

Federal Parliament

The Constitution of Nepal, adopted in 2015, envisions bicameral legislature. According to Article 83 of the Constitution, the House of Representatives (Also known as Lower House) and the National Assembly (Also known as Upper House) are named as the Federal Parliament. Key functions of the Parliament are as follows:

- To formulate the law within the jurisdiction related to federal, concurrent and residual power,
- To form government,
- To discuss and approve government's policies and programs,
- To make decisions regarding constitution amendment and general referendum,
- To discuss and approve budget,
- To oversee the performance of the government,
- To give necessary directions and suggestions to the government and
- To ratify international treaties.

House of Representatives

According to the provisions enshrined in the Constitution, Lower House of the Federal Parliament has altogether 275 members among which 165 members (i.e. 60% of the total members) are elected through the first past the post electoral system and remaining 110 members (i.e. 40% of the total members) through the proportional electoral system. The term of this House is of five years. Current composition of political parties in the House is as follows:

S.N.	Name of Political Parties	No. of Member		Total
		First Past the Post Electoral System	Proportional Electoral System	
1	Nepal Communist Party (NCP)	116	58	174
2	Nepali Congress	23	40	63
3	Janata Samajbadi Party, Nepal	22	12	34
4	Nepal Workers and Peasants Party	1	-	1
5	National People's Front	1	-	1
6	Rastriya Prajatantra Party	1	-	1
7	Independent	1	-	1
Total		165	110	275

National Assembly

The National Assembly, also known as the Upper House of the Federal Parliament and constituted pursuant to Article 86 of the Constitution, is a permanent house. Consisting of 59 member altogether, the House has the provision of a certain term of office for the members according to which the term of office of one third of the members expires in every two years.

Current composition of political parties in the House is as follows:

S.N.	Name of Political Parties	No. of MPs
1	Nepal Communist Party (NCP)	47
2	Nepali Congress	6
3	Janata Samajbadi Party, Nepal	3
4	Nominated	3
Total		59

Qualification Required

Pursuant to Article 87 of the Constitution, a person who has the following qualifications shall be qualified to become a member of the Federal Parliament:

- Must be a citizen of Nepal,
- Must completed the age of 25 and 35 years for the House of Representatives and National Assembly respectively,
- Must not be convicted of a criminal offense involving moral turpitude,
- Must not being disqualified by any federal law, and
- Must not hold any office of profit.

Conditions for Vacation of Seat

According to the Article 89 of the Constitution, the seat of a member of the Federal Parliament becomes vacant in any of the following situations:

- If he or she tenders resignation in writing before the Speaker or Chairperson,
- If he or she is no longer qualified or ceases to possess the qualification under Article 87,
- If the term of the House of Representatives or the term of office of the member of the National Assembly expires,
- If he or she absents himself or herself from ten consecutive meetings, without giving notice to the concerned House,

- If the political party of which he or she was a member when elected, provides a notification in accordance with the federal law that he or she has defected the party,
- If he or she dies.

Provisions for Dignitaries

- In both the Houses, members shall, not later than fifteen days of the date of holding of the first meeting of the respective houses, elect a Speaker, Chairperson, Deputy Speaker and Vice-Chairperson from amongst themselves,
- In both Houses, election shall be so held that there is one woman out of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, and out of the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson. With regard to the Lower House only, the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker should be representatives from different political parties,
- In the absence of the Speaker and the Chairperson, the Deputy Speaker and the Vice-Chairperson chair their respective Houses,
- If election to the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, and the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson is not held or if both the positions in both Houses remain vacant, the attending member who is by age the senior-most presides the meeting of their respective Houses.

Committees of the Federal Parliament

According to Article 97 of the Constitution, the House of Representatives and the National Assembly can form thematic as well as joint committees.

Thematic Committees of the House of Representatives

1. Finance Committee,
2. International Relations Committee,
3. Industry, Commerce, Labor and Consumer Welfare Committee,
4. Law, Justice and Human Rights Committee,
5. Agriculture, Cooperatives and Natural Resources Committee,
6. Women and Social Affairs Committee,
7. State Affairs and Good Governance Committee,
8. Development and Technology Committee,
9. Education and Health Committee and
10. Public Accounts Committee.

Thematic Committees of the National Assembly

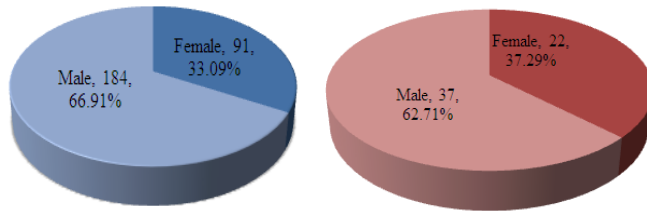
1. Sustainable Development and Good Governance Committee,
2. Legislation Management Committee,
3. Delegated Legislation and Government Assurances Committee and
4. National Concerns and Co-ordination Committee.

Joint Committees

1. Parliamentary Hearing Committee and
2. Committee for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation of the Directive Principles, Policies and Obligations of the State.

Federal Parliament in statistics

Gender Representation

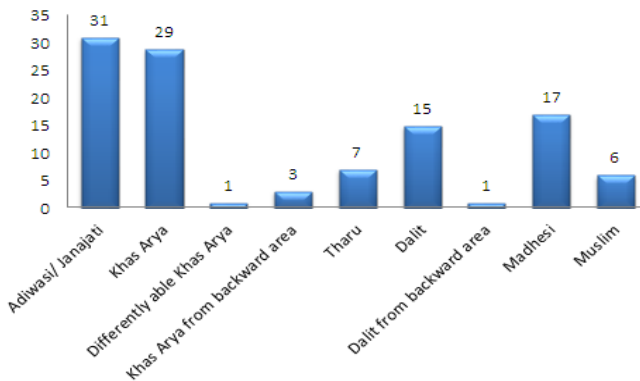


House of Representatives

National Assembly

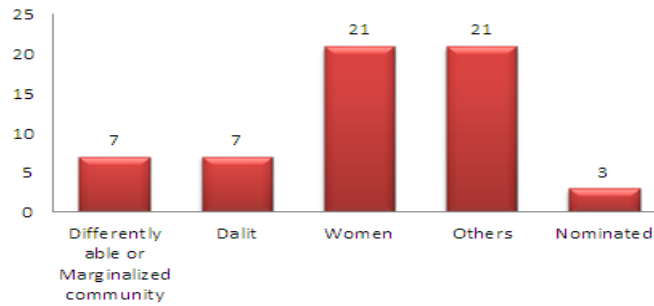
Source: Based on the statistics of Election Commission

Group-wise Representation in the House of Representatives with Reference to Proportional Representation Electoral System



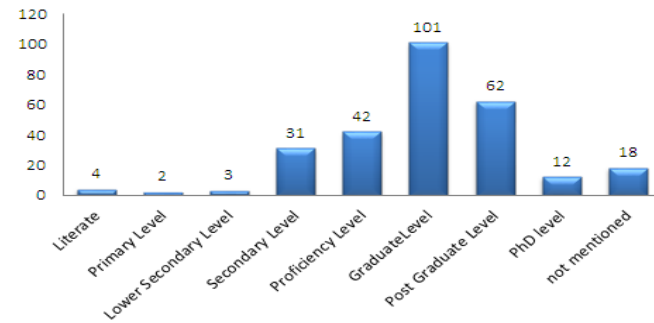
Source: Based on the statistics of Election Commission

Group-wise representation in House of National Assembly



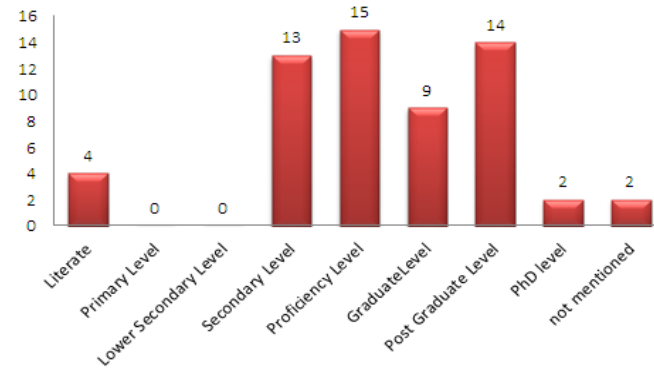
Source: Based on the statistics of Election Commission

Education Status in the House of Representatives



Source: MP Facilitation Section, FPS

Education Status in the National Assembly



Source: MP Facilitation Section, FPS



Federal Parliament of Nepal

Brief Introduction

2020



Federal Parliament Secretariat

Parliamentary Study and Research Section

Singha Durbar, Kathmandu



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