



Print: *Byline up by 2 %*

Online: *Byline, news source up by 3 %,
Op-Ed Up by 2%*

A REPORT ON GENDER CONTENTS MONITORING OF NATIONAL MEDIA

{July – September 2019}



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Op-Ed Up by 2%

Development in any sector is impossible without attaining gender equality. Media as a platform to advocate for empowerment and development should also be gender inclusive. With this view, Freedom Forum started monitoring media contents to observe the representation of women in Nepal media since 2016.

Giving continuity to the activity, FF again presents another report on media content monitoring of the national media from July to September 2019. The report is based on the findings of the monitoring and analysis of news byline, news sources and topics of the news stories.

The activity is carried out with the financial support of the Free Press Unlimited (FPU), an organization based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, which works on freedom of expression and information issues across the world.

Media outlets monitored for the study

National Broad sheets- Kantipur, Nagarik, Naya Patrika (NP), Annapurna Post (AP), Gorkhapatra (GP), The Kathmandu Post (TKP), The Rising Nepal (TRN), Republica, and The Himalayan Times (THT)

Online News Portals- Setopati, Ratopati, Lokaantar, Onlinekhabar, Baahrakhari, and Pahilopost.

Key Findings:

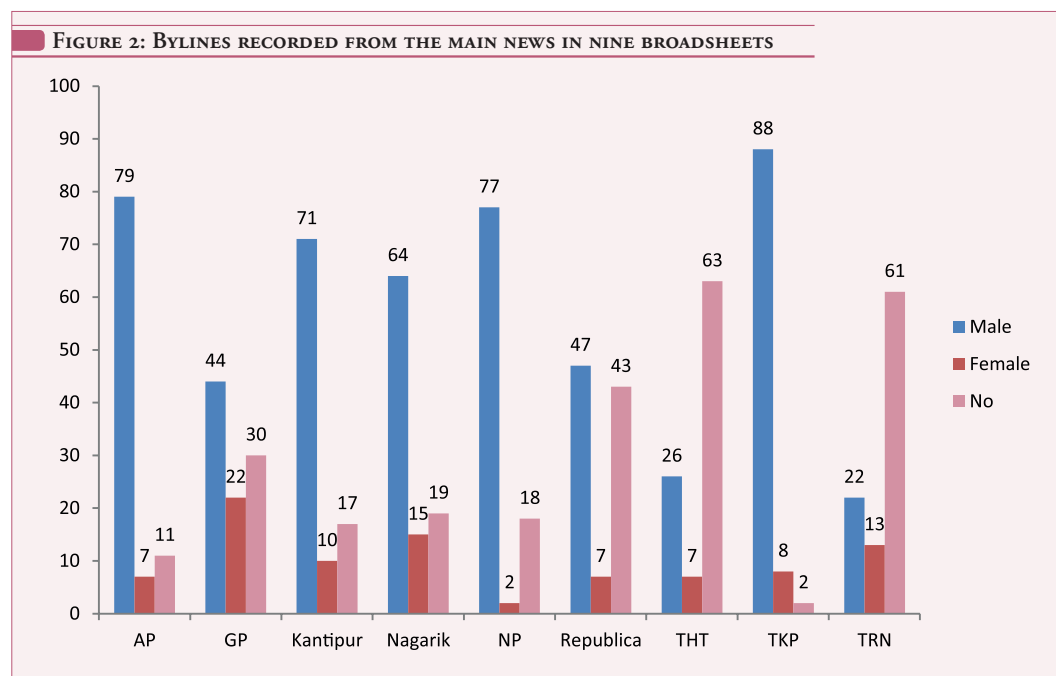
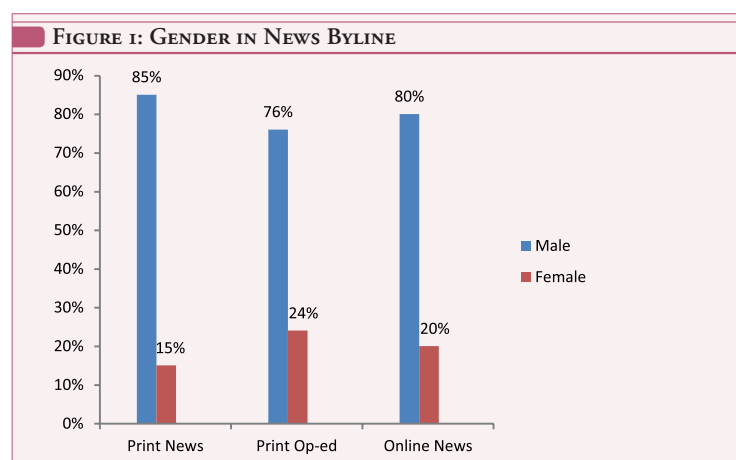
April- June	July- September
Among total 873 news stories, 73% showed named byline with 13% female. Among 195 op-ed articles, 22% were written by female against 78% male authors. Likewise, 360 online news stories revealed 17% female in bylines.	Among total 860 news stories, 70% showed named byline with 15% female. Among 187 op-ed articles, 24% were written by female against 76% male authors. Likewise, 360 online news stories revealed 20% female in bylines.
Women as news sources comprise 13% and 10% in print and online news stories respectively.	Women as news sources comprise 13% in both print and online news stories respectively.
Highest number of female in news and op-ed byline (41%) and as news sources (34%) are found in social news on print media but their maximum presence as sources (26%) is found in news about science and health on online media.	Highest number of female in news and op-ed byline (45%) of both types of media and as news sources (42%) on print media are found in social news but their maximum presence as sources (30%) is found in business news on online media.
Comparing individually, Gorkhapatra (state-owned) daily and Setopati online contained the highest number of news with female in byline while Kantipur containing maximum women authored op-ed articles.	Gorkhapatra (state-owned) daily and Setopati online contains the highest number of news with female in byline while Kantipur containing maximum women authored op-ed articles.
The Kathmandu Post and Onlinekhabar are found to quote the highest number of female as news sources in their main news contents.	The Kathmandu Post and Setopati are found to quote the highest number of female as news sources in their main news contents.
Comparing with the previous quarter, news from print media show increase in the number of female in news byline by 3% but decrease by 3% on online media. Again, number of women as news sources remains same on print news but decreases by 1% on online news.	Comparing with the previous quarter, news from print media show increase in the number of female in news byline by 2% and by 3% on online media. Again, number of women as news sources remains same on print news but increases by 3% on online news.

Analysis

A) Gender in News Byline:

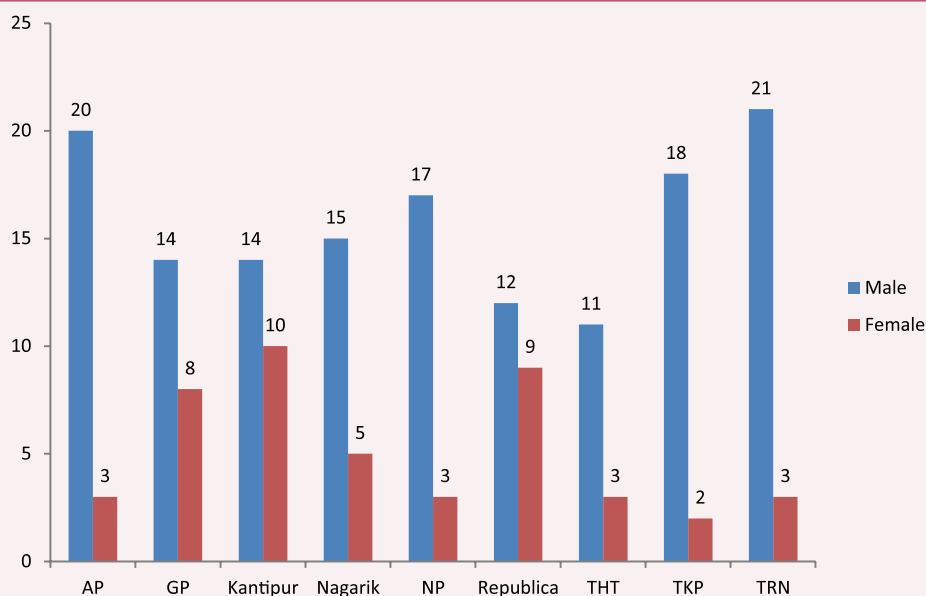
Total 860 news stories from main pages and 187 op-ed articles of nine national dailies were scanned during these three months (July-September). Similarly, total 360 main news were scanned from six major online news portals during this period.

News stories monitored from the national broadsheets revealed 15% byline of female against 85% of male journalists, whereas 30% of the total stories did not show any byline. While comparing among the nine broadsheets, news from Gorkhapatra contributed to have the highest number of female bylines (24%) and TKP contributed to the highest number of males in byline (17%).



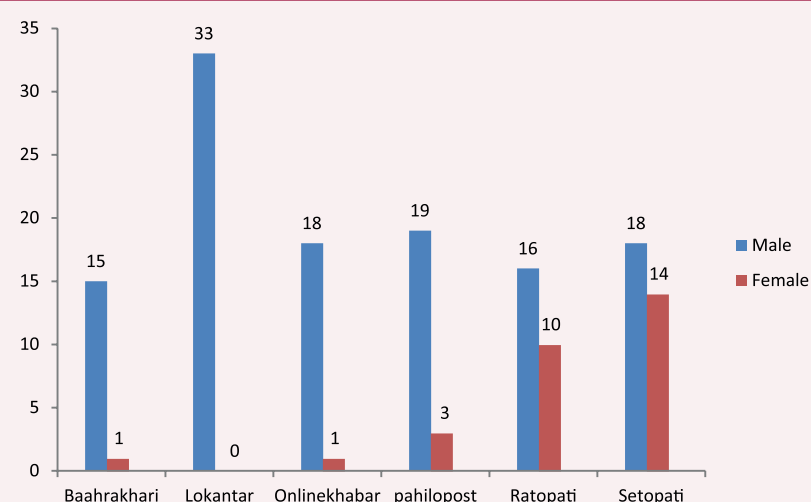
Among 187 articles published on the op-ed pages of nine broadsheets, 46 (24%) were written by female authors while remaining 142 were by male writers. Among the broadsheets, Kantipur contained the highest number of articles by women authors and TRN contained the highest number of articles by men authors.

FIGURE 3: AUTHORS OF OP-ED ARTICLES PUBLISHED ON NINE BROADSHEETS



News stories monitored from six online news portals revealed 20% bylines of female against 80% of male journalists, whereas 59% news did not have any byline. Among six portals, Setopati followed by Ratopati were found to have contained the highest number of news with female bylines. Contrarily, news stories monitored from Lokaantar showed the highest number of male byline and zero female byline.

FIGURE 4: BYLINES RECORDED FROM THE MAIN NEWS OF SIX ONLINE NEWS PORTALS



B) Gender in News sources:

During three months of monitoring 860 news stories, total 1,580 person sources were identified. Among those, 13% (210) are women and remaining 87% are men. Among the broadsheets, news scanned from Kantipur quoted the highest number of women as sources, whereas those from TKP were found to quote the highest number of men as sources.

FIGURE 5: GENDER IN NEWS SOURCES

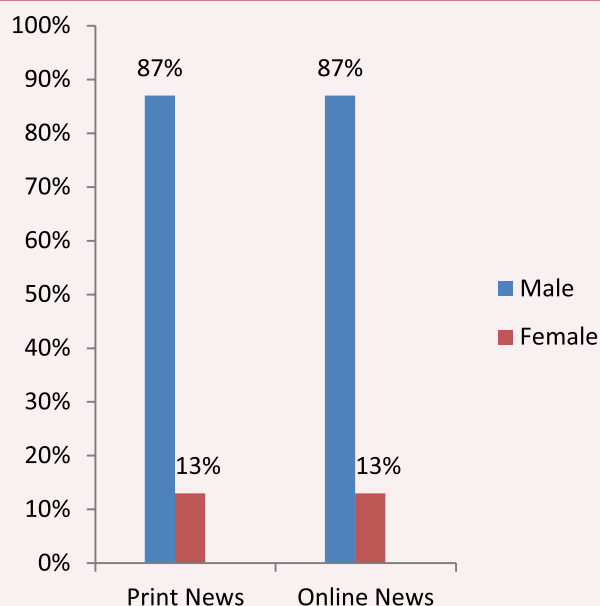
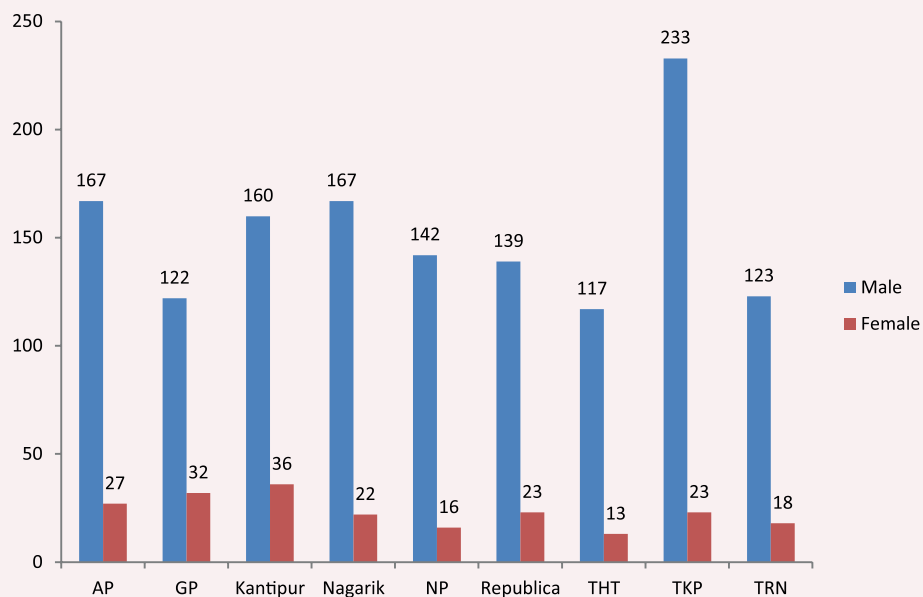
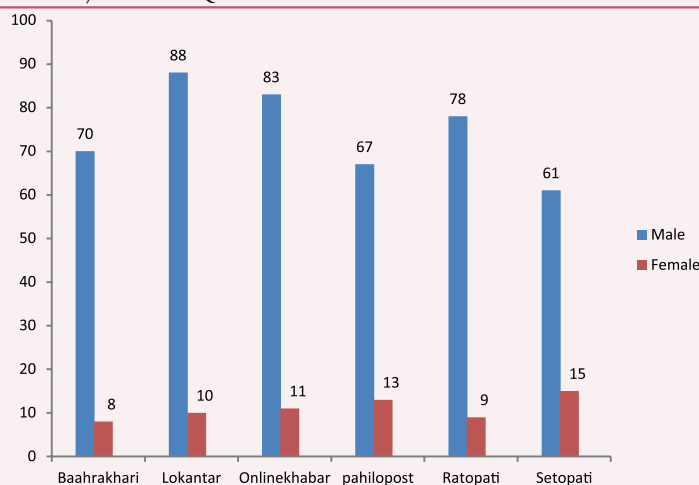


FIGURE 6: SOURCES QUOTED IN NEWS SCANNED FROM NINE BROADSHEETS



In case of online news portals, 360 news stories were found to have quoted 513 persons as news sources among which 13% (66) are women and remaining 87% are men.

FIGURE 7: SOURCES QUOTED IN NEWS SCANNED FROM SIX ONLINE NEWS PORTALS

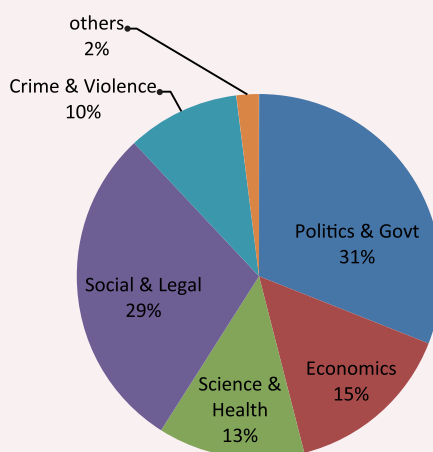


Among those portals, news from Setopati were found to have quoted the highest number of women as news sources and those from Lokaantar were found to have quoted the highest number of men as sources.

C) Topic of the story:

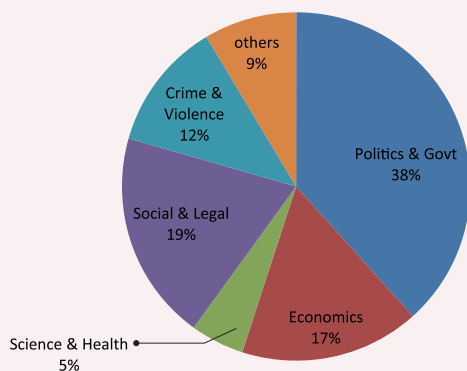
Among 1,047 stories scanned from nine broadsheets, 31% are about politics and government, followed by 21% social and legal issues and the least 2% are about media, arts, sports, etc.

FIGURE 8: TOPICWISE DISTRIBUTION OF NEWS SCANNED FROM THE BROADSHEETS



Even though most of the broadsheets are found to have published news about political issues on the front pages; Gorkhapatra, Republica and THT contain majority of social news than political ones on their front pages.

FIGURE 9: TOPICWISE DISTRIBUTION OF NEWS SCANNED FROM THE ONLINE PORTALS



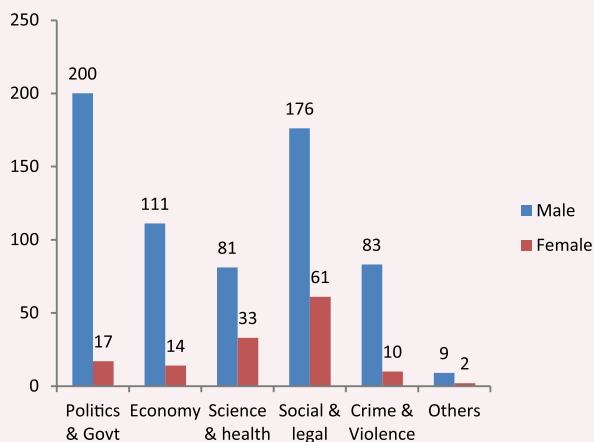
On the other hand, among 360 news scanned from online news portals, 38% are about politics and government, 19% are about social and legal issues, and the least- about science and health (5%).

Among the news portals monitored, Baahrakhari contained the highest number of news on politics and Setopati contained the highest number of news on social issues on its main news section.

D. People in the news and news topics:

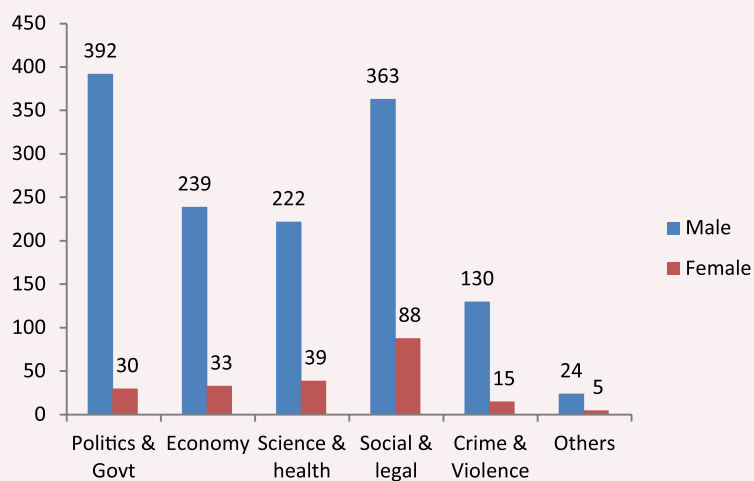
In contrary to the above mentioned finding that national broadsheet are dominated with political news on their front pages, women are more visible in the news about social and legal issues, while men are visible more in the news on political issues.

FIGURE 10: FEMALE BYLINE VERSUS HEADLINES IN NEWS FROM BROADSHEETS



According to data from broadsheets, 45% of the total female byline is found in the news about social and legal issues followed by science and health while majority of male bylines are found in the news about politics and government.

FIGURE 11: FEMALE SOURCE VERSUS HEADLINES IN NEWS FROM BROADSHEETS



Again, women as news sources are found highest (42%) in news about social and legal issues with men in the news about politics and government.

Data derived from online news reveal maximum representation of women as news reporter in news about social and legal issues, whereas their presence as news source is maximum in the news about economy and politics.

FIGURE 12: FEMALE BYLINE VERSUS HEADLINES IN NEWS FROM ONLINE PORTALS

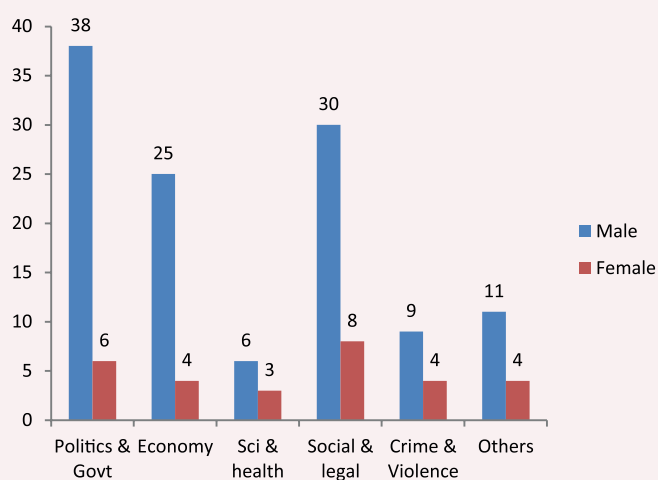
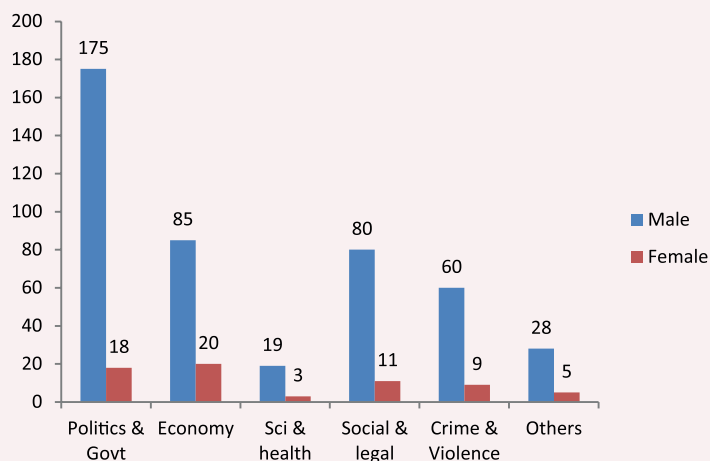


FIGURE 13: FEMALE SOURCE VERSUS HEADLINES IN NEWS FROM ONLINE NEWS PORTALS



However, male representation as both reporter and news sources are found maximum in news about politics and government in online news too.

E) Comparative trend

Comparison of data recorded in this quarter with those of previous quarter reveal increase in the percentage of female byline by 2% with similar percentage as sources in 9 broadsheet.

FIGURE 14: COMPARATIVE TREND OF FEMALE BYLINE IN NEWS FROM BROADSHEETS FROM APR-SEPT 2019

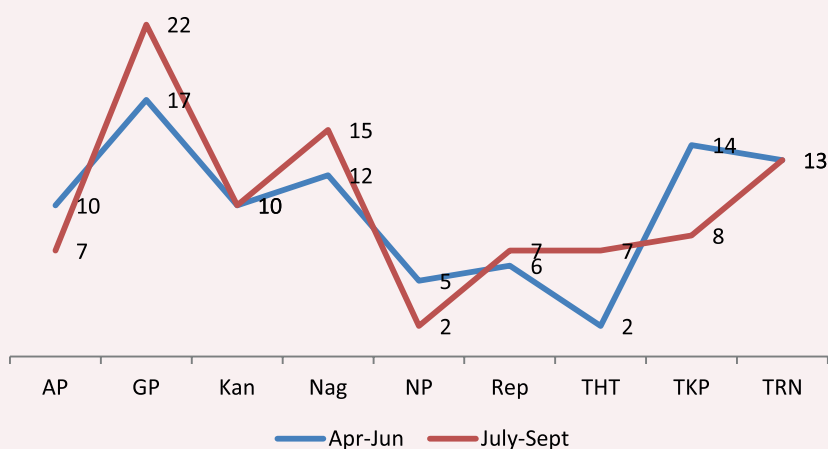
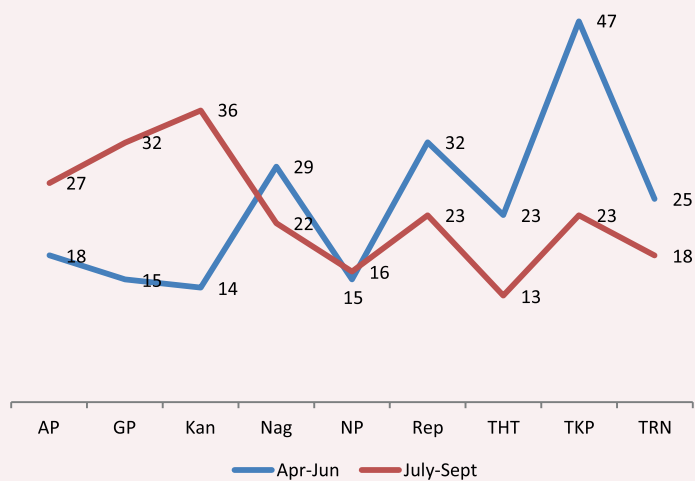


FIGURE 15: COMPARATIVE TREND OF FEMALE SOURCES IN NEWS FROM BROADSHEETS FROM APR-SEPT 2019



Among all, news stories scanned from Gorkhapatra are found to have increased women's representation in both news byline and as news sources compared to the last quarter.

FIGURE 16: COMPARATIVE TREND OF FEMALE BYLINE IN ONLINE NEWS FROM APR-SEPT 2019

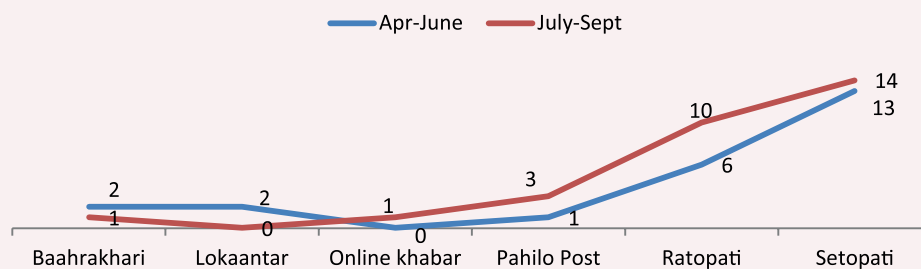
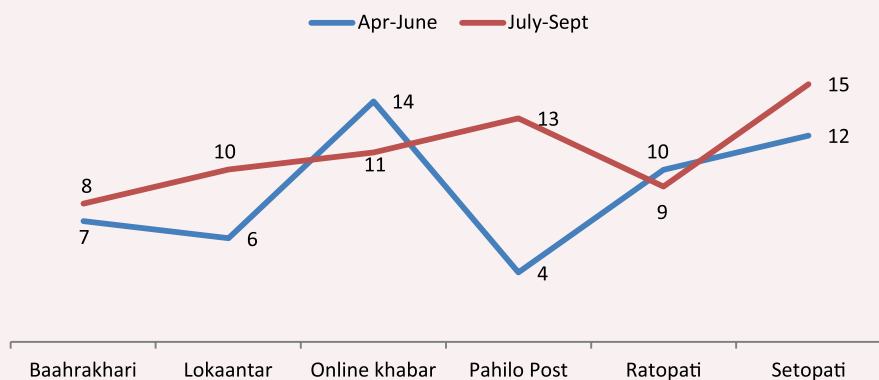


FIGURE 17: COMPARATIVE TREND OF FEMALE SOURCES IN ONLINE NEWS FROM APR-SEPT 2019



In case of news scanned from online portals, this quarter witnesses increase in the percentage of both female bylined news and female as sources by 3% compared to the previous quarter. Among online portals, Setopati and Pahilopost show visible increase in the number of female byline and sources in the news contents monitored for three months.

F) Stories about women:

Among the dailies monitored, only six stories about women are published on the main pages of the dailies among which two were published on their front page.

Moreover, among the news stories scanned from online news portals 10 are about women and their issues.

Observation:

This report presents the findings of data recorded from July to September 2019 on presence of women in news byline, news sources and analysis of their relation with news categories.

According to the data recorded for three months, women in byline comprise 15% in news from national broadsheets and 20% in news from online news portals. This shows increase in their presence by 2% for broadsheet and 3% for online news compared to the last quarter. Furthermore, their presence as op-ed authors is 24% which is also an increase by 2% compared to the last quarter (April to June).

Moreover, the women as the sources of news reached 13% in both print and online media, which is also an increase by 3% for online media. Among the media outlets monitored, Gorkhapatra and Kantipur constitute maximum number of women in news byline and op-ed articles respectively and news from Setopati online show the highest number of female in byline.

Furthermore, news from Kantipur among the broadsheets and Setopati among online portals quoted the highest number of women as sources.

While main news contents of both print and online media are dominated by the political issues, women are visible more in the news about social and legal issues.

Overall, this quarter recorded the highest percentage of women in news byline compared to the previous reports for print media outlets.

— — — — — **The End** — — — — —

Freedom Forum is an independent, non-governmental and not-for-profit civil society organization working for the cause of social accountability, democracy and human rights focused on press freedom, freedom of expression and right to information in Nepal. Incepted in 2005, Freedom Forum has emerged as a prominent national organization in promoting access to information and freedom of expression through dialogue, research, training, public advocacy and campaign and programme implementation. Currently, the organization is working on the issues of public finance management, budget transparency, open data and aid governance, political and parliamentary accountability, freedom of expression online and open government partnership (OGP) based on its on-hand experience and learning.

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