



Women Byline Up by 3%

A REPORT ON GENDER CONTENT MONITORING OF PROVINCE MEDIA

October- December 2019



Women Byline Up by 3%

A REPORT ON GENDER CONTENT MONITORING OF PROVINCE MEDIA

Freedom Forum presents another report (October to December 2019) of its continuous monitoring of media contents from the newspaper representing all seven provinces. The activity is conducted as part of the project 'Contributing to the Atmosphere Conducive to FoE, Reduced Impunity and Inclusive Media (CACFRIIM) in Nepal' supported by Free Press Unlimited (FPU), an institution based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, which works on freedom of expression and information issues across the world. The report presents the findings with data analyses based on news byline, news sources and their correlation with the headlines. It is expected to serve as an evidence-based tool to advocate for, and create gender friendly news contents in province media outlets.

Media outlets monitored

- Province 1 - Blast Times, Udghosh and Purwanchal daily
- Province 2 - Krishna, Prateek and Janakpur Today
- Bagmati Province - Kayakairan, Hetauda Sandesh and Chitwan Post
- Gandaki Province - Samadhan, Adarsha Samaaj and Lokwani
- Province 5 - Dainik Nepalgunj, Butwal Today and Naya Yugbodh
- Karnali Province - Malika Post, Hamro Akhabar and Dhamaka daily
- Far-West Province - Sundaranchal, Hill Times and Paschim Today

KEY FINDINGS

JULY TO SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER TO DECEMBER
Among total 1004 news stories scanned from the main pages of 21 province dailies, 25% showed named byline with 5% names of female and remaining 95% names of male journalists.	Among total 1008 news stories scanned from the main pages of 21 province dailies, 24% showed named byline with 8% names of female and remaining 92% names of male journalists.
Amongst the dailies monitored, Hill Times (Far-west Province) dailies published the highest number of news with female byline.	Amongst the dailies monitored the Kayakairan (Bagmati Province) and Hill Times (Far-west Province) dailies published the highest number of news with female byline.
While scanning the same news stories for sources quoted, 12% was found to be women with 88% men.	While scanning the same news stories for sources quoted, 12% was found to be women with 88% men.
Prateek daily (Pro 2) is found quoting the highest number of female as news sources as compared to other dailies. News from Butwal Today (Pro 5) quoted the highest number of men as news sources.	Kayakairan daily (Bagmati Province) is found quoting the highest number of female as news sources as compared to other dailies. News from Naya Yougbohdh (Province 5) quoted the highest number of men as news sources.
This quarter's monitoring recorded majority of news on business and social issues (25%) on the main pages of selected broadsheets followed by news on politics and government (16%).	As in the previous quarter, his quarter's monitoring recorded majority of news on business issues (26%) on the main pages of selected dailies followed by news on social and legal issues (21%).
The highest number of female in news byline is found in social and legal news by 36% whereas, their maximum presence as news sources is found in business news by 28%.	The highest number of female in news byline (32%) and as news sources (35%) is found in business news.
As compared to the previous quarter (April to June), this quarter witnesses decrease in the number of female in news byline by 4% and 1% as news sources.	As compared to the previous quarter (July to September), this quarter witnesses increase in the number of female in news byline by 3% with equal percentage of those as news sources.

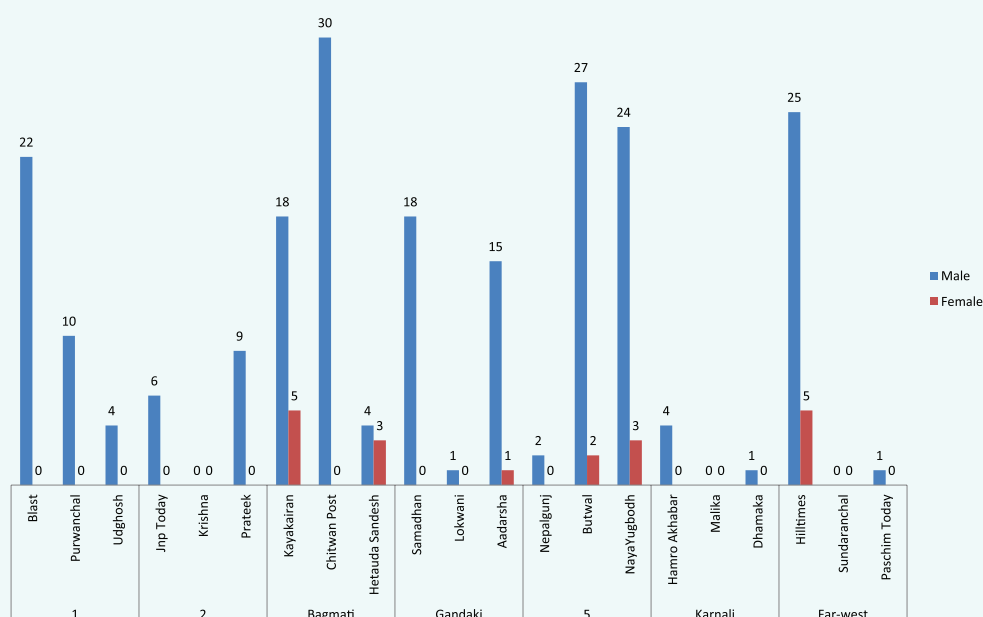
A) Gender in News Byline

Total 1,008 news stories were scanned during three months, i.e., October to December 2019. Only 24% of the total main news stories published on the dailies contain bylines of male and female journalists.

Scanning revealed only 8% byline of women in the news against 92% men. Among monitored 21 dailies from the provinces, Hill Times from Far-west Province and Kayakairan published from (Bagmati Province) constitute the highest number of women in news by-line whereas, Chitwan post from (Bagmati Province) contains the highest number of male byline.

However, compared to the previous data this quarter recorded the increase in number of women in bylines by 3%.

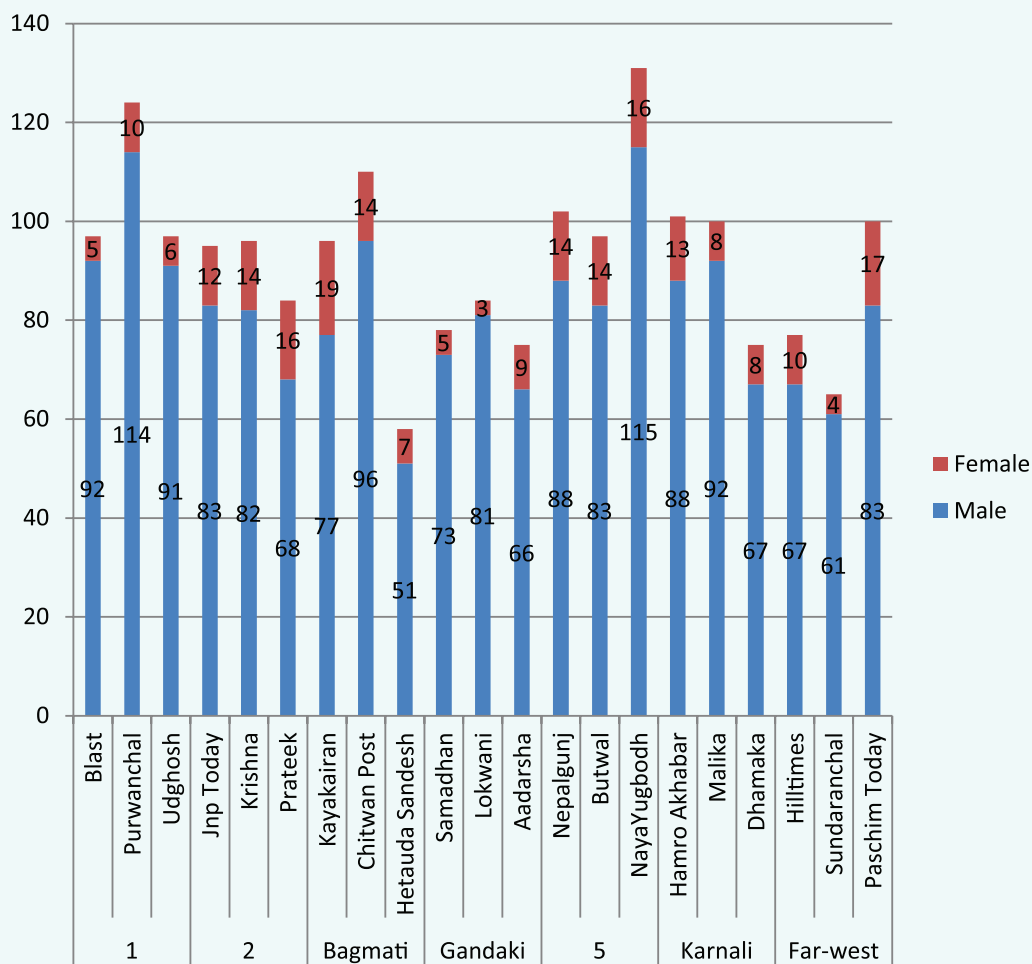
Figure 1: News bylines recorded from the 21 newspapers monitored from Provinces



B. Gender in News Sources

Among 1,942 persons identified as news sources from 1,008 news stories scanned from selected 21 province dailies, 12% are women and remaining 88% men. Among the dailies, news published on Kayakairan daily (Bagmati Province) is found quoting the highest number of female as news sources as compared to other dailies. Similarly, news from Naya Yougbodh (Province 5) quoted the highest number of men as news sources.

Figure 2: Sources quoted in the news monitored from 21 province newspapers

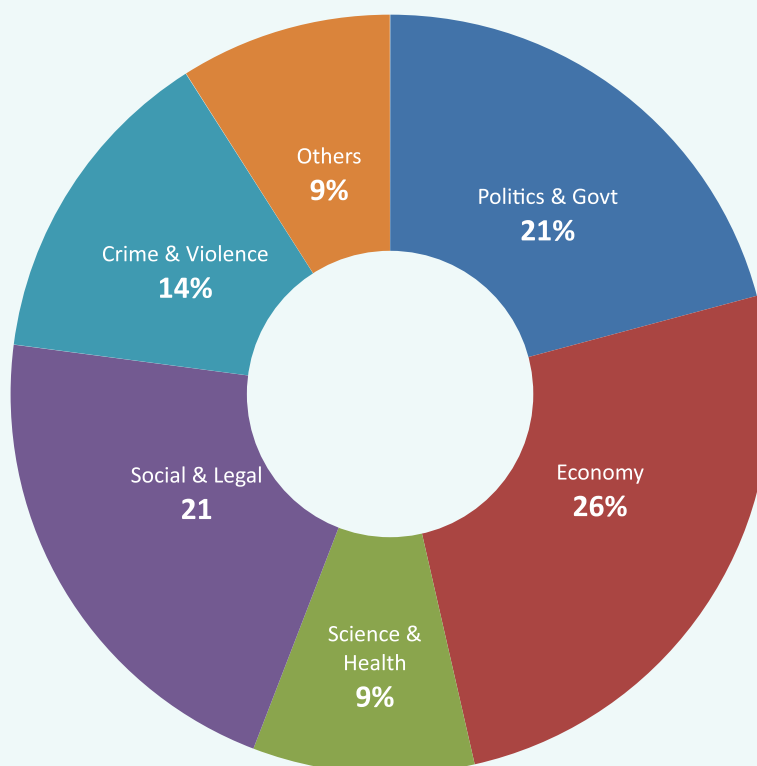


C. Topic of stories:

During this quarter, selected 1,008 news stories from main pages of the dailies were categorized according to their headlines into six different categories. Among those stories, majority (26%) is found to be in business news followed by politics and social news stories (21%).

Again, comparing among the dailies those published from Province 2 (Prateek), Province 5 (Nepalgunj Today) and Bagmati (Hetauda Sandesh) contain the highest number of news about business, social and legal issues.

Figure 3: Topicwise (News headline) distribution of news monitored from province newspapers



D. People in the news

Even though women's presence is minimal in news bylines recorded in this quarter (October to December), maximum is found in the news about economic issues followed by crime and violence. Likewise, maximum number of male byline is also recorded in the news about economic issues thereafter.

Again, segregating the data on gender in news sources under different six topics category reveals the highest number of both male and female voices in the news about economy followed by social news in both cases.

Figure 4: Female Byline versus category of headline in news monitored from seven province newspapers

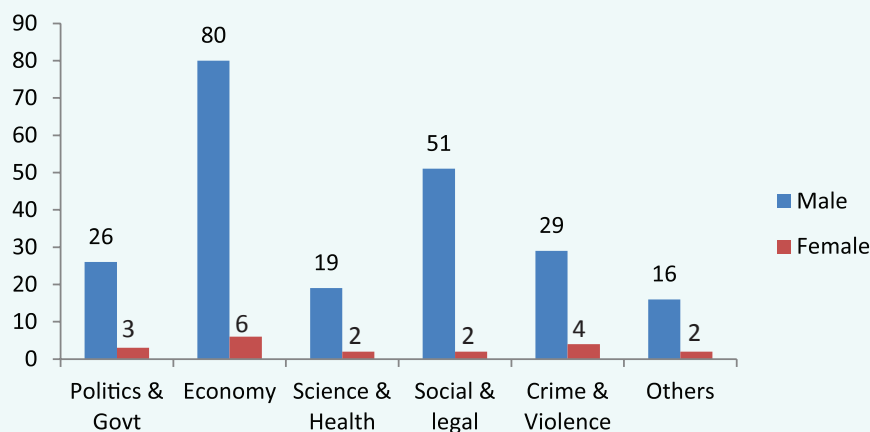
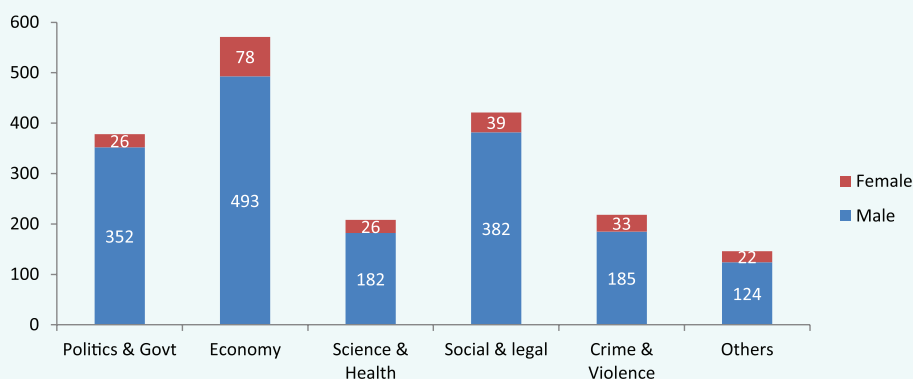


Figure 5: Women as news source versus category of headline in news monitored from seven provinces newspapers



E. Comparative trend:

Comparison of data recorded during third (July to Sep 2019) and last quarter (Oct to Dec 2019) show clear increase in the number of female bylined news as shown in figure 6. This quarter shows increasing in the number of female byline by 3% and decrease of male byline by 3% as compared to the last quarter (July to Sep 2019). According to the figure 6, dailies monitored from Bagmati Province, Province 5 and Far-West Province show increasing trend of female in news bylines as compared to the previous quarter.

On the other hand, women as news sources quoted in news in this quarter are same as compared to the previous quarter. While comparing the data among Provinces, dailies monitored from Province 5 show maximum male sources whereas, in case of female sources those monitored from Province 2, Bagmati Province and Province 5 show increasing trend for women being quoted in the news as sources.

Figure 6: Comparative trend of female byline in news from dailies from July to December

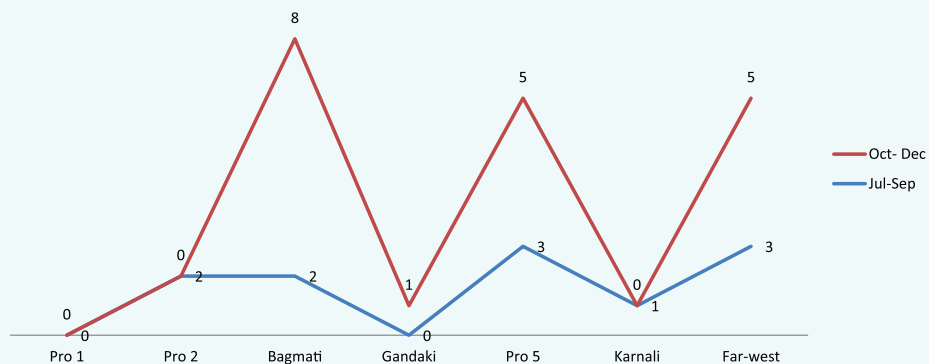
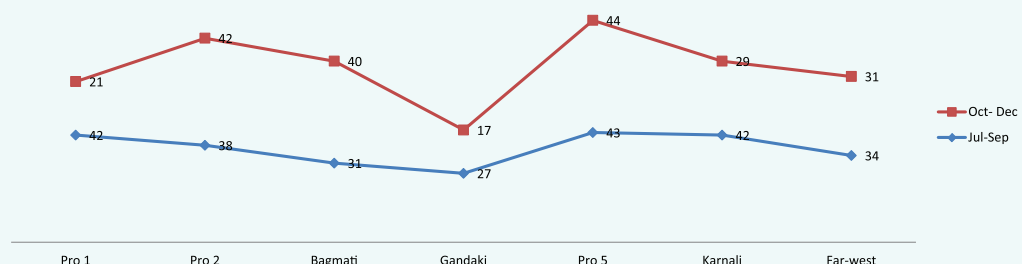


Figure 7: Comparative trend of female sources in news from dailies from Jul-Dec



Observation:

This report presents the finding of three months long monitoring of 21 province dailies for inclusion of women in their main contents. Monitoring revealed slight increase in the inclusion of women in news contents on both byline and sources of the dailies. This quarter recorded 8% women in news byline and 12% as news sources. This is 3% increase in their presence as news reporters and equal as news sources compared to the previous quarter.

Among the 21 selected province dailies, those monitored from Bagmati Province are found to contain the highest number of women in their news byline and quoted sources.

Moreover, majority of the news stories monitored from the selected dailies is found to have published the highest number of news about economic issues in contrary to the other national dailies monitored in the central level (Kathmandu).

Furthermore, the highest number of both men and women in news byline and as news sources is found in the news about economic issues irrespective of the previous data with majority on social and legal issues.

Conclusively, this quarter records the increase in percentage of female as news reporters by 3% whereas their presence as news source is found to be the same as previous quarter.

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.



Freedom Forum

P.O. Box: 24292

Block No. 22, Adarsha Marg

Thapathali, Kathmandu, Nepal

Telephone: 977-1-4102022, 4102030

Fax: 977-1-4226099

Email: info@freedomforum.org.np

monitoring@freedomforum.org.np

Web: www.freedomforum.org.np

www.nepalpressfreedom.org