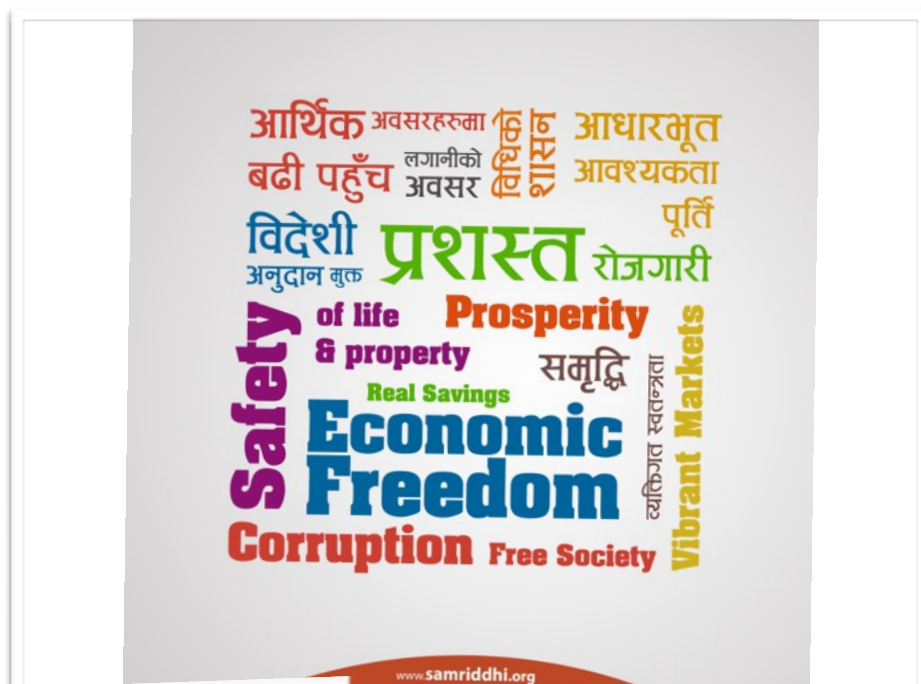


Liberating Nepali Enterprises



Exclusive
Release Event
EFWR 2015, Country Audit Report, Liberating Nepali Enterprises studies

Media Report

Summary: Under the larger theme, Liberating Nepali Enterprises, Samriddhi held a big media event on Sep 14,¹ 2015 releasing the annual Economic Freedom Index by the Fraser Institute (as a network member and co-publisher), first ever-exclusive Country Audit Report on Nepal and, six new studies by Samriddhi under the banner 'Liberating Nepali Enterprises'. The unveiling of the reports were done by Hon. Minister for Finance of Nepal.

The event was covered in 11 national print media (all top 10 circulated newspapers included), 4 online portals (including one Nepali article on Taxi quota control by the government based on one of the Liberating Nepali Enterprises studies authored by the researcher and shared over 700 times), three television portals (including Kantipur TV's Kantipur News which is the most viewed news programs in Nepal). Samriddhi experts/authors were quoted in the coverages multiple times.

¹ (global release date of the annual Economic Freedom of the World Report 2015)

Introduction

For the eighth consecutive year, Samriddhi, The Prosperity Foundation, with a local partner [Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry \(FNCCI\)](#), released the Economic Freedom of the World: Annual Report in Nepal, on September 14, 2015. The event took place at Hotel Annapurna featuring **Hon. Finance Minister – Dr. Ram Sharan Mahat** as chief guest, who unveiled not only the Annual global report but a first ever Country Audit Report on Nepal's economic freedom. Samriddhi Foundation had carried out the Country Audit exclusively in partnership with the Fraser Institute and Atlas Network. The Hon. Minister for Finance and the Governor of the Central Bank of Nepal had also written Messages for the publication of the Country Audit Report. The Audit covered all above-mentioned components of the Economic Freedom other than Sound Money exclusively. In order to highlight specific constraints as marked in the Country Audit Report that hinder Nepal's progress towards economic freedom, the organization also revealed six new case studies under the banner of 'Liberating Nepali Enterprises' which examine the following topics:

1. [Cost of Registering a Private School in Nepal](#)
2. [Cost of Complying with Applicable Education Regulations](#)
3. [Cost of Taxi Licensing in Bagmati Zone](#)
4. [Understanding why Cartels exist in Nepal's Public Transportation](#)
5. [Cost of Firing Employees in Nepal](#)
6. Property Rights in Nepal

The media coverage is detailed as follows.

All coverages are from Sep 15, 2015 (unless otherwise specified), and includes a summary of what has been said in the clipping pasted.

Newspapers

1. Nagarik

Summary of the coverage:

With the improvement in indicators- Size of government, Legal System and Property Rights, Sound Money, Freedom to Trade Internationally, Business Regulation, Nepal has climbed 20 spots up from last year's global ranking in economic freedom.

Nepal has scored 8.72 from 7.39 from last year in size of government, 4.33 in Legal System and Property Rights, 6.42 in Access to Sound Money, 6.47 in Freedom to Trade Internationally and 6.85 in Credit market regulations, Labor market regulations and Business regulations.

Various studies have showed that people living in economically free countries are prosperous and have higher life expectancy compared to those living in less economically free countries.

The Country Audit Report released along with the Economic Freedom of the World Report 2015 analyzes issues and constraints regarding to economic freedom.



In the event organized by Samridhi, the Prosperity Foundation and FNCCI, Hon. Dr. Ram Sharan Mahat, Finance Ministry stated that only in economically free state, people can prosper.

Research Guides in Country Audit Reports were Dr. Ramkrishna Timilsena (Former Supreme Court Registrar), Late. Mr. Bharat Upreti, Former Hon'ble Justice with the Supreme Court, Mr. Bhaskar Mani Gnawali, Former Deputy Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank, Dr. Bhimarjun Acharya, Constitutional Expert, Prof. Dr. Bishwambher Pyakuryal, Senior Economist, Mr. Rameshore Khanal, Former Finance Secretary, Dr. Yuba Raj Khatiwada, Former Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank.

2. Abhiyan



Summary of the coverage:

Nepal stands at third position in economic freedom in the **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)** region. Compared to last year's global ranking, Nepal has climbed 20 places to 106th position.

3. Gorkhapatra

Summary of the coverage: Nepal improves its scores in areas of size of government, rule of law and moves 20 places up in global ranking in 2015 at 106th position.



4. Himalaya Times



Summary of the article: The Global Release of Economic Freedom of the World Report 2015 release organized by Samridhi, The Prosperity Foundation and FNCI reveals the Nepal's position on Global ranking in regards to economic freedom. Nepal has overall score of 6.56 out of 10, compared to 6.16 in last year.

5. Karobar



Summary of the article: Samridhi, the Prosperity Foundation in association with the Fraser Institute released the “Economic Freedom of the World Report 2015”. Nepal has improved in all criteria except in property rights.

The coverage covered following quotes from the guests of the program and expert at Samridhi.

Hon. Dr. Ram Sharan Mahat, Finance Minister

- Issues of economic freedom should reach to political level; only a strong state can foster economic freedom.
- Liberalization and free market has contributed to poverty reduction in last 2-3 decades.

Dr. Hemant Dabadi, Senior Fellow, Samridhi, the Prosperity Foundation

- Government lacks accountability. Public enterprises are weak.
- The government should mention its priority areas and then fix budget which should include public views and recommendations.

Dr. Yubaraj Khatiwada, Former Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank

- Investment in Nepal is high, most of which is hidden cost. Nepal has obtained less score in administrative requirements under business regulations.

Prof. Dr. Bishwambher Pyakuryal, Senior Economist

- Nepal needs to be serious while doing cross-border agreements and transactions. Nepal has high cross-border transaction costs. Quarantines, counter value duty etc. increases the cost.

Mr. Rameshore Khanal, Former Finance Secretary

- Budget is prime focus while addressing issues of economy. Budget implementation is real challenge and lack of capital use has slowed economic freedom.
- Pre-budget exercise is essential to include public opinions.

Dr. Ramkrishna Timilsina, Former Supreme Court Registrar

- Labour market should be free from politicization. Nepal has excessive number of trade union.
- Hire and fire policies should be made easy.
- Wage should be fixed by market.



6. Kantipur

With the improvement in business environment, Nepal has ranked third in SAARC region in economic freedom ranking. In the report released by Samriddhi, the Prosperity Foundation and FNCCI, Nepal has scored 6.47 in Freedom to Trade Internationally.

Nepal ranks at global position of 106 improving from 126 in last year.

आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा नेपाल तेस्रो स्थानमा

काठमाडौं- उद्योग व्यवसाय सञ्चालन गर्न सकारात्मक वातावरण बन्दै गएकोले नेपाल दक्षिण एसियाली मुलुकहरूमा आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रताको सूचीमा तेस्रो स्थानमा पुगेको छ। समृद्धि फाउन्डेसन र नेपाल उद्योग वाणिज्य महासंघले संयुक्त रूपमा सार्वजनिक गरेको प्रतिवेदनले नयाँ व्यवस्था तथा सम्पत्ति अधिकारको सुरक्षामा नेपाललाई ४ दशमलव ३३ अंक दिएको छ। त्यस्तै अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय व्यापारको स्वतन्त्रतामा ६ दशमलव ४७ अंक पाएको नेपालले पहिल्ला वर्षको तुलनामा सुधार गरेको प्रतिवेदनमा उल्लेख छ।

आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा कुन देशले कस्तो प्रगति गरेको छ भनेर अध्ययन गर्न सरकारको आकारसम्बन्धी सूचक, कर्जा र श्रम तथा व्यवसाय नियमको व्यवस्थापनमाथि समेत अध्ययन गरिएको छ।

व्यवस्थापनमा नेपालले ६ दशमलव ८५ अंक हासिल गरेको छ। यसपालि आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रताको सूचीको अग्रपंक्तिमा भुटान र दोस्रोमा श्रीलंका रहेका छन्।

दक्षिण एसियामा तेस्रो स्थानमा रहेको नेपाल विश्वका १ सय ५७ देशमध्ये आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा १ सय ६ औं स्थानमा छ। गत वर्ष नेपाल १ सय ५२ देशमध्ये १

भारत चौथो, बंगलादेश पाँचौं र पाकिस्तान छैटौं स्थानमा

सय २६ औं स्थानमा थियो। कुल १० मध्ये ६ दशमलव ५६ अंक नेपालले प्राप्त गरेको अध्ययनमा उल्लेख छ। भारत दक्षिण एसियामा चौथो, बंगलादेश पाँचौं र पाकिस्तान छैटौं स्थानमा छ।

प्रतिबद्धताअनुसार काम र स्रोत परिचालन हुन नसकेकाले सूचीमा

फाउन्डेसनले जनाएको छ। त्यस्तै पुँजीगत खर्च हुन थोरै हुनु, पारदर्शिता कम हुनुले नेपालको सुधार सुस्त गतिमा भइरहेको हो। सार्वजनिक संस्थानमा नाफा थोरै र सरकारी दायित्वको बृद्धि बढी हुँदा पनि प्रगति हुन नसकेको प्रतिवेदनमा उल्लेख छ। अर्कोतर्फ ट्रेड युनियनलगायत अन्य क्षेत्रमा बढी राजनीतिकरण हुनुले पनि द्रुतगतिमा सुधार हुन नसकेकाले यस्ता कमजोरी सच्याउन प्रतिवेदनले सुझाएको छ।

प्रतिवेदनले सरकारद्वारा दिइने अनुदानलाई वैज्ञानिक बनाउन र वजेट निर्माणमा आम जनताको सहभागितालाई निश्चित गर्न भनेको छ।

प्रतिवेदन सार्वजनिक गर्दै अर्थमन्त्री डा. रामशरण महतले नेपालले लिएको आर्थिक उदारीकरणको नीति र खुला बजारको नीतिअनुसार सबैलाई यसबारे सचेतना गराउने काम आवश्यक भएको बताए।

आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा नेपाल २० स्थान उक्लियो

- अंक र स्थान दुवैमा सुधार
- अर्को पनि कडा आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रता अंशको मुलुक

आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा उत्कृष्ट १० राष्ट्र

राष्ट्र	अंक
हङकङ	८.९७
सिंगापुर	८.५२
युजिन्यान्ड	८.१
स्विट्जरल्यान्ड	८.१६
युनाइटेड अरब इमिरेट्स	८.१५
मौरिसस	८.०८
जोर्डन	७.९३
आयरल्यान्ड	७.९०
क्यानडा	७.८९
बेलायत	७.८७

स्रोत : विश्व आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रता प्रतिवेदन

नयाँ पत्रिका काठमाडौं, २६ गी

अधिल्लो वर्षको तुलनामा विश्व आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा नेपाल २० स्थान माथि उक्लिएको छ। अधिल्लो वर्ष ६.९६ अंकसहित १ सय २६औं स्थानमा रहेको नेपाल यस वर्ष केही सुधारका साथ ६.५६ अंक पाएर १ सय ६ अंकमा उक्लिएको हो। विश्व आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रता प्रतिवेदनमा विश्वका मुलुकलाई १ देखि १० अंक प्रदान गरिएकोमा १० सँग जति नजिक भयो त्यति स्वतन्त्र भन्ने बुझिन्छ।

अधिल्लो वर्षको तुलनामा आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा नेपालले अंक र स्थान दुवैमा सुधार गरेको छ। यस्तै, अधिल्लो वर्षको तुलनामा यस वर्ष अध्ययनको दायरा पनि केही बढाइएको छ। अधिल्लो वर्ष १ सय ५२ राष्ट्र समावेश भएका थिए भने यो

नेपाल उद्योग वाणिज्य महासंघ र समृद्धि फाउन्डेसिले फाउन्डेसनले फेजर इन्स्ट्रुटको विश्व आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रता प्रतिवेदन सोमबार राजधानीमा सार्वजनिक गरेका हुन्। अध्ययनमा सरकारको आकार, असल मुद्रामा पहुँच, अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय व्यापार गर्ने स्वतन्त्रता, श्रम र व्यापारसम्बन्धी नियमन व्यवस्था र कानूनी संरचना तथा सम्पत्ति अधिकारको सुरक्षा गरी आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रताका ५ वटा सूचक तोकिएको थियो। ती सबै सूचकमा नेपालले फिर्ता सुधार गरेको छ।

आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रताको प्रतिवेदनमा नेपाल केही स्थान माथि उक्लिए पनि अर्को कम आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रता भएको राष्ट्रको समूहमा रहेको छ। परिस्वरमा न्यूनतम सुधार मात्र भएकाले यस्ता अवस्था आएको जानकारीहरूले बताएका छन्। 'आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा नेपाल अर्को निम्न कोटीमा छ,' समृद्धि, फाउन्डेसिले फाउन्डेसनका बरिष्ठ सल्लाहकार डा. हेमन्त बिबाडीले बताए।

यस्तै, आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा ८.९७ अंक प्राप्त गरेर हङकङले पहिलो स्थान ओगट्न सफल भएको छ। सिंगापुर, युजिन्यान्ड, स्विट्जरल्यान्ड, युनाइटेड अरब इमिरेट्स, मौरिसस, जोर्डन, आयरल्यान्ड, क्यानडा र बेलायत क्रमशः प्रमुख १० राष्ट्र बनेका छन्। प्रतिवेदनका अनुसार, अमेरिका, मध्यअफ्रिका रिपब्लिक, जिम्बावे, जर्जेरिया, अर्जेन्टिना, सिरिया, चाड, लिबिया, रिपब्लिक अफ कनो र भेनेजुएला सबैभन्दा कम आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रता हुने १० मुलुक हुन्। उच्चरी कोरिया र क्यानडागयातलाई अनुसन्धानमा समेटिएको छैन।

कार्यक्रममा अन्य ६ वटा अध्ययन पनि सार्वजनिक भएका छन्। ती अध्ययनमा नेपालमा प्राइभेट स्कूल दर्ताको खर्च र लागत, शिक्षा नियमन पालन गर्दाको खर्च, बागमती अञ्चलमा ट्याक्सी व्यवसायी हुन लाग्ने खर्च र लागत, नेपालको यातायात क्षेत्रमा भएको सिङ्किङ, श्रमिक कटौतीको खर्च र सम्पत्ति अधिकार रहेका छन्। यस्तै, नेपालले पहिलोपटक आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामाथि अध्ययन

आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रतामा नेपालको अंक



7. Naya Patrika

In comparison to last year, Nepal has climbed up 20 places in global ranking in economic freedom. Nepal still has much to improve in area of economic freedom.

Media coverage report , Page 10

विश्व आर्थिक स्वतन्त्रता प्रतिवेदनमा नेपाल १ सय ६ स्थानमा

[illegible]

Media coverage report , Page 11

ONLINE MEDIA

1. Republica: Nepal climbs 20 notches in economic freedom ranking <http://www.myrepublica.com/economy/story/28116/nepal-jumps-20-places-in-global-ranking-of-economic-freedom.html#sthash.GX6wv2Lk.dpuf>
2. Mero lagani: Nepal climbs 20 places in economic freedom ranking, third in South Asia (published Sep 14, 2015) <http://merolagani.com/NewsDetail.aspx?newsID=21576>
3. Bizmandu: Nepal Improves in Economic Freedom Ranking (published Sep 14, 2015) <http://www.bizmandu.com/content/-13209.html#.VfaPQRGqqko>
4. काठमाडौंमा नयाँ टयाक्सी दर्ताको किचलो (Kathmandu's new Taxi registration contention) <http://kinmel.setopati.com/byawasaya/29248/> (Findings of one of the Liberating Nepali Enterprises studies published as an article. Authored by the researcher of the study report. (in Nepali). (Published Sep 16, 2015)

TELEVISION NETWORK

1. Kantipur Television: ktv.ekantipur.com: Prime time news broadcast
2. Nepal Television: www.ntv.org.np: Prime time news broadcast
3. Avenues Television: Consumer rights activist, Ram Thapa placed in Avenues tv's program 'Tathya and Tarka' talking about the consequences of quantity control in Taxi's in Bagamati zone and recommendations (as presented in the Liberating Nepali Enterprises Series) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJVgsThVfjA>
(Aired Sep 02, 2015)

Radio

1. Radio Kantipur: <http://radiokantipurdiary.ekantipur.com/kantipur-diary/16645/>