

FACTSHEET

ELECTORAL VIOLENCE AND CONTESTATION

Nepal's Second Phase - House of Representatives and Provincial Assembly Elections
Campaign Silence Period & Election Day, December 5 to 7, 2017

TOTAL INCIDENTS

73

VIOLENT
56



CLASH / ATTACK

15



VANDALISM

1



EXPLOSIVE DEVICE

40

NON
VIOLENT
17



ARREST

14



ROAD BLOCK /
INTIMIDATION /
BOOTH CAPTURE

2



OTHER FORMS
OF NON VIOLENT
INCIDENTS

1



DEATH

0



INJURIES

24



BUILDING DAMAGED

3



VEHICLES DAMAGED

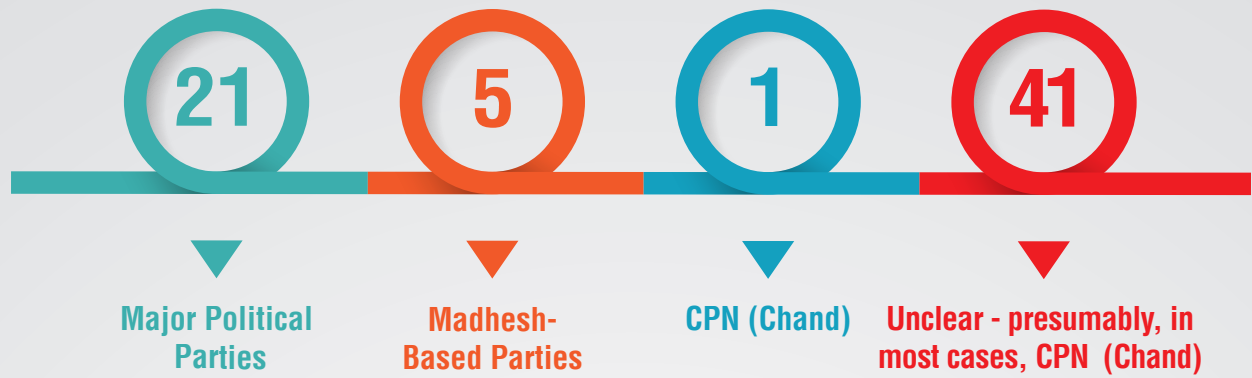
3

*Based on NepalMonitor.org's preliminary data by December 8 noon.

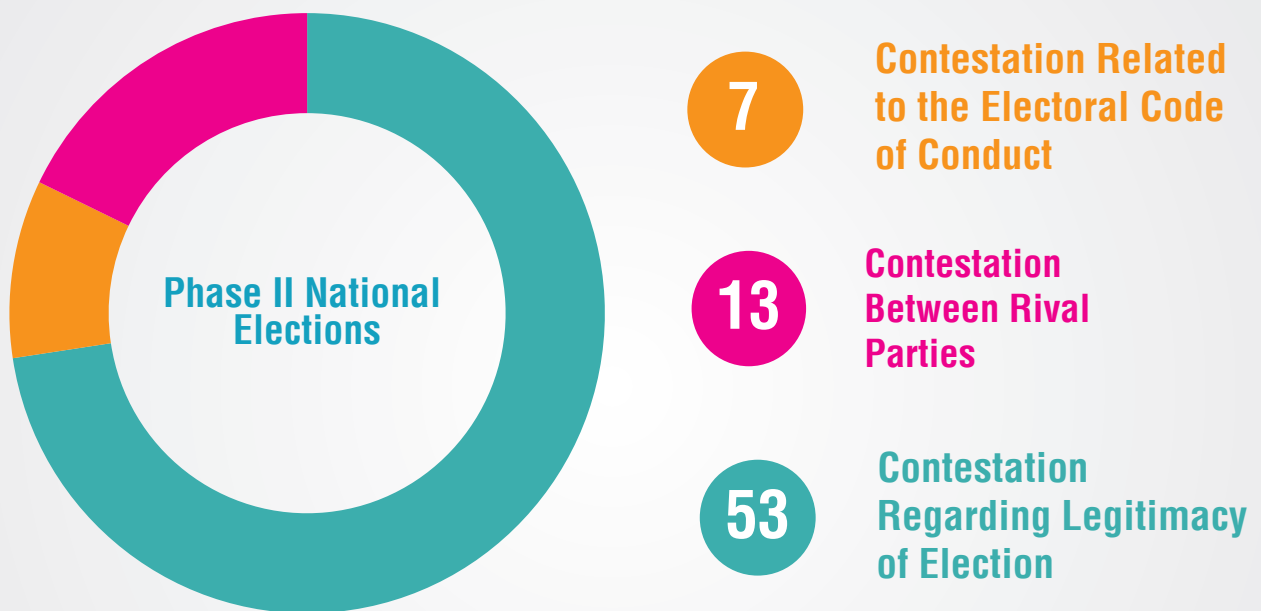
DEMOCRACY
RESOURCE CENTER



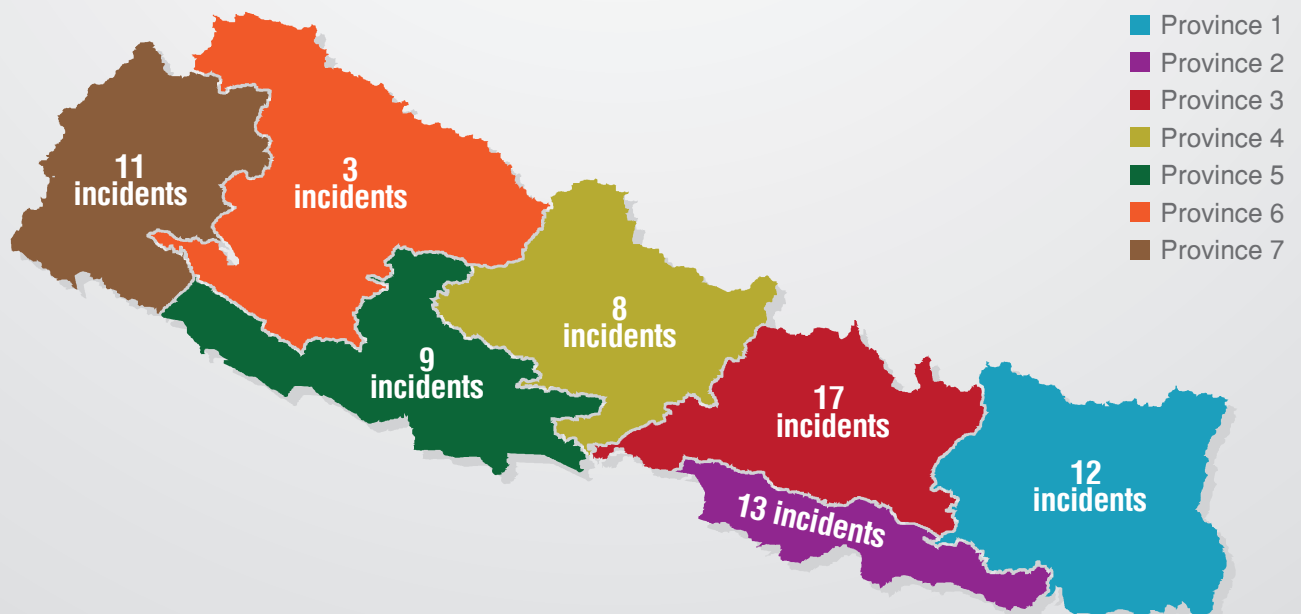
Actors Involved in Violent Incidents



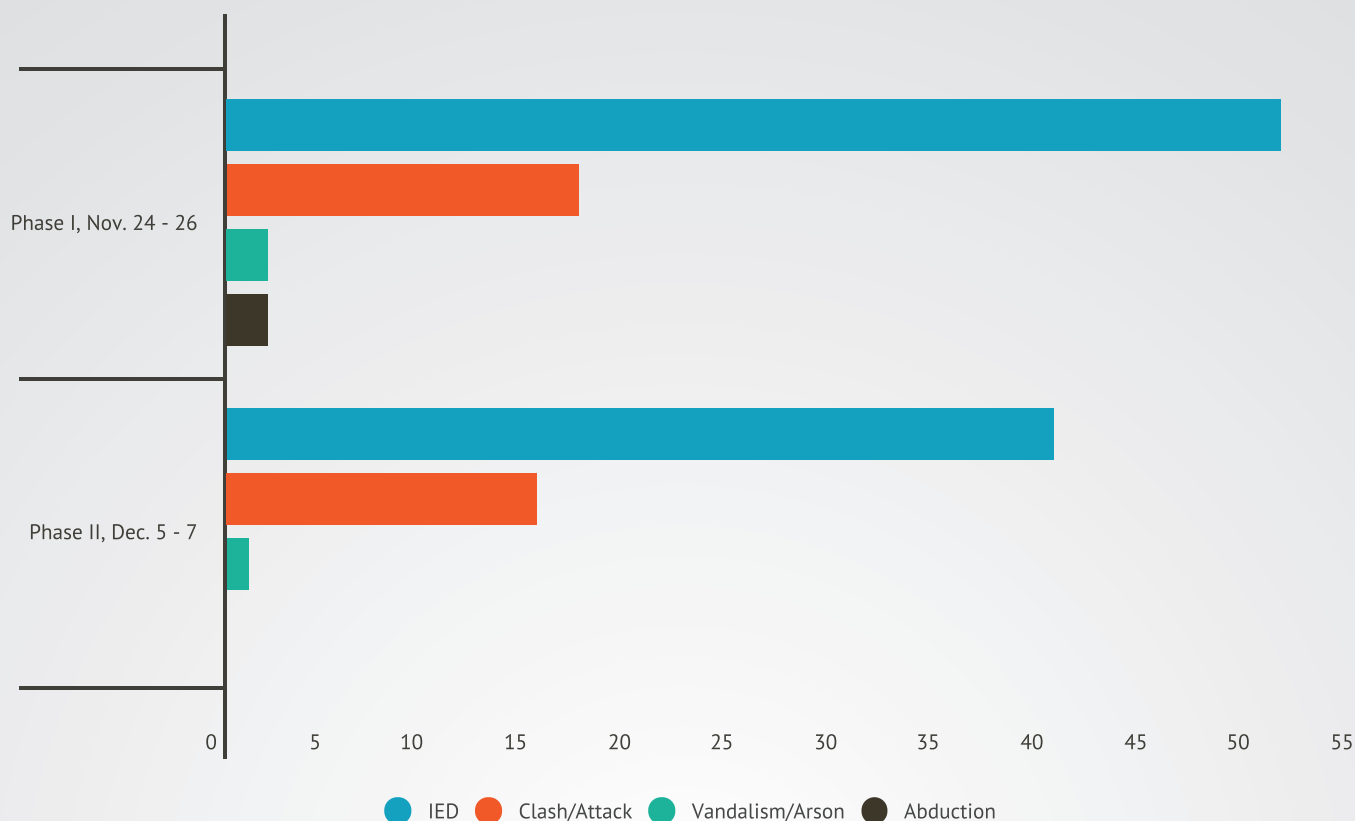
Which Election Related Issues Led to Most Incidents?



Electoral Incidents by Province



Violent Incidents During House of Representatives and Provincial Assembly Elections 2017, Comparison Between Phases One and Two



Sporadic Clashes Between Political Parties in Silence Period and on Election Day

15 clashes or assaults were recorded during the campaign silence period and polling with 18 people injured. Clashes were reported from the districts of Jhapa, Sunsari, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Dang, Bhaktapur, Kathmandu, Syangja, Surkhet, and Achham. In most cases, clashes erupted as supporters of rival parties accused their opponents of breaching the electoral Code of Conduct, trying to unfairly influence voters during the silence period, or of electoral malpractice on election day.

On December 5:

- Three people were injured in a clash between cadres of the Left Alliance and Federal Socialist Forum Nepal (FSFN) in Gaushala of Mahottari district after cadres of FSFN, carrying weapons, suddenly surrounded them.
- An unidentified group attacked a vehicle carrying Federal Socialist Forum-Nepal Provincial candidate Sushil Kumar Rai in

Krishna Mandir at Damak-5, Jhapa. The attackers fled the scene. The vehicle sustained minor damage.

- Nepali Congress and Rastriya Janata Party-Nepal cadres clashed at Devi Chowk in Dhanusha district. Further details are unknown.



Photo courtesy: Renu Kumari Mahaseth

On December 6:

- Three activists of Rastriya Janata Party-Nepal were injured in an assault by cadres of Nepali Congress at Gadhimai Municipality in Rautahat district. The clash erupted over the issue of throwing a feast for supporters and voters.
- Two people were injured in a clash between cadres of the Left Alliance and Nepali Congress in Tulsipur, Dang district, after Nepali Congress cadres were accused of distributing cash to voters.
- Four people were injured in a clash between UML and Nepali Congress cadres in Itahari, Sunsari each accusing the other of influencing voters during the silence period.
- Cadres of the Left Alliance and Democratic Alliance clashed in Kamalbazar, Achham following a heated dispute over an election-related issue.
- Security was tightened in Chaimale, Dakshinkali after a clash between cadres of the Left Alliance and Nepali Congress. Police arrested two Nepali Congress cadres after the clash.

On December 7:

- Four people were injured in a clash between Nepali Congress and UML cadres in Baijinaath Municipality, Achham District.
- At least one person was injured in a clash between cadres of Rastriya Janata Party and Nepali Congress following a dispute over who would assist a woman living with disability to cast her vote in Kodena Municipality of Sarlahi district.
- Three people were injured in a clash between cadres of Nepali Congress and CPN-UML at the polling center in Suryabinayak Municipality-3, in Bhaktapur Constituency 2. Both the parties accused each other of deliberately picking a fight before throwing stones at each other.

- A clash erupted between an electoral team and Netra Bikram Chand-led CPN cadres, when the CPN cadres tried to snatch electoral materials at the Bherichanga Secondary School in Barahtal Rural Municipality-3, Surkhet. No injuries were reported.
- A clash was reported between cadres of Rastriya Janata Party-Nepal and Nepali Congress at Phulgama Municipality, Dhanusha.
- Padma Aryal, a candidate for the Left Alliance, was assaulted by cadres of Nepali Congress in Chapakot-4, Syangja, when she cautioned them not to stuff ballot boxes with fake votes. The attackers also threw stones at her vehicle.
- Also in Syangja, in Tulsivanjyang, police fired warning shots after an altercation between cadres of the Left Alliance and Democratic Alliance at a polling center.

Election-Related Arrests and a Neighbourhood in Saptari Boycotts the Elections

Between December 5 and 7 police made several arrests of people suspected of involvement in anti-election activities, including 13 people arrested from various places in Ilam including six UML cadres on December 5; 46 people - 26 belonging to Communist Party of Nepal led by Netra Bikram Chand - were arrested in Kalyanpur-5, Bharatpur, Chitwan on December 6; 11 people including



Photo courtesy: Niraj Bidari

Indian nationals and six CPN cadres were arrested from various parts of Saptari the same day; 40 youths were arrested from Dang on December 7; and the CPN's Kathmandu Valley chief suspected of being behind recent explosions in the Kathmandu Valley was arrested from Bandegaon in Lalitpur district on December 7.

On December 6, police arrested party cadres of the Rastriya Prajatantra Party in Dhankuta and of the Left Alliance in Parsa for giving out cash to voters. The same day, several arrests were made of people carrying weapons in Salyan, Nawalparasi, and Lamjung. On December 7, police arrested "Free Madhes" campaigner CK Raut from Janakpur Sub Metropolis-4, Dhanusa district for his involvement in an anti-election campaign asking voters to cast invalid votes.

In CK Raut's neighbourhood of his hometown, citizens boycotted the elections to the federal parliament and provincial assemblies. In two polling stations of Mahadeva Rural Municipality-2 in Saptari no one came to vote according to election officials. In Sandhikharka, Arghakhanchi, the Election Commission is going to conduct re-polling in the polling center at Mathura Primary School "B" after disputes arose as the election officer let voters cast their ballot without his signature.

Continuing Attempts to Use Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) to Disrupt Elections

Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and hoax bombs were planted and, in many instances, detonated in a number of places across the country during the second phase of elections. From December 5 to 7, Nepal Monitor recorded 40 incidents involving IEDs or



Photo courtesy: Ananda Khanal

hoax bombs. In the majority of incidents the IEDs were planted to intimidate potential voters and disrupt the electoral process. In one instance, six people were injured after an IED went off in two polling centers in Bardaghat Municipality and Devchuli Municipality-12 of Nawalparasi district on December 7. In a number of incidents IEDs were planted targeting election candidates, political leaders or their offices. Although no entity has taken responsibility for individual attacks with IEDs, a politburo member of Communist Party of Nepal led by Netra Bikram Chand, on December 7 stated that such incidents had been part of the "Cancel the Election Movement" under the stewardship of his party.

On December 5:

- An unidentified group exploded an IED targeting the vehicle used by a Nepali Congress candidate for campaigning in Kapilvastu.

- An IED was detonated outside the house of a candidate of Naya Shakti Party in Bansagadhi Municipality-5 of Bardiya district.
- An unidentified group detonated an IED targeting a vehicle carrying a candidate of Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist Center (CPN-MC) in Alital Rural Municipality of Kapilvastu district.
- A petrol bomb was thrown at the house of Nepali Congress District President in Banganga-5, Kapilvastu. His vehicle sustained minor damage. At the same time, a socket bomb was recovered from the site and safely disposed of by the army.
- An IED and socket bomb were defused in front of the house of CPN-Maoist Center candidate in Jumri, Pyuthan Municipality-6.
- A bomb went off near the house of Nepali Congress candidate for Bhimdatta Municipality-3 of Kanchanpur.

IEDs also went off at polling centers in Chhreshwornath Municipality in Dhanusha district, in Gauriganga Municipality Constituency 3 of Kailali district, and Dharan Sub-Metropolitan City 20 of Sunsari district. IEDs were disposed of by the Nepal Army in Morang, Siraha, Kailali, Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Makwanpur and Rupandehi district.



Photo courtesy: Jitendra Roy

On December 6:

- A bomb exploded near the house of the Left Alliance candidate in Godavari, Kailali Constituency 4.
- An unidentified group detonated more than two dozen IEDs in Suryaprakash Aadharbhut School in Bagchaur-9, Salyan district.
- An IED was detonated in Malika Secondary School in Chaumala polling center in Gauriganga Municipality-3 of Kailali district.

The Nepal Army also disposed of IEDs and pressure cooker bombs in different locations in the districts of Kailali, Syangja, Morang, Kathmandu, Sarlahi, Bhaktapur, Makwanpur, Kavre and Dadeldhura.

On December 7:

- Six people were injured in an explosion in Divyajoti Adharbhut School in Devchuli Municipality-12 and Panchanagar of Bardaghat Municipality of Nawalparasi district.
- Voting in Lalitpur Constituency 9 was delayed after two socket bombs were planted inside a polling center.
- The power supply was cut off due to an explosion of an IED at an Nepal Electricity Authority facility in Duwakot of Bhaktapur district. The blast disrupted the Bhaktapur - Baneshwor transmission line and was aimed to disturb the elections.
- An IED was detonated in Chandra Sanskriti Secondary School in Dharan-16, Sunsari district.
- A team delivering ballot boxes to Hetauda district headquarters was attacked twice by unidentified assailants who threw explosives on the road in Manahari-1 and Manahari-2, Makwanpur district.

The Nepal Army disposed of IEDs in different locations in Kailali and Kanchanpur district.

Electoral Violence and Contestation during Nepal's Second Phase - House of Representatives and Provincial Assembly Elections, December 5-7, 2017

Province 7

Dec 7: Four injured in a clash between CPN-UML and Nepali Congress cadres in Achham

Province 4

Dec 7: Five injured as IED goes off in Bardaghat polling center in Nawalparasi
Dec 7: One injured as IED goes off in Devchuli polling center in Nawalparasi

Province 3




Dec 7: Three injured in a clash between CPN-UML and Nepali Congress cadres in Bhaktapur

Province 1

Dec 6: Four injured as CPN-UML and Nepali Congress cadres clash in Sunsari





Legend

Violent Incidents

-  Assault/Group Clash
-  Improvised Explosive Device
-  Vandalism

 Districts of Phase II Elections

Number of incidents by district

-  0
-  1
-  2 - 3
-  4 - 5

*Only incidents with injuries reported are mentioned

Province 5

Dec 6: Two injured in a clash between cadres of Left Alliance and Nepali Congress in Dang

Province 2

Dec 5: Three injured as Left Alliance and Federal Socialist Forum Nepal cadres clash in Mahottari
Dec 6: At least two RJP-N cadres injured in an attack by cadres of Nepali Congress in Rautahat
Dec 7: One injured as RJP-N and Nepali Congress cadres clash in Sarlahi

