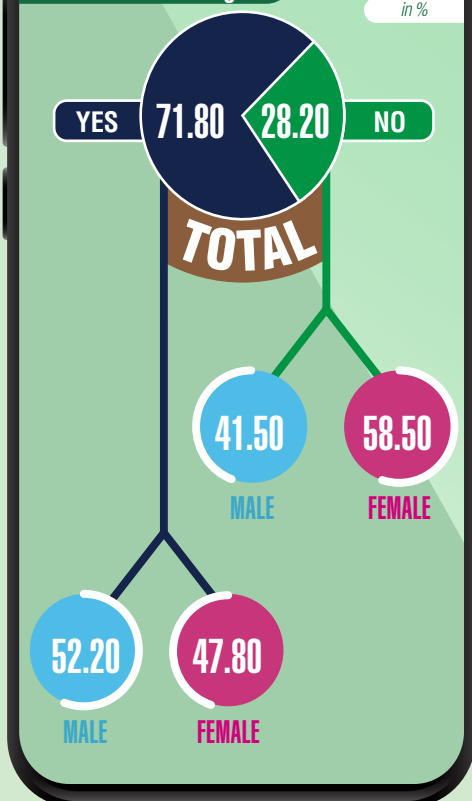
Child pornography or child abuse material

Corruption of children

Grooming or solicitation of children for sexual purposes

Sexting

Sextortion

Online child sex abuse or live streaming

Sex tourism

Pedophilia

Cyber stalking

CHILDREN'S ACCESS AND USE OF MOBILE PHONES

Mobile Phone Usage

in %

YES 71.80 28.20 **NO**

TOTAL

41.50 **MALE**

58.50 **FEMALE**

52.20 **MALE**

47.80 **FEMALE**

AVERAGE INTERNET USE AMONG MOBILE USERS

Average Internet Usage among Mobile Users (in %)

	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
Less than 1 hour daily	21.50	50.60	49.40
Up to an hour	21.00	51.10	48.90
1-3 hours daily	15.00	55.10	44.90
3-6 hours daily	3.10	58.90	41.10
More than 6 hours daily	2.00	71.80	28.20
Occasionally	30.10	54.20	45.80
Do Not Use	7.30	37.80	62.20

DEVICE FOR INTERNET USE

in %
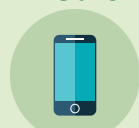
Mobile
74.7

Laptop
9.6

Television
7.2

Other
OTHERS
3.7

Desktop Computer
2.5

Tablet
2.3

AVERAGE INTERNET USAGE AMONG MOBILE USERS

in %

	Less than 1 hour daily	Up to an hour	1-3 hours daily	3-6 hours daily	More than 6 hours daily	Occasionally	Do Not Use
Province 1	37.71	18.55	9.83	6.76	1.35	20.76	5.04
Province 2	15.2	19.45	2.43	0	10.64	52.28	0
Province 3	7.71	16.41	38.57	3.65	0.98	27.49	5.19
Gandaki	17.32	19.29	17.13	3.15	1.77	35.63	5.71
Province 5	38.04	28.46	6.55	1.01	1.01	21.91	3.02
Karnali	17.04	22.63	9.22	2.51	0.56	27.09	20.95
Sudoor Paschim	12.73	27.77	6.26	0.42	0.63	38.00	14.20

TIME OF INTERNET USE BY CHILDREN (in %)

FEMALE   MALE

Time	Female	Male
In the morning before school	48.1	51.9
During the school hours /at school	54.5	45.5
After returning from the school	42.4	57.6
Before dinner	48.5	51.5
After dinner	51.3	48.7
After 10 PM in the night	49.8	50.2
At different times	47.1	52.9
I do not use internet	61.8	38.2
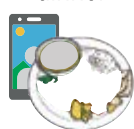
WHAT DO CHILDREN MOSTLY USE ON THE INTERNET? in %

	Province 1	Province 2	Province 3	Gandaki	Province 5	Karnali	Sudoor Paschim
I search for study related materials	44.79	20.0	35.65	32.31	43.97	34.65	20.69
Watch YouTube	16.13	35.28	15.04	20.56	9.34	11.6	10.68
Play online games	6.27	3.61	11.25	7.64	8.89	3.52	4.94
Chat on social media	10.78	0.00	8.34	3.52	1.05	2.79	8.68
Use various types of social media	1.84	0.00	1.14	3.23	2.41	1.62	3.20
Use other various apps	0.65	0.00	0.63	2.79	0.45	0.59	2.00
Read news	2.49	3.89	5.18	6.9	1.66	3.08	7.48
More than one activity mentioned above	4.33	18.06	13.15	10.43	23.8	5.29	12.68
other	0.28	18.33	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.00
I do not use internet	12.44	0.83	9.61	12.48	8.73	36.71	29.91

INTERNET USAGE TIME WHEN BEING OBSERVED BY THE FAMILY OR WHEN BEING ALONE

in %

Male
Female

I use more when I am alone

52.2 | **47.8**

I use more when family or teacher of hostel can observe me

50.5 | **49.5**

I do not use internet

41.0 | **59.0**

WHETHER CHILDREN SURF THE THINGS THAT THEIR TEACHERS PROHIBIT THEM?

in %

WWW I surf **22.7**

WWW I do not surf **77.3**

WHETHER TEACHER CHECK WHAT STUDENTS ARE WATCHING ON THE INTERNET?

Yes, they check **45.9**

No, they do not check **54.1**

KNOWLEDGE ABOUT USING INTERNET TO HARM, DAMAGE, ABUSE OR INSULT SOMEONE MAY DEEM A CRIME

in %

Male
Female

49.7
50.3

YES, I KNOW

48.7
51.3

NO, I DON'T KNOW
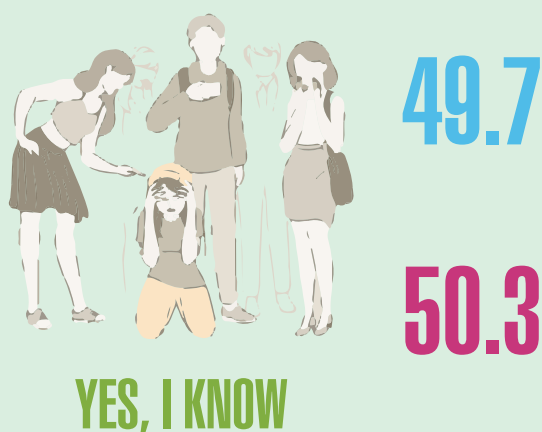
KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE LEGAL PROVISION RELATED TO THE PROTECTION AND JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF ONLINE SEXUAL ABUSE (in %)

	Male	Female
YES	48.8	51.2
NO	49.5	50.5
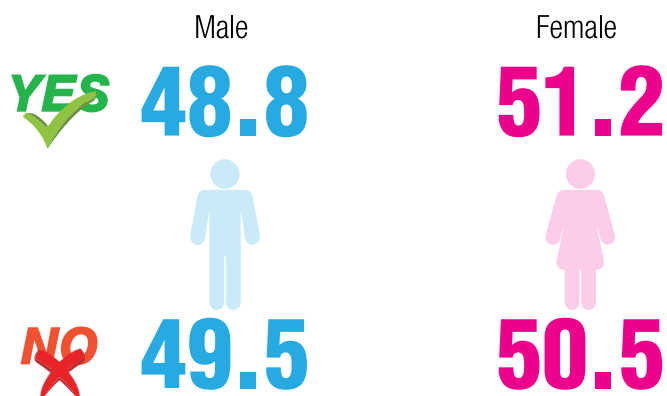
CHILDREN HAVING THEIR OWN FACEBOOK ACCOUNT (in %)

	Male	Female	Total
✓	53.1	46.9	60.9
✗	43.1	56.9	39.1

WHETHER CHILDREN HAVE THEIR OWN NAME AND PHOTO OR SOME FALSE NAME ON THEIR FACEBOOK OR OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA

Name and photo are my own	56.2%
Name is my own, photo is different	6.8%
Name is my own, but I have no photo at all	6.4%
I have my own photo but the name is different	3.9%
Both name and photo are different than my own	6.3%
Different names and photos in different accounts	20.5%
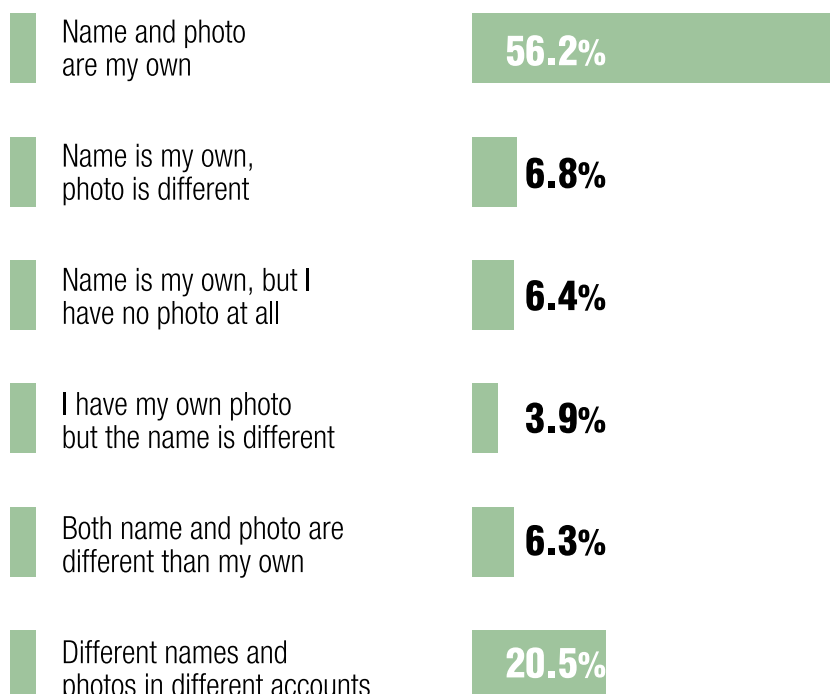
ORIGINAL NAME AND PHOTO IN FACEBOOK OR OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNT

MALE   FEMALE

	Male	Female
Name and photo are my own	52.9%	47.1%
Name is my own, photo is different	54.9%	45.1%
Name is my own, but I have no photo at all	46.7%	53.3%
I have my own photo but the name is different	52.8%	47.2%
Both name and photo are different than my own	44.6%	55.4%
Different names and photos in different accounts	38.5%	61.5%
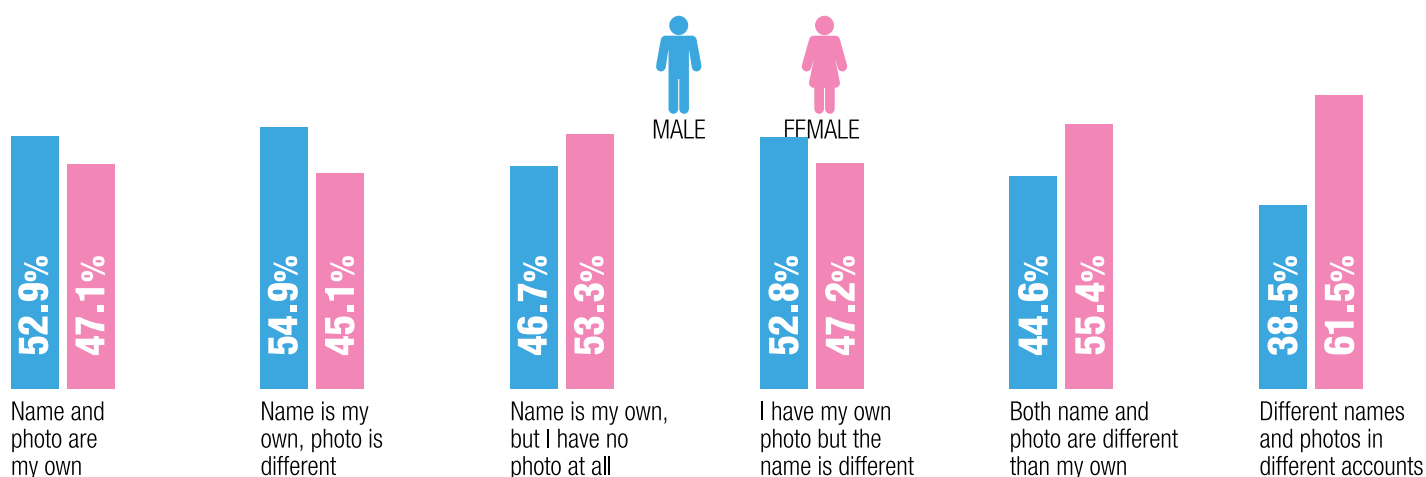
CHILDREN'S RESPONSE IF OBSCENE, VULGAR OR DIRTY PHOTO, VIDEO OR WRITE-UP POPS UP, WHILE USING THE INTERNET (in %)

	Male	Female	Province 1	Province 2	Province 3	Gandaki	Province 5	Karnali	Sudoor Paschim
I ignore	49.5	50.5	13.46	12.22	20.73	24.38	4.52	12.33	15.75
I close it immediately	50.9	49.1	56.59	52.78	44.37	33.48	66.27	28.05	38.72
I watch whatever pops up	55.7	44.3	6.45	0.0	1.14	1.32	5.12	1.76	5.61
I tell to my friend or relative	49.0	51.0	1.29	0.0	4.05	8.81	0.75	2.5	3.6
I tell to my father or mother	40.0	60.0	10.97	4.72	6.7	13.51	13.1	24.08	18.16
I tell to my teacher	54.5	45.5	0.28	0.0	1.64	1.03	0.45	0.44	3.47
I inform the police	49.7	50.3	2.49	29.72	7.59	8.37	1.36	17.62	9.48
If other, mention	39.8	60.2	1.47	0.0	0.0	2.06	0.45	6.46	0.8
I report the abuse	52.6	47.4	7.0	0.56	13.78	7.05	7.98	6.75	4.41

MAIN REASON BEHIND SUBSCRIBING INTERNET SERVICE IN HOME

To talk to my family members who are abroad **32.3%**

I do not have internet at my home **24.1%**

2.7% Other

I insisted to play games and use internet **3.6%**

For other members of the family **6.3%**

For my study **23.6%**

Gurdians need to work through internet **7.5%**

TOTAL **5011**
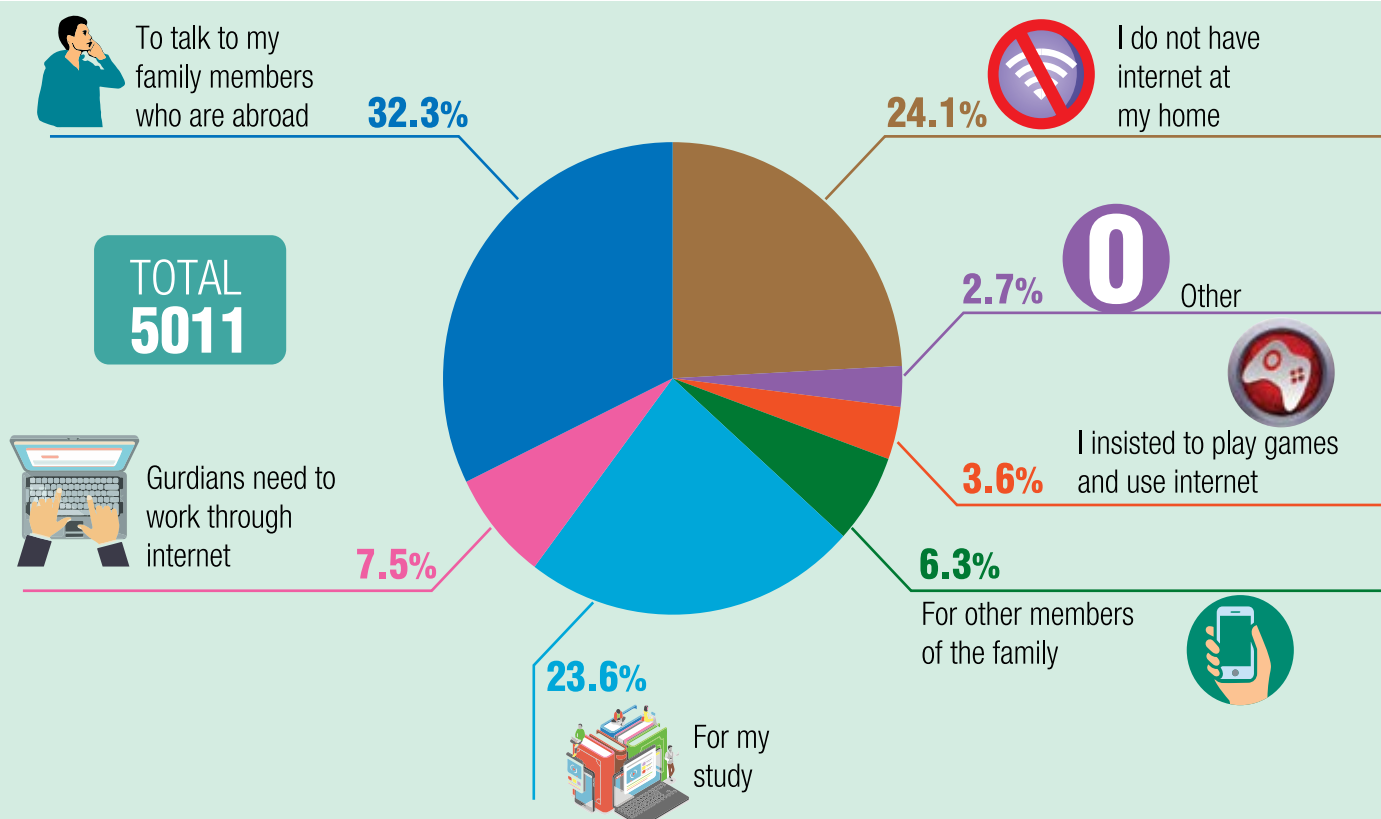
CHATTING WITH PERSON AFTER BECOMING FRIENDS ON SOCIAL MEDIA WITHOUT LETTING FAMILY MEMBERS KNOW ABOUT IT

YES ✓
- 57.3%
- 42.7%

NO ✗
- 46.9%
- 53.1%
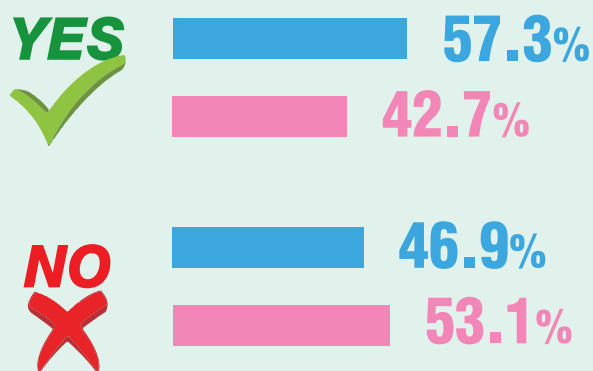
WHETHER CHILDREN SEND FRIEND REQUEST TO MAKE STRANGERS FRIEND ON SOCIAL MEDIA ?

in %

49.6 / 50.4	58.3 / 41.7
I send request only to those I know	I send request if I think I know the stranger
44.5 / 55.5	39.1 / 60.9
I send request to the stranger also	If other mention
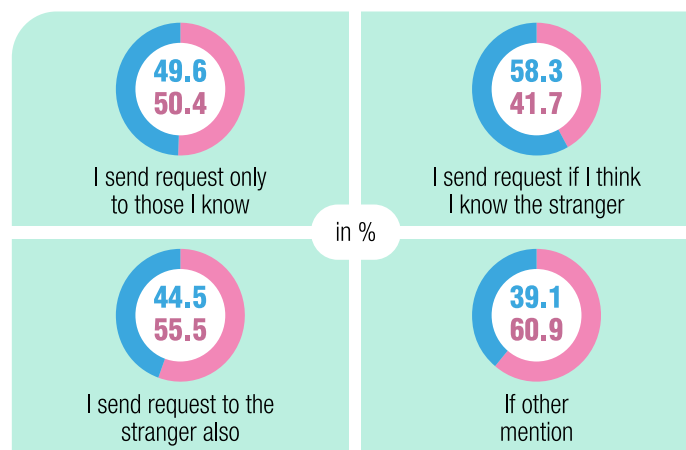
CONFIDENTIALITY OF PASSWORD OF FACEBOOK OR OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNT

in %

	Male	Female	Total
Nobody else knows	51.7	48.3	48.3
Either parents know	43.6	56.4	24.0
Brother or sister know	45.8	54.2	13.8
Friends know	56.8	43.2	09.3
Relatives know	59.2	40.8	01.5
If other, mention	40.3	59.7	03.0

WHETHER ANYONE HAS SENT PORNOGRAPHIC OR VULGAR MESSAGE OR PHOTO WHILE USING FACEBOOK OR OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA? (in %)

	Total	Male	Female
Yes ✓	15.7	59.1	40.9
No ✗	84.3	47.3	52.7

PRACTICE OF PARENTAL GUIDANCE (in %)

	Male	Female	Total
Yes, they always check	49.3	50.7	18.2
No, they never check	51.9	48.1	18.8
Sometimes they do, sometimes not	51.7	48.3	30.8
They do not have time to do so	46.7	53.3	5.5
I don't allow them when they inquire	45.9	54.1	4.2
I don't have internet at home, so they do not do such things	38.4	61.6	8.6
My parents don't know about internet	47.3	52.7	6.7
I don't know if they check or not	49.9	50.1	7.3

WHETHER CHILDREN REQUEST ANYONE TO MEET UP, GO OUT OR PROMISE GIFTS WHILE CHATTING ONLINE? (in %)

YES
7.4
65.9
34.1

NO
92.6
47.9
52.1

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE IF THEY ARE REQUESTED TO MEET UP, GO OUT OR OFFER OF GIFTS, ETC. (in %)

	Male	Female
I told friend or relative	54.7	45.3
I told father or mother	50.3	49.7
I told teacher	65.7	34.3
I informed the police	45.9	54.1
I did not tell anyone	57.8	42.2
I ignored	43.8	56.2
I went to meet	56.2	43.8
I accepted the gift	76	24
If other, mention	54.7	45.3
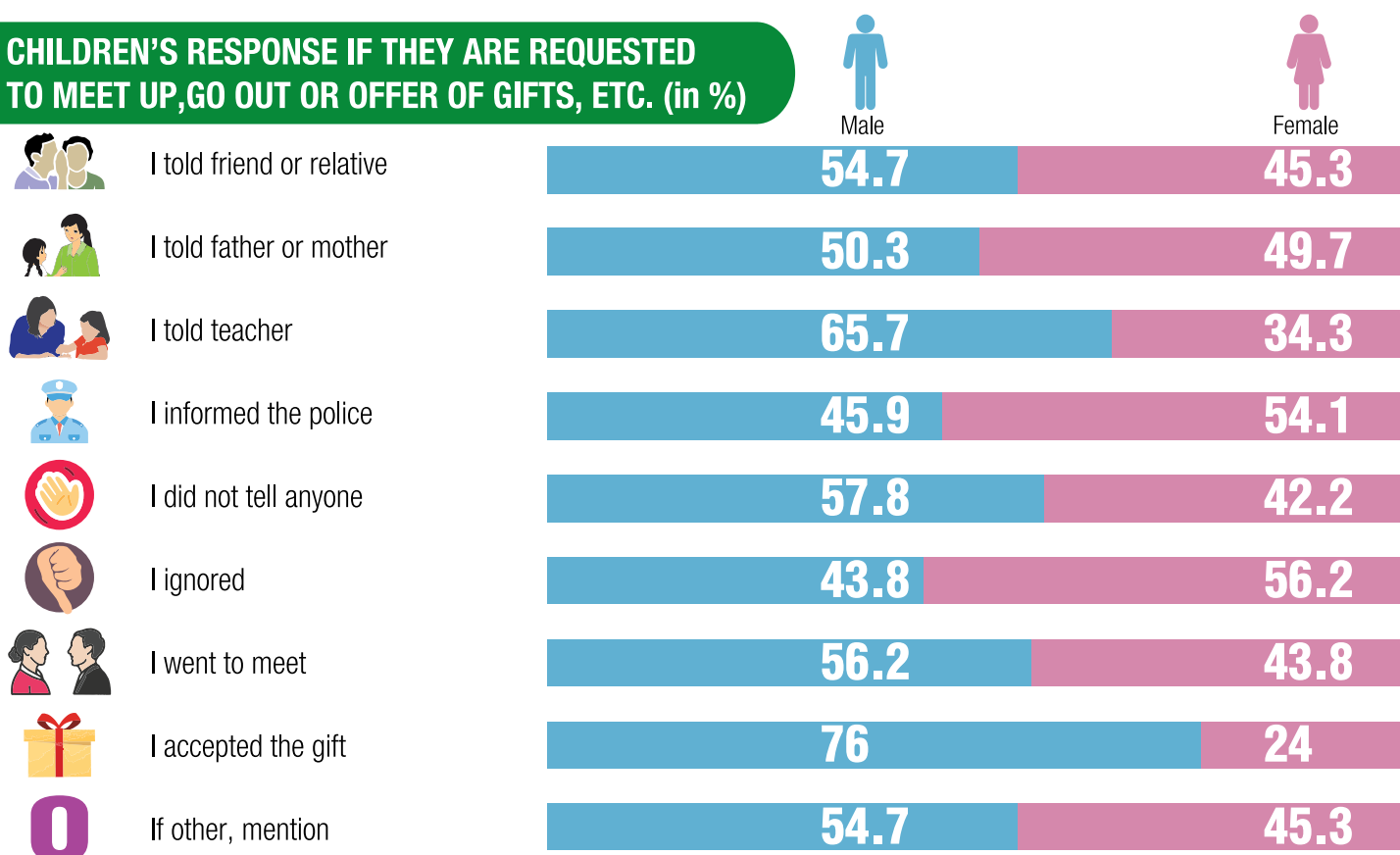
WHETHER CHILDREN DELETE HISTORY AFTER USING INTERNET OR NOT?

in %

CLEAR HISTORY

Always
55.6 | 44.4

I do it after using certain website
49.3 | 50.7

I do not
48.5 | 51.5

I do not know about it
44.4 | 55.6
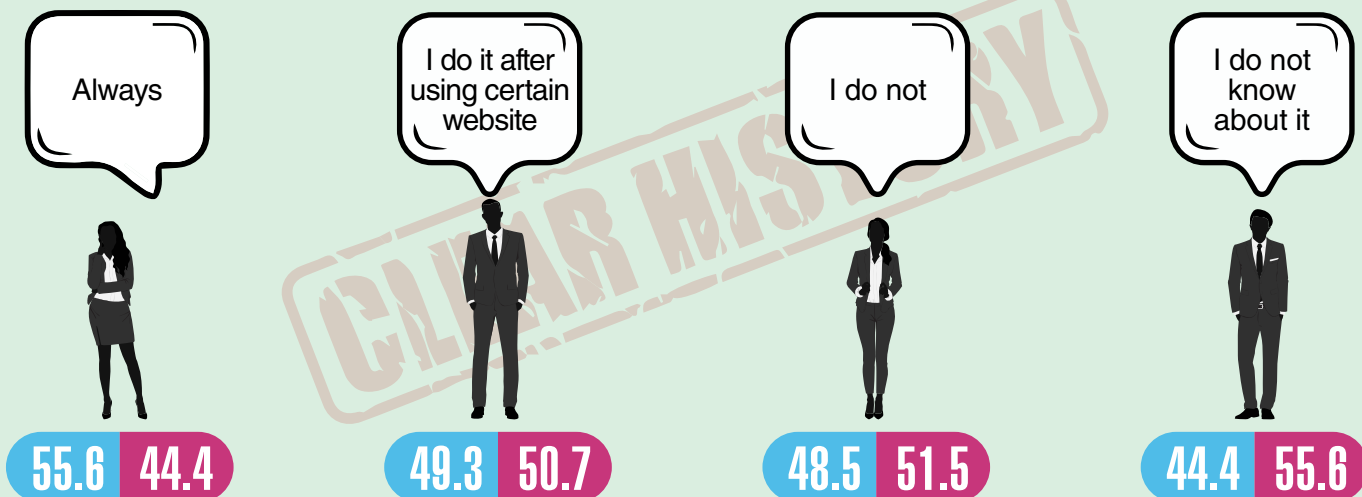
WHETHER CHILDREN USE INCOGNITO MODE WHILE USING INTERNET?

in %

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE

Incognito Mode

If other, mention — 7.8
I do not use it — 41.7
I do not know what that is — 45.7
I use it to surf certain website — 4.8

ARE YOU AWARE ABOUT ONLINE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF THE CHILDREN IN NEPAL?
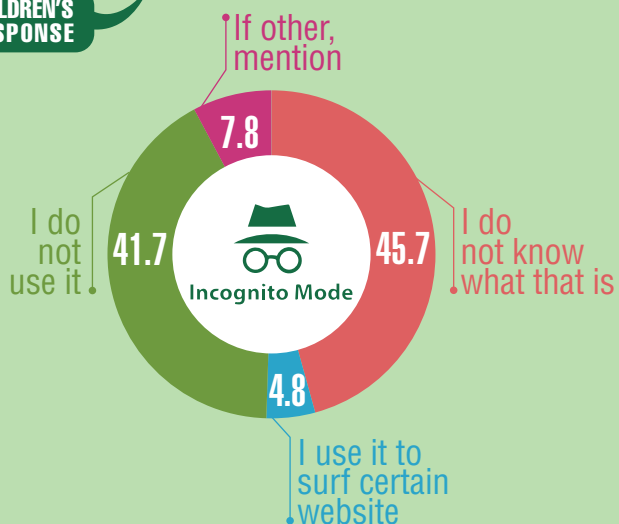
TEACHERS' RESPONSE

	GOVERNMENT	PRIVATE
YES	47.4	52.6
NO	48.9	51.1
I DO NOT KNOW	64.8	35.2

ONLINE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN
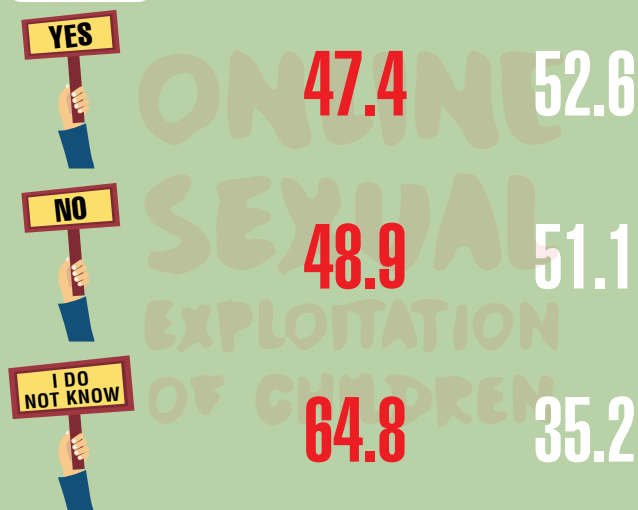
HOW OFTEN DO CHILDREN CHANGE THE PASSWORD OF SOCIAL MEDIA OR EMAIL?

in %

I change every week
8.80 | 6.48

I do not often change
51.52 | 54.75

I change every month
7.71 | 7.50

I do not have social media or email account
6.94 | 10.68

I change every now and then
21.14 | 17.75

The password is saved so the account opens automaically. I have forgotten my password
3.89 | 2.83
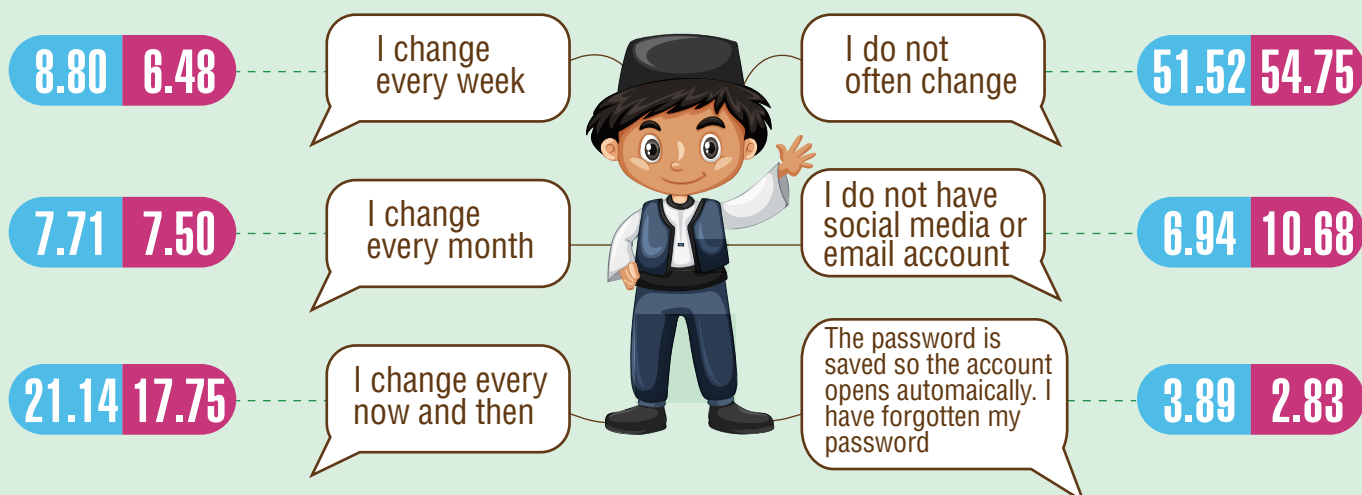
WHAT KIND/TYPE OF ONLINE ABUSE/EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN ARE YOU AWARE OF?

in %

Enticing, attracting alluring children **16.9**

Requesting the children to send pornographic photos, videos and materials **3.8**

Abusing and insulting threatening and blackmailing **43.9**

Requesting children for online chat **13.9**

Demanding the personal details and photos of the children **5.4**

Requesting children to come and meet **4.1**

Sending pornographic photos, videos and materials to children **6.8**

If others, mention **5.2**

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION HAPPENING ONLINE?

in %

PARENTS' RESPONSE	GOVERNMENT	PRIVATE
I supervise what they use on internet	48.8	51.2
I allow them to use in front of me	32.6	67.4
I have deployed content filter to prevent undesired content	51.8	48.2
I have used parental control tool and apps	44.9	55.1
I have not done much	62.3	37.7

Total
Private
Government

HAS ANYONE IN YOUR FAMILY BEEN VICTIMIZED OF ONLINE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION?

in %

PARENTS' RESPONSE

YES
5.1
33.3
66.7

NO
73.9
51.0
49.0

I DO NOT KNOW
21.0
39.9
60.1

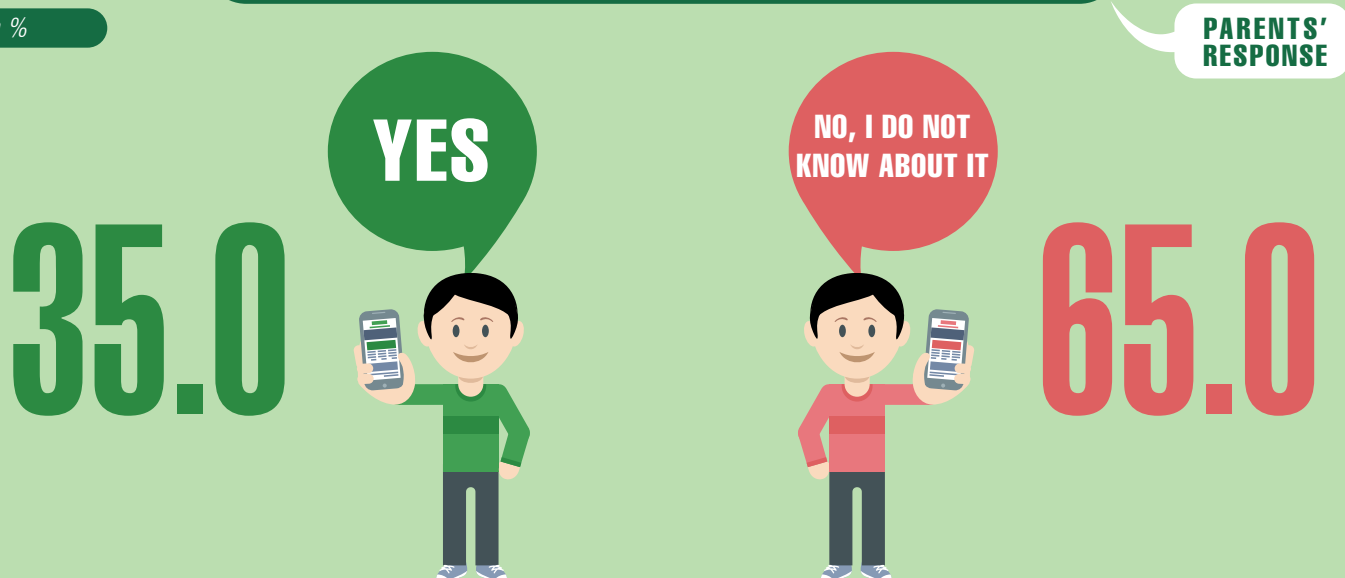# HAS YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER EVER INFORMED YOU ABOUT BEING ENTICED, ALLURED, SCOLDED, INSULTED OR THREATENED, BEING SHOWN PRONOGRAPHIC PHOTOS OR VIDEOS OR ABOUT ANY INCIDENT OF ANY KIND OF EXPLOITATION ON THE INTERNET MEDIUM?

in %

YES
7.6

NO
71.1

I DO NOT KNOW
21.3

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO USE THE CONTENT FILTER?

in %

PARENTS' RESPONSE

YES
35.0

NO, I DO NOT KNOW ABOUT IT
65.0

IF YOU KNOW ABOUT ANY INCIDENT OF EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN THROUGH INTERNET MEDIUM IN YOUR SCHOOL THEN WHAT KIND OF INCIDENT HAD OCCURED

in %

TEACHERS' RESPONSE

Enticing, attracting, alluring children	11.3	*Requesting the children to send pornographic photos, videos and materials*	1.5
Abusing, scolding and insulting, threatening and blackmailing	6.2	*Requesting children for online chat*	5.2
Demanding the personal details and photos of the children	53.9	*Requesting children to come and meet*	2.7
Sending pornographic photos, videos and materials to children	2.9	*If other, mention*	16.3

1. BACKGROUND

Computers and the internet have become the backbone of the modern life. Our lives have been dominated by computers and communication networks today. The advent of information, communication and technology (ICT) has had far-reaching effects. Even though some people may not have had the opportunity to navigate the 'digital highway'[1] directly, they probably have been touched in other ways.

The number of internet users in Nepal has increased significantly in the last few years. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), while there were only 50,000 internet users in Nepal in the year 2000, this increased to 2,690,162 in 2012.[2] As per the data published by the Nepal Telecommunication Authority (NTA) there were 13,962,917 internet subscribers in the country by the end of Shrawan 2073 BS (mid-August 2016) amounting the internet penetration to 52.7 percent of total population.[3]

The rapid growth of ICT networks in cyberspace has created new avenues for criminals in perpetrating crime and exploiting online vulnerabilities.[4] As a result of the intensification of information technology, the vulnerability of children has also increased substantially resulting into a raised prospect of crime against them. According to the database of Nepal Police, the number of ICT-related criminal cases registered at the Metropolitan Police Range, Kathmandu has an increasing trend. The number of cases registered in fiscal year 2015/16 was 36. It was 29 in 2014/15. As reported by The Kathmandu Post recently, there were 5574 cases registered at the Cybercrime Bureau since 2016. Out of them 353 cases were registered in the first two months of the fiscal year 2019/20 and nearly 70 percent of these were targeted at women.[5]

In regard to policy and legal framework, Nepal has enacted the Electronic Transaction Act, 2007 as the specific law to address the online and ICT related crimes. Additionally, for regulating child exploitation and abuses in general, the Children's Act, 1992 is in place. Currently, the Information Communication Technology Policy, 2016 of Nepal has addressed internet security issues and vulnerabilities of children in ICT domain. In regard to international obligation, Nepal is part of the Convention on the Right of the Child and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography. There is very little effort from the government's side to educate the public about these laws. For instance, Nepal's primary, secondary, and tertiary educational curriculum does not have any content specifically related to online safety of children.

Despite the nation-wide penetration of the internet, the safety of its usage, particularly amongst children and adolescents, has not yet been studied at the country level. To understand if the Nepali children are using internet technology in a safe way and to identify possible risks of new technologies among these children, ECPAT Luxemburg conducted a nation-wide survey among children, teachers and parents.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Withstanding the statement of problem stated above, following are the core objective of the study:
• To conduct a baseline review of prevailing legislation and policies that are closely associated with ensuring or hindering protection of Nepalese children in Information, Communication and Technology (ICT)
• To assess the use of ICT by children and adolescents in seven federal provinces of Nepal
• To identify the potential risks and harms for children while using ICT based on social and demographic characteristics
• To assess the level of understanding, knowledge, attitudes and practices of children, parents, teachers on safer use of ICT

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[1] E. Gabrys, The International Dimensions of Cyber-Crime, Part I, In: Information Systems Security, 11(2002), pp. 21-22.
[2] Internet World Stats – Usage and Population Statistic, Nepal, (2013), http://www.internetworldstats.com/asia/np.htm, [Visited 23 September 2016].
[3] Nepal Telecommunication Authority, Management Information System (MIS) Report, Shrawan, 2073 BS (16 July 2016 – 16 August 2016), Year XIII, Issue 93, Volume 141, p. 2.
[4] Draft UN Treaty on an International Criminal Court or Tribunal for Cyberspace, Schjolberg, Stein, (cybercrimelaw.net), 9th Edition, 2014.
[5] Shuvam Dhumgana. 2019. "Online violence against women in Nepal on the rise." The Kathmandu Post. October 1. https://kathmandupost.com/national/2019/10/01/online-violence-against-women-in-nepal-on-the-rise

• To assess the response mechanism to incidents leading to harm or exploitation of children by on social, demographic, and cultural factors
• To identify the potential risks and harms for children with current gaps in Nepal's ICT operation policy
• To suggest practical recommendations and appropriate modality to design and implement effective response to ensure protection of children in ICT platform

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

The study was conducted in exploratory research design. Quantitative data was collected to validate and corroborate information obtained from each method. Primary data was collected from school going children, parents of school going children, and teachers from both government and private schools. An extensive review of legal documents was done to locate gaps in the existent laws of the country.

3.2 SAMPLE DESIGN

This is the first nationally representative sample-based study on the subject matter of internet safety and risks of new technologies to children in Nepal. Children from grade 6 to 12 studying in both public and private schools in all the seven provinces of Nepal, parents of such children, and teachers teaching in those schools are the unit of analysis.

The study was conducted with total sample size of 12,944, out of which 5011 were children, 4778 parents and 3155 teachers. Multi-stage sampling strategy was adopted to reach out to the required number of respondents. Sampling was conducted in following stages.

Stage 1: Selection of districts from seven provinces and 14 sub-regions. Reference was taken from the National Household Survey 2012 conducted by the CBS for selecting districts
Stage 2: Selection of municipalities and rural municipalities from those selected districts
Stage 3: Selection of schools and households from selected municipalities and rural municipalities
Stage 4: Selection of respondents from schools
Details of each stage is described in respective sections below

3.2.1 DISTRICT SELECTION
This study includes the population of fifteen different districts from seven provinces spread over 14 various sub-regions. The districts were selected by applying purposive sampling method prioritizing the ecological and urban-rural stratification. The districts are the Primary Sampling Units (PSUs), and one PSU was selected per sub-stratum (sub-region). Reference was taken from CBS Household Survey 2012 to determine sub-region. One district was randomly selected from each of the sub-regions (as indicated in Table 1) by applying serpentine method of sampling (mountain-hill-Tarai-hill-mountain). This resulted in four districts, two municipalities and four rural municipalities being selected from the mountain zone; six districts, one metropolitan, five municipalities, five rural municipalities from the hill zone; and five districts, one metropolitan, three sub-metropolitan, one municipality, five rural municipalities from the Tarai.Far- and Mid-Western mountain (8)

Districts selected for survey (selected districts in bold)

Ecological Sub-regions (14)	Districts (77)
Eastern mountain (3)	Taplejung, **Sankhuwasabha**, Solukhumbu
Central mountain (3)	Dolakha, Rasuwa, **Sindhupalchowk**
Far- and Mid-Western mountain (8)	Bajhang, Bajura, Darchula, Dolpa, **Humla,** Jumla, Kalikot, Mugu,
Western mountain (2)	Manang, **Mustang**
Eastern hill (8)	Bhojpur, **Dhankuta,** Ilam, Khotang, Okhaldhunga, Panchthar, Terhathum, Udayapur
Central hill (9)	Bhaktapur, Dhading, Kavrepalanchowk, **Kathmandu,** Lalitpur, Makawanpur, Nuwakot, Ramechhap, Sindhuli
Western hill (11)	Arghakhanchi, Baglung, Gorkha, Gulmi, **Kaski,** Lamjung, Myagdi, Palpa, Parbat, Syangja, Tanahun
Mid-western hill (8)	Dailekh, Jajarkot, **Pyuthan (Province 5),** Rolpa, Eastern Rukum, Western Rukum, Salyan, **Surkhet (Province 6)**
Far-western hill (4)	Achham, Baitadi, Doti, **Dadeldhura**
Eastern Tarai (5)	Jhapa, **Morang**, Saptari, Siraha, Sunsari
Central Tarai (7)	Bara, Chitwan, **Dhanusha,** Mahottari, Parsa, Rautahat, Sarlahi
Western Tarai (4)	Kapilbastu, **Eastern Nawalparasi,** Western Nawalparasi, Rupandehi
Mid-western Tarai (3)	Bardiya, **Banke**, Dang
Far-western Tarai (2)	**Kailali**, Kanchanpur

As shown the table below, the districts were selected proportionately from each province by including mountainous, hill, and Tarai districts as applicable. In the provinces having all three eco-belts, one district from each eco-belt was selected (for instance, Province 1 and 4). Two districts were selected from provinces having only two eco-belts (for instance, Province 5 and 6). Only one district was selected from ecologically homogenous province (for instance, Province 2).

Province-wise district selection

Name of Province	Mountain	Hill	Tarai	Total Districts
Province 1	Sankhuwasabha	Dhankuta	Morang	3
Province 2	-	-	Dhanusha	1
Province 3	Sindhupalchok	Kathmandu		2
Gandaki Province	Mustang	Kaski	Nawalparasi	3
Province 5	-	Pyuthan	Banke	2
Karnali Province	Humla	Surkhet	-	2
Sudurpaschhim Province	-	Dadeldhura	Kailali	2
Total	4	6	5	15

3.2.2 SELECTION OF MUNICIPALITIES AND RURAL MUNICIPALITIES

Considering Nepal's diverse socio-economic and developmental contexts, one municipality and one rural municipality were selected from each Primary Sampling Units (sample districts) as per Probability Proportionate to Size (PPS).

As Kathmandu does not have any rural municipality, the sample here was selected based on PPS. Similarly, in districts without any municipality, for example Mustang, the sample rural municipality (Gaunpalika) was selected on the basis of PPS.

Selected Metropolitans, Sub-metropolitans, Municipalities and Rural Municipalities (*Gaupalika*)

Name of Province	Mountain	Hill	Tarai	Total Districts
Province 1	Sankhuwasabha	Dhankuta	Morang	3 Districts
	1.Khandabari Municipality	1. Dhankuta Municipality	1.Biratnagar Metropolitan	1 Metropolitan
	2.Makalu Gaunpalika	2. Sangurigadhi Gaunpalika	2.Jahada Gaupalika	2 Municipalities
				3 Gaupalika
Province 2	-	-	Dhanusha	1 District
			1.Janakpur Sub-Metropolitian	1 Sub-Metropolitian;
			2. Laxminiya Gaupalika	1 Gaupalika
Province 3	Sindhupalchok	Kathmandu		2 Districts
	1.Choutara Sangachowkgadhi Municipality	Kathmandu Metropolitian	-	1 Metropolitan;
	2. Indrawoti Gaupalika			1 Municipality;
				1 Gaupalika
Gandaki	Mustang	Kaski	Nawalparasi	3 Districts
	1.Gharpajhong Gaupalika	1.Pokhara Lekhnath Municipality	1. Kawasoti Municipality	2 Municipalities
		2. Annapurna Gaupalika	2. Binayi Tribeni Gaunpalika	3 Gaupalika
Province 5	-	Pyuthan	Banke	2 Districts

		1. Pyuthan Municipality	1.Nepalganj Sub-Metropolitian	1 sub-metropolitan;
		2. Naubahini Gaupalika	2.Rapti Sonari Gaupalika	1 metropolitan, 2 Gaupalika
	Humla	Surkhet	-	2 Districts
Karnali	1.Simkot Gaupalika	2. Birendranagar Municipality	-	1 municipality
		3. Barahatal Gaupalika		2 Gaupalika
Sudoor Paschim	-	Dadeldhura	Kailali	2 Districts
		1. Parashuram Municipality	1.Dhangadhi Sub-Metropolitan	1 Sub-Metropolitan;
		2. Nawadurga Gaupalika	2.Janaki Gaupalika	1 Municipality;
				2 Gaupalika
Total	4 Districts	6 Districts	5 Districts	15 Districts
	2 Municipalities	1 Metropolitan	1 Metropolitan	2 Metropolitan
	4 Gaupalika	5 Municipalities	3 Sub-metropolitan	3 Sub-metropolitan
		5 Gaupalika	1 Municipality	8 Municipalities
			5 Gaupalika	14 Gaupalika

3.2.3 SELECTION OF RESPONDENTS

The schools were selected first to reach out to the respondent students. The list of schools in a district was collected from the District Education Office (DEO) and respective rural/municipality.

From the final list of schools, two separate lists for private and government schools were prepared. Required numbers of private and public schools were selected by from those lists applying Probability Sampling where each school of a particular rural/municipality had an equal chance of being selected. As only few numbers of schools were required for this study, Fish Bowl Sampling Technique was applied to select the required number of schools. In case a selected school denied permission or if the required number of respondents were not present at a school, the sampling technique was repeated to select a new school.

Selection of Students

Total 5011 students were selected as sample for this study, out of which 3316 were studying in government schools, 1684 were in private schools and 11 were irregular at schools.

Total numbers of students

Province	Count	Male	Female
1	1085	516	569
2	360	206	154
3	791	412	379
Gandaki	681	348	333
5	664	296	368
Karnali	681	316	365
Sudoor Paschim	749	371	378
Total	5011	2465	2546
Percentage		49.2	50.8

If the students of grade 6-12 were sufficient in numbers, the required students were selected by applying simple random sampling method based on the school attendance sheets. If the selected schools did not have classes up to grade 12 or if the required numbers of students were falling short, a census of all the present students of grade 6 and above available grades was conducted.

Selection of Teachers

Data of teachers was collected from District Education Office and Municipalities. With confidence level of 95 percent and 5 percent margin error sample size was determined from the total population of teachers from schools in enumerated municipalities/rural municipalities.

Number of Teachers
In total, 3155 teachers were selected as sample for this study.

Numbers of Teachers

Province	School type	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Male	Government	192	59	168	230	148	224	155	**1176**
	Private	167	56	87	196	39	46	90	**681**
Female	Government	171	25	164	114	82	115	74	**745**
	Private	101	17	124	175	39	48	49	**553**
	Total	**631**	**157**	**543**	**715**	**308**	**433**	**368**	**3155**
	Percent	**20**	**5**	**17.2**	**22.7**	**9.8**	**13.7**	**11.7**	**100**

School Type
Amongst the 3155 respondent teachers, 1921 (60.9 percent) were teaching in government schools and 1234 (39.1 percent) represented private schools.

Number of teachers as per School type

Type of School	Frequency	Percent
Government	1921	60.9
Private	1234	39.1
Total	3155	100

Gender
Of the total 3155 teachers, 1857 (58.9 percent) were males and 1298 (41.1 percent) were females.

Number of teachers as per gender

Province	Count	Male	Female
1	631	359	272
2	157	115	42
3	543	255	288
Gandaki	715	426	289
5	308	187	121
Karnali	433	270	163
Sudoor Paschim	368	245	123
Total	3155	1857	1298

Selection of Parents

As per the availability, efforts were made to survey parents whose children were also surveyed as respondents for this study. Random sampling of parents who visited the schools was done. When the required numbers of parents were not available, random sampling of households with interval of one household was conducted until the required number was achieved. A total of 4770 parents were surveyed in this study.

Number of Parents

School Types/ Province	1	2	3	Gandaki	5	Karnali	Sudoor Paschim	Total
Government	609	390	343	314	170	332	337	2495
Male	382	343	183	133	79	208	221	1549
Female	227	47	160	181	91	124	116	946
Private	469	352	334	402	162	228	336	2283
Male	311	294	165	165	77	130	205	1347
Female	158	58	169	237	85	98	131	936
Total	1078	742	677	716	332	560	673	4778

Out of 4778 parents, 2495 (52.2 percent) were sending their children to government schools and the rest 2283 (47.8 percent) had admitted their children in private schools.

1.12: GENDER-WISE NUMBER OF PARENTS

Out of 4778 parents, 2896 (60.6 percent) were male while 1882 (39.4 percent) were female.

Number of Parents by Gender

Number of parents as per gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	2896	60.6
Female	1882	39.4
Total	4778	100

4. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Before the project was launched, the proposal of the study was shared with the Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB), Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen and from National Telecom Authority (NTA). The study was approved by both institutions.

The officials at the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) were also consulted about the study, especially on methodology.

All respondents were explained about the subject matter and objectives of the study. The same were written at the beginning of the survey questionnaire. Informed consent was received before each and every survey. The respondents were free to decline giving information or completely abandoning the survey.

Ethical approval was sought from school authorities as well. The respondents have been made anonymous and the information provided by them have been kept confidential.

No false promises were made and no rewards were provided in exchange of the respondents' details.

5. KEY FINDINGS

This nationally representative sample survey involved all seven provinces of Nepal, 15 ecological belts, 15 Districts, two Metropolitan cities, three Sub-metropolitan cities, eight Municipalities and 14 rural municipalities with total sample size of 12,944 for survey. Out of the 12,944 people surveyed, 5011 were children between 10 and 18 years of age, 4778 parents, and 3155 schoolteachers. Further, the study conducted 34 key informant interviews with relevant stakeholders.

Knowledge, attitude and practice of Information Communication and Technology (ICT) by children in seven federal provinces of Nepal

ICT usage is growing rapidly among children in Nepal

The study found that almost three-fourth (72 percent) of the sampled children across the country were using smartphones and internet technologies. Around similar proportion of male (52 percent) and female (48 percent) children were found using smartphones and internet technologies. Almost three fourth (71.8 percent) of the respondents who used the internet for more than six hours a day were boys, while the rest (28.2 percent) were girls.   Nearly 20 percent of children felt internet as 'essential', and five percent even informed that they used internet as if they did not need food or water! When inquired about children's thoughts on main reasons for subscribing internet usage at home, close to 35% mentioned that their families did so to talk with family members who were abroad. This was followed by nearly a quarter (23.6%) who said subscribing was done mainly for their studies.

Around 60 percent of surveyed children had their own Facebook account. Though there is a growing popularity of other apps like Instagram among the younger generation, Facebook was still the favorite among the surveyed children. More than one-third (36.4 percent) children had created their Facebook accounts by themselves, while the rest two-third were helped by their parents, friends or relatives to create one. Although more than a third of the respondents (34.7 percent) informed that they used internet for their studies, other popular uses of internet for children were watching YouTube videos (15.6%), play online games (6.8%) and chatting on social media (5.9%).

Children are using internet without knowing that harming, damaging, and abusing or insulting someone may amount to crime.

Almost half (49%) of the sampled children were not aware that one could possibly cause harm to others while / by using the internet. Further, more than half of surveyed children (56.6%) did not know what the law mentions about protection and justice for victims of sexual abuse through internet. To add, more than half of sampled children (59.7%) in Province 2, Province 4 (54.6%) and Province 5 (51.5%) and near to a half (46.3%) of the sampled children in Province 1 responded that they did not know the misuse of internet may constitute crime.

Parents' or teachers' advice and guidance are not always followed

Around 10 percent of children expressed that they got annoyed when they were advised by their parents on use of internet. Close to a quarter (22.7%) of respondents revealed that they use internet even after that their teacher advise them not to use. Also, 11.5% of children felt that they were not trusted by their parents on their use of the internet.

Potential risks and harms for children while using ICT based on social and demographic characteristics
Unmonitored use of internet

The study revealed that the internet and mobile use practice among Nepalese children was not completely safe and that they could be at potential risk of harms. More than half (55.5%) used internet when they were alone, when no one was monitoring them. Almost a quarter (22.1 percent) of the respondents reported that they had been chatting with person(s) they met online without informing their family members. Children got annoyed

when they were monitored or advised on using internet. Nearly 10 percent of children also confirmed on using internet after 10 pm as mobile data for internet is cheaper during late nights. Using internet after 10 pm meant low level of parental guidance or no guidance at all.

Sharing of password and faking identity

Another unsafe practice of internet use among Nepalese children identified by this study is sharing of password. Less than half (48.3 percent) of the respondents informed that only they knew the password of their social media accounts while for the others, their passwords were also shared with their parents (24 percent), siblings (13.8 percent), relatives (1.5 percent), or friends (9.3 percent).

More than half of the respondents (56.2 percent) had their real name and original display photo in the social media accounts while a small proportion (6.3 percent) of the children either had their account with either a fake name or a fake photo. There were some children who used their real name but a different display photo (6.8 percent). There was also the practice of creating social media account without any profile photo (6.4 percent), or own photo with a different name (3.9 percent), or different names and photos for different social media accounts (20.5 percent).

About two-fifth of the respondents (38.5 percent) informed that they did not clear browser history and about one-fifth (18.2 percent) did not know what 'clearing browser history' meant. Almost half (47.5 percent) of the respondents did not know about going 'incognito,' while only a very small proportion (4.8 percent) of the respondents used 'incognito mode' when they surfed certain websites.

Children go at length to make friends online, even with strangers

Almost three-fourth (72.2 percent) of the respondents informed that they sent 'friend requests' on Facebook only to individuals they personally knew. However, around 15 percent mentioned that they sent such requests to strangers as well. If anyone did not accept their friend request, some would resend the request (10.7 percent), a few would send friend request by creating another Facebook account (1.2 percent), and others would send private message requesting them to accept their request (2.7 percent). Almost a quarter (22.1 percent) of the respondents reported that they had been chatting with the person they met online without informing their family members.

Close to 10 percent of the respondents admitted to requesting the person they met on social media to meet in person or promised for gifts while chatting online. Among them, an overwhelming proportion (65.9 percent) were boys and lesser so (34.1 percent) were girls.

The practice of ignoring requests to meet up, go for outing or rejecting offers of gifts was reported by more than a quarter of children (39.3%). Amongst them, more than half (56.2%) were girls. Many children also reported that they would inform their parents (24.6%) and friends or relatives (16.6%) or report to police 5.4% (45.9% boys, 54.1% girls). A negligible proportion of children reported that they would tell about such incident to their teachers (0.70%). Few children (3.5%) mentioned that they would not tell anyone about such requests. Some (2.4%; 56.2% boys, 43.8% girls) reported they would go to meet the person while 0.5% reported that they would accept the gift.

A significant proportion of children hadn't received sexually abusive materials online

A majority of the respondents (84.2%) had not received pornographic or vulgar message or photo on Facebook or other social media whereas 15.7% reported that they had received such materials. Among the children receiving such contents, more than half (59.1%) were boys and 40.9% were girls. Further, nearly half (46%) of the respondents (50.9% boys, 49.1% girls) reported that they immediately closed Facebook or other social sites if any obscene, vulgar photo, video or write-up popped up. Further, 15 % of respondents (49.5% boys, 50.5% girls) revealed that they ignored if they encountered such materials while browsing apps/sites, whereas, 13.3%

(40% boys, 60% girls) reported that they told their parents. Only 1.1 % said they would inform their teachers.
No widespread practice of cyber insult / bullying / revenge

An overwhelming majority of the respondents (91.3%) did not post photo or video intentionally to insult others, whereas, some (8.7%) reportedly did so intentionally. In the interviews, the respondents mentioned that they intentionally posted such photos or videos either for fun or to take revenge as they were angry with them for some reasons. Among the respondents posting such contents intentionally, more than a half (53.3%) were boys and near to that were girls (46.7%).

Parents and teachers do not regularly monitor children's internet usage behavior

The study identified that a majority (61.8 percent) of the surveyed children stated that their internet use was not regularly monitored by their parents. Only less than a third (30.8 percent) of the parents monitored their children's internet use occasionally. Significant numbers of parents (32.5%) as informed by children ignored the incident that their children informed them and did not respond to such complain. Similarly, a majority of children informed that their teachers did not check how they used the internet. Just more than a third (38.6 percent) of the teachers had suggested their students to not use the internet other than for study purposes. Some children (4.2 percent) informed that they did not let their parents monitor their internet use.

Schools and teachers are ill prepared to address online exploitation of children

Though most teachers (61.1%) responded that there is complaint lodging mechanism at their schools such mechanism was just 'to go to Principal' or to tell the teachers what had happened to them. Most schools surveyed (70.4%) did not have written rules regarding the use of internet during school hours by the students and teachers, while almost 90% of the teachers believed that such rules are necessary and may protect children from possible online abuse. Majority of the teachers did not know about content filtering but believed that some websites should be banned in schools. This is critical as large section of parents, though acknowledging the necessity of ICT for children, did not know about probable risks associated with it. Also, families and schools were not well informed about causes, consequences and modus operendi of online abusers.

Majority of Nepalese teachers (48.9%) viewed that online sexual exploitation of children was a growing problem in Nepal. Most teachers felt that the cause for online exploitation of children is parents' ignorance or incapacity to monitor children, and providing children unnecessary freedom to use internet without any supervision.

There is acute need of parent-teachers-students interaction on safer use of internet and training to parents and teachers on probable risks associated with misuse of ICT and monitoring their children and students.

Law enforcement and response mechanism

The Cyber Crime Bureau within the Metropolitan Police Range, Kathmandu of the Nepal Police is the responsible body to handle complaints and investigate various forms of cybercrimes such as online exploitation, identity theft, cyber bullying, and harassment, including those related to the children. Although Provincial Police Offices have been created, they are not equipped to handle cases of online exploitation. Cases of all over Nepal are directed to Kathmandu.

The Kathmandu District Court is the only court in Nepal postulated as the interim tribunal under the Electronic Transaction Act, 2006 for prosecution and adjudication of online exploitation related cases until a special judicial body is established.

There is no effective response mechanism

Cases of online exploitation in all 77 districts are handled by Metropolitan Police Range, Kathmandu, prosecuted by Government Prosecutor's Office Kathmandu and adjudicated by a designated bench in Kathmandu District Court. In lack of qualified and competent human resources, financial resources and technologies, response to

online crimes have not been effective. Nepal Telecom Authority and Internet Service Providers have not done much than blocking some pornographic websites.

ICT and Policy framework

For the protection of children from online abuse and exploitation there are many legal instruments in place in Nepal. Commercial and industry regulation legislations, ISP-related policies and regulations, laws on victim protection, recovery and redress mechanisms also exist. Nepal is also obliged towards international treaties to which the country is a party. The following laws are important while discussing the online protection of children in Nepal:

• Constitution of Nepal 2015 (2072 BS),
• Muluki Ain or the Penal Code 2017 (2074 BS),
• Criminal Procedural (Code) Act, 2017 (2074 BS),
• Children's Act, 2018 (2075 BS),
• Electronic Transaction Act, 2008 (2063 BS),
• Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, 2007 (2064 BS),
• Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Prevention) Act, 2015 (2071 BS),
• Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1999 (2056 BS),
• Labour Act, 2017 (2074 BS),
• Crime Victim Protection Act, 2018 (2075 BS),
• Evidence Act 1974 (2033 BS),
• Telecommunication Act 1997 (2053 BS),
• Right to Information Act 2007 (2064 BS),
• Broadband Policy 2015 (2071 BS),
• Industrial Policy 2010 (2067 BS),
• Information and Communication Technology Policy 2016 (2073 BS),
• Long term Policy of Information and Communication Sector, 2003 (2059 BS),
• National Policy Relating to Children, 2012 (2069 BS), and
• Telecommunication Policy, 2004 (2060 BS).

There is gap in policy

Specifically, the newly enacted Children's Act (2018) provides a legal base for the protection of children from abuse and exploitation, including online exploitation. However, this Act does not clearly define critical concepts/terminologies like, 'child pornography' or 'child abuse material', 'corruption of children', 'grooming' or 'solicitation of children for sexual purposes', 'sexting', 'sextortion', 'online child sex abuse or live streaming', 'sex tourism', 'pedophilia' and 'cyber stalking/bullying'. In absence of definition for these terminologies, crimes of these natures have not been clearly understood by concerned stakeholders. 'Corruption of children', and "grooming' or 'solicitation of children for sexual purposes' are not even within the sphere of crime.

The Information Communication and Technology Policy adopted in the year 2015 has not opted any specific policy in regard to child online protection. Till date, there has not been any substantive policy undertaken by the government for raising awareness for using the internet without harming others and without being victims of online abuse. Some efforts have been initiated by the NTA and the Nepal Police on their own.

RECOMMENDATIONS

TO THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, LEGISLATORS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL

• Bring ICT law as a comprehensive law to address all types activities that cause victimization of children by misusing ICT;
• Provide definitions of 'child pornography' or 'child abuse material', 'corruption of children', 'grooming' or 'solicitation of children for sexual purposes', 'sexting', 'sextortion', 'online child sex abuse or live streaming', 'sex tourism', 'pedophilia' and 'cyber stalking/bullying';
• Criminalize pedophilic websites and assisting and networking with pedophiles. Also criminalize viewing, possessing, downloading, creating, uploading and disseminating child abuse materials and child pornography (including virtual pornography). Make necessary arrangements in the substantive, procedural and evidence laws to ensure criminalization of online child sex abuse streaming and its successful investigation and prosecution;
• Formulate policy for the safer internet use by children and their protection from possible online abuse in coordination with concerned ministries, civil societies, and development partners;
• Amend Electronic Transaction Act by providing necessary powers to NTA for the monitoring and regulation of telecommunication and Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to ensure the protection of children from online sexual abuse and exploitation.

TO THE HOME AFFAIRS AND NEPAL POLICE

• Design and launch programs in coordination with concerned stakeholders for raising awareness for safer use of ICT and online protection of children, parents, teachers, and individuals working for child rights;
• Develop uniform system of reporting, complaint handling, and protection system for victims and witness of sexual exploitation online throughout Nepal;
• Provide adequate resources (human, capital and technical) for the investigation of online sexual exploitation of children in all 77 districts and 753 local bodies of Nepal;
• Develop a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the police for handling complaints, referral, and protection of victims and witnesses;
• Initiate discussions with ISPs to identify problems and challenges to track and identify cases of online exploitation and take down materials posted online;
• Conduct regular awareness programs to educate children on the safer use of the internet. Also, educate parents and teachers to monitor children's internet use.

TO NEPAL POLICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

• Encourage people to report cases of online exploitation and win their confidence through work by ensuring that perpetrators would be brought to justice;
• Develop system of protection of children victimized online. Ensure that victims are not threatened, harassed, bullied or re-victimized;
• Ensure that privacy is maintained from the time of case reporting to all phases of trial;
• Develop a national database that provides accurate information with disaggregated data of children exploited online and the perpetrators prosecuted.

TO NEPAL POLICE ACADEMY, ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, NATIONAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY, NEPAL BAR ASSOCIATION AND NTA

- Provide trainings to investigators, prosecutors, judges, lawyers, ISPs and relevant government officials to prepare them to tackle online sexual exploitation of children in Nepal;
- Produce adequate human resource (investigators) for successful investigation of cases of online exploitation of children;
- Prepare training manual to better understand the issues of online sexual exploitation of children and to protect the rights of the victims.

TO NEPAL TELECOM AUTHORITY

- Ensure that the corporate policies and management processes do not violate children's rights to participate, opinion and expression, and their rights against exploitation;
- Develop standard processes to handle child sexual abuse material to make sure that such materials are not hosted or disseminated;
- Create a safer and age-appropriate online environment for children;
- Educate children, parents and teachers about children's safety and their responsible use of ICTs;
- Promote digital technology as a mode for increasing civic engagement in nation building initiatives and discourse.

TO NEPALI CHILD RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS AND SCHOOLS

- Initiate parent-teachers-students interaction on safer use of internet
- Train parents and teachers on probable risks associated with misuse of ICT and monitoring their children and students
- Educate parents and teachers on parental control systems in their smartphones and computers in local language and in non-complicated manner
- Encourage them to report in cases of online abuse occurred against children;
- Develop results based and child friendly complain lodging and hearing mechanism in schools for online bullying, exploitation or grooming;

ECPAT Luxembourg

ECPAT Luxembourg is a non-profit association founded in 1995 and recognized by the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a non-governmental organization for development.

It is part of the ECPAT global network of organization who work to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

ECPAT Luxembourg supports countries in the South with prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration projects for children who are vulnerable to and/or victims of sexual exploitation. These projects are carried out by partner NGOs and include informational and prevention efforts among at-risk children and communities as well as managing cases of child victims.

In the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, ECPAT Luxembourg carries out awareness-raising and informational efforts among the general public and actors concerned with the problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children.

ECPAT Luxembourg also supports research-action projects intended to improve our understanding of the latest evolutions in the sexual and commercial exploitation of children and the new geographic areas affected.