

Education

The position you have been assigned in the Constituent Assembly is to draft an amendment that addresses the concerns of education in Nepal.

Education is considered a vital component in the economic well being of modern nations and Nepal is no exception. The government of Nepal has recognized this and has established a public school system where the government pays the salaries of teachers. Problems remain as they do not pay for books or other supplies, the students and their families must bear these costs. Over 50% of the population survive on less than one dollar a day so there is no money available for books. Most schools do not have libraries and few if any books other than textbooks.

Primary school education is free but schools are often poorly built, understaffed, overcrowded and in rural areas children often have to walk several miles to attend. Classrooms built to house 20 students typically have 40 to 50.

50% of children do not attend school on a regular basis if at all. Many are needed to work in gathering food and fuel for their families to survive. Girls are often kept at home to help raise younger siblings or work in farming. Girls who do attend often leave by age 12 as the families see little reason to educate them. Female enrollment in secondary schools is less than 35%.