

Disclaimer:

The translation of the manifesto was done by volunteers who wished to contribute towards the campaign and not trained professionals with an expertise on the grasp of the English Vocabulary. We sincerely apologize if there are any errors or inconveniences that you may come across while reading the manifesto. We've put a lot of time and effort into the translation and we did try our best.

-Team Ranju



रञ्जु दर्शना
काठमाडौं क्षेत्र नं.५
प्रतिनिधि सभा सदस्य उम्मेदवार



रञ्जु दर्शना

Candidate's introduction

My name is Ranju Neupane (Ranju Darshana) and I am 26 years old. I was born to Ramala Neupane (Gautam) on the 3rd of March, 1996 at The Institute of Medicine, Maharajgunj. I completed my primary education from Nirmal Batika School, located at Tokha road and secondary education from Bhanubhakta Memorial School, from where I received my School Leaving Certificate (SLC). My high school journey took place at Herald College, Maharajgunj, and I pursued my further education in the field of development studies at Kathmandu University affiliated, National College, Baluwatar. About my professional life, I've had the opportunity to work in different private and multinational companies. I was previously employed as a Social Studies subject expert in a company called 'My Second Teacher'. Prior to that, I have worked with numerous companies as a consultant. I also had an entrepreneurial stint of channeling my Selroti making skill into a proper enterprise with the help of my mother. For the last three years, I have been devotedly working in the field on mental health, its awareness and the significance of the impact it's capable of. I am driven by the idea that politics should not just be one's occupation or fully control one's personal life, rather, there should be an ideal balance where they go hand in hand. To hone my knowledge of politics and for my personal development as well, I have journeyed throughout the world in countries such as the United States, France, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, India and many more to attend informative seminars as well as gain valuable experience from participating in conferences. Through the experience I've gained from my journey so far, I learned many things which made me realize that with the right mindset, lots of great things can be achieved in Nepal and with the wrong mentality, lots of progression can be halted as well.

I started my active political career from Bibeksheel Nepali Dal during the 2013 Constituent Assembly Elections. I've spent all of my time trying, giving it my all, failing on some attempts, persevering, gaining a clear understanding of party politics, the tactical side of things, working on all of those factors as well as working on my personal development along with it, not taking a break from my studies and dedicatedly learning. After rigorously working on all of those things and consistently giving it all of my time and effort, I am contesting 2022 elections for a member of the federal parliament. After the innumerable support I gained in the 2017 local level elections alongside a good number of votes that I received for the post of Kathmandu metropolitan's mayor, I had high expectations at the time that the active youth participation shown for my campaign at the time, shall increase even more in the future and I'm glad we can now witness what I had hoped for. Nepali politics is changing its course and rightfully so. A powerful wave of youths full of promise is coming to sweep away the filth of corruption. Let this be a sign of prosperity for the country. Let every common citizen win.

Egalitarian, Justly Developed Nepal: It is Possible

Hard work, persistence, empathy, integrity, study, counseling and Selflessness

For the Federal Election 2022, Kathmandu-5's independent Candidate

Ranju Darshana's Manifesto (In detail)

I am your own Ranju Darshana. Previously, I contested for the mayor of Kathmandu metropolitan city. With your love and unconditional support, I received a total of 23,439 votes. Remembering that encouraging time, I am truly grateful and show sincere appreciation for all my voters and well-wishers for believing in me. Till now, I have worked in my respective field of social work and devotedly spent my time and effort with the commitment to be of service to the people. With the intent of reaching and helping even more people, I want to expand my role. I am happy to announce that my commitment brings me to contest the federal elections of Kathmandu-5 as an independent candidate.

I believe the beauty of democracy reflects in a multi-party system, and parties should get to work on themselves and strengthen within this system. It enables the creation of an environment where there's a presence of good competition, which ultimately benefits the citizens. But right now, because of the current state of the party system, we can see bad factions compete amongst themselves; the bad compete with the worse and the worse compete with the awful. It's the citizens who are defeated. Political parties are not just organizations but social institutions too. Their effectiveness helps the state in social, cultural and economic changes. Proper schooling and leadership development within the political parties can create the path for a capable individual to be in the position of a parliamentarian, minister or even a prime minister. But for this, political parties need to work on themselves and undergo massive changes towards their character and morality, which is by no means an easy task. The parties who have formed a habit of sorts and developed a vile pattern of gathering votes for years with the involvement of their false promises and momentary bribes, do not agree to change their character easily. They seem to have forgotten that the power of voting forever resides in the hands of the people, and seem to regard the whole country and its every region as their own personal property. They are basking in the illusion that the power they hoard can turn citizens into a herd, and this has not been able to change. The first people's movement of 1990 and the second of 2006 were carried out by the previous generations for change. A change in our livelihood and standard of living was expected. However, apart from the leaders of the political parties and the different groups affiliated with them, change could not be perceived. Why is that? Because we got a mob system in disguise of a party system. In the name of competition, the parties found an easy way to keep repeating themselves in power.

I do not accept any of this. Being someone who understands this political powerplay, I come to you ready to challenge this trend and move forward with absolute resolution. Therefore in this federal election, I use the right guaranteed by articles 84 and 87 of the Constitution of Nepal to declare an independent rebellion against the quagmire of political parties from Kathmandu, area

no. 5, and to be elected as a member of the House of Representatives with my own agenda, vision, and dreams for the welfare of citizens.

In Nepali politics, Madan Bhandari's *JaBaJa* (Janata ko Bahudaliya Janabad; translation: Multiparty Democracy of the People), BP Koirala's socialism, Maoist faction's socialism followed by communism, Rastriya Prajatantra Party's constitutional monarchy, etc have won seats in the parliament through multiple elections in the 2008 Constituent Assembly elections. After the 2074 elections, even the Bibeksheel Sajha Party that advocated for alternative politics secured a spot in the provincial parliament. Be it a party that was established ages ago or a newly established one, due to the lack of consistency between what is written in their legislation and what is generally seen in practice, the party system has deteriorated. While they misconstrue what is written in the constitution to fit their own agenda, it has started to affect the political system of the country over time. This has completely ruined the image of the multi-party system among the citizens of the nation.

They speak a sentence which can be interpreted in several ways, but they stick with the only interpretation that favors them. The party leaders try to prioritize their seats without prioritizing the concerns of citizens. We have a lot of examples of such parties playing with the sentiments of the impoverished citizens and taking advantage of their poverty to do filthy things like buying votes.

That is why, with honesty towards ideology, clarity of ideas, understanding of the political environment, economic and socio-cultural system, and learning from the past, with dreams focused on the present and the future, I am here with my political document/manifesto/commitment letter to get elected as a member of the House of Representatives with my team.

My core beliefs: Multi-party system, Decentralization, Federalism with fair distribution of power and duties, Freedom of press, Freedom of religion.

The socialism of my imagination: a liberal economy, regular markets, social security.

Kathmandu area no. 5 Focused Programs and Schemes:

- Taking a lead in ensuring the right to clean drinking water by studying the planning, supply and security schemes of drinking water in the region.
- Putting pressure on the government and relevant ministries to conduct a detailed study of the situation of underground water in the valley.
- Working together with the local residents of area no.5 for the preservation, promotion and development of historical and cultural areas.
- Solving other physical/local level problems in area no. 5 by studying the work and programs of all 15 wards and 3 municipalities, taking an initiative and facilitating to solve local problems.

Personal commitment:

- I will make sure all of my assets are visible to the public eye.
- I will have 100% attendance in Parliament meetings.
- Will create online and offline means to gather public opinion from area no. 5.
- Allocating one day a week to solve the problems of the citizens of area no. 5 and to bridge the gap between the government and its citizens.
- Allocate one day in a month to collect suggestions regarding development and take them to the parliament to discuss related policies and laws.
- Conduct one Constituency focused meeting every 6 months.
- Publish a report of the activities conducted by me within the parliament and outside, every year.
- Will confidently put forth my opinion and the position of the voters of the area on any important issue without any fear.

Key Agendas for all citizens

1. Mental Health

Description: Complex cases of mental health in our society are becoming public day by day. After the devastating earthquake in 2015 and the corona pandemic that has spread since 2019, the importance of mental health has been realized all over the world. Due to mental health problems, people have reached the point of harming themselves and others, and even killing and committing suicide. It has become a severe issue that affects people's work, and has deprived people from laughing and smiling, ruining their beautiful moments in life. It is necessary and mandatory for the government to work intensively on this issue. Citizens are deprived of a happy life due to the lack of understanding regarding mental health issues and the ineffectiveness of our health system has made it difficult to be aware of and tackle issues regarding mental health. Therefore, as a member of the parliament, I will continue to move forward prioritizing mental health issues.

- Will play a leading role in making policies around mental health.
- Will place mental health as a primary area within basic health, public health in order to enact timely mental health laws.
- Will set up a criteria for compulsory licensure of mental health counselors and make provisions for its implementation.
- Will advocate for a policy to make a mandatory department in hospitals for various mental health problems including postpartum depression and anxiety among pregnant women.
- In order to get rid of the loneliness and stress of the parents with their children residing abroad or of the people with most of their family members abroad, we will conduct a campaign to draw their attention towards spirituality, bhajan-kirtan, discussions, seminars and other creative activities.
- For easy access to mental health related services, we will make every public and private educational institution as well as local level bodies, have a mandatory counseling desk to make a program and conduct initiatives in related agencies to proceed with this work.

Women's health:

- Will pressurize the government of Nepal and related agencies to run the "happy mother, healthy child campaign."
- Will make a policy to provide essential facilities to pregnant women regarding nutritional food and mental health related counseling and services.
- Will make services related to the diagnosis of breast cancer, ovarian cancer easily available.

2. Education:

Description: The question of ‘what is education for?’ should guide our education policy. If we look at the socio-economic situation of Nepal, our education should be more than capable enough to make every person employable and economically strong. Apart from this, education can also play an important role in producing logical, creative and dutiful human resources for the country. I will work on the following written agendas for the reform and gradual development of education sector:

- I will study the current education policies and laws and make them relevant to our times.
- I will advocate for the printing of textbooks in every province for their effective and timely delivery to government schools.
- I will advocate introducing sex and physical education as a compulsory subject from the school level.
- I will advocate for a development committee of university level. Based on the information this committee provides, I will work multilaterally to solve the problems within universities.
- I will take policy level initiatives to change the curriculum to integrate the educational system with the employment system.
- I will advocate for making an ed-tech policy and gradually bring every government school in the country into this program accordingly, allocating the required budget for the cause.
- I will advocate to implement the standard of pedagogy in classrooms and implement it in all government, community and private schools.
- I will adopt policies and plans to produce more skilled manpower by prioritizing different sectors of Information Technology.

3. Women Empowerment and Leadership

Description: Women, who constitute more than 50 percent of the population, are still not safe and respected. This should not happen in any civilized country. Therefore, it is the main responsibility of the Government of Nepal to formulate policies and implement them without compromising on women's empowerment and leadership development. For this, I will:

- Advocate for timely programs from financial institutions and relevant ministries to increase women's access to financial management.

- Facilitate the registration of informal groups such as *aama samuha* (mothers' groups), *buhaari samuha* (daughter-in-laws' groups) with the relevant government agencies and conduct targeted programs nationwide through these groups.
- Bring the issue of violence against women to the social forefront to recognize them as crimes, because to end violence against women, all citizens should be conscientious.
- Continue to advocate for the provision of citizenship in the name of the mother.

4. Queer rights

Description: Earlier, the understanding of people was that the human race is naturally divided into only two sexual identities. But now they have started understanding such a binary nature does not exist and that there are different sexual identities. The rights of gender and sexual minority groups have also been discussed from time to time. But now I am moving forward to bring this topic under the scope of a discussion. For that, the following would be my agendas:

- Formulate a policy to establish a separate department to assist queer people in achieving their legal rights.
- Communicate a broad policy to legalize same-sex marriage and take a stand in favor of it.

5. Startup Policy

Description: A start up is a company that has just been initiated and has started to produce a unique, new, simple service, product or business. It is necessary to classify such new or infant companies according to their capital and number of employees. Based on the same classification, it is necessary for the government to make a policy to protect, promote and encourage the startup culture and I will take an initiative for that.

- In order to manage the capital required for startup operations and development, I will take the initiative to clarify the policy to establish access to investment in general businesses by amending the Securities Act and the Securities Market Guidelines.
- I will start making policies to connect those who have started startups with investors.

6. Construction of Inclusive Structures:

Description: Every citizen has the right to use the public structures built in Nepal. But this does not seem to be fully implemented in practice. In many places, it is still very difficult for people with disabilities to enter public spaces and avail their services. It shows that we are not an inclusive society. I believe that every public structure should be friendly to people with disabilities. For this:

- Amend the Public Procurement Act and make a law which states that physical, intellectual and mental disability friendly structures should be mandatory in the expression of interest and targeted sustainable programs regarding it should be made.
- Just like the Environment Impact Assessment, the Public Procurement Act should also stipulate that before any type of procurement is approved, the Disability Friendly Assessment report is approved by the relevant body.
- There should be an independent body to monitor DFA that comprises a mixed group of government employees as well as civil society people and experts.
- There is a need to amend the existing Act. DFA should be mandatory before every public structure is built. The map of the said structure will be passed only if it is passed by the relevant agency.
- Formulation of a policy to make existing structures and buildings disability-friendly by a certain deadline.

7. Public Administration/Services:

Description: Public administration should take charge of the daily lives led by citizens from their birth to their death. Various structures are built at the government level for this purpose. A large part of the tax paid by the people is allocated in providing resources to these structures. Have we been able to utilize the budget efficiently? Was the targeted goal achieved with the amount spent? Has it increased production and productivity? To what extent have the people's wishes been fulfilled? We all have felt that the government is apathetic about their work for the people, and we know the extent of the people's satisfaction with the work the government is doing. There is a perception among common citizens that nobody amongst the public department has a proper vision or plan regarding the public services and the works of development. The parliament plays a crucial role and holds the responsibility of making sure that skilled personnel with an ideal and sustainable vision should lead the public administration and its services. The newly elected parliament should be prioritizing this along with the following:

- Will inform the public, blow the whistle whenever necessary and encourage everyone to do so, put pressure on the government to maintain transparency, etc.
- I will remove unnecessary structures, not maintain unnecessary staff positions, I will maintain positions only in proportion to their workload.
- My efforts will be directed towards controlling and preventing the misuse of financial resources, controlling and preventing unnecessary expenses, and to increase the salary of the employees from the amount saved after conducting this work in a frugal manner.
- I will also develop a system to evaluate the performance of those who work faithfully in making good governance.
- I will insist on creating a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) system.

- I will try to make a policy to evaluate the work done by the employees working in every government office by evaluating the work done by the employees, their diligence, and hard work from the KPI.
- I will insist on making a policy to revise the public administrative process every 10 to 15 years.

8. Anti-corruption and good governance:

8.1 Income Source Tracing Policy:

Description: Over the past three decades in Nepal, the wealth of a limited number of individuals and groups has been growing exponentially and unimaginably overnight. Most of such income is obtained from illegal activities like corruption, fraud, trading in black market and many more as such. Therefore, I will actively work on the policy to find such corrupted and criminal income sources and go to the root of corruption.

8.2 Whistleblower Policy for Good Governance:

Description: Whistleblowing does not mean blowing an ordinary whistle. This refers to the act of exposing the irregularities that are being planned within the government or other large companies, or wrongdoing of someone inside, to the media and the common citizen influenced by said groups. In the case of Nepal, especially in the bureaucracy, there are certain people who are good, intelligent and responsible employees. They are the reason why our corrupted system hasn't collapsed entirely. This whistleblower policy is for those conscientious people who believe in the rule of law and are trying to bring good governance to the country. Even in countries with strong rules, laws and systems, whistleblowing is done routinely and the protection of whistleblowers is ensured.

- Since the whistleblower policy is necessary in Nepal, as a member of Parliament, I will take the initiative to create such a legal framework.
- Protecting whistleblowers and encouraging whistleblowing against malfeasance at various levels of government and non-government offices.
- Protecting anyone who advocates the rule of law and good governance.

9. Regional, National and International Organizations:

Description: After the declaration of democracy in Nepal, strengthening of international relations, agreements and treaties has been done openly. The United Nations was founded in October 1945 and Nepal became a member nation in December 1955. Nepal has also been participating in international organizations and conferences. It is a member of regional organizations like SAARC, BIMSTEC, BIMSTEC, SASEC as well. The SAARC secretariat is located in Kathmandu. Apart from these, there are other organizations that assist in social and

economic growth. But are we active in such organizations? And have we been able to benefit from these organizations as a country? In this regard, I see myself doing the following after I become a Member of Parliament:

- Policy on making Nepal active in regional, national and international organizations
- Making policies related to being active in bilateral and multilateral international organizations, taking into account national interests, especially encapsulating the desire of the Nepalese for development, and taking the country's geography into vital consideration accordingly.
- If they are beneficial to Nepal, committees started on the basis of mutual consent, national and international laws, should be revived. For example: I will understand the ins and outs of why an old organization like SAARC is inactive and I will present the solutions to those problems in the parliament, the relevant parliamentary committee and the government.
- Analyzing Nepal's strong representation in international agencies and assisting relevant bodies.
- I will be active in the relevant committees and ministries to create a new standard of work review, under which every government agency will send a copy of the work done by them related to international organizations, to the parliament and work towards making policies and directives for its implementation.
- I will create a template of our contribution and achievements in international committees.
- I will help publish a report to the parliament every six months on the role of our organization, whether we have contributed or not and whether we have received what we deserve. This will help us understand our position, in addition to making the role of the organization transparent.
- I will work on the policy related to international relations in clause (d) of Article 51 of the state policies under part 4 of the directive principles, policies and obligations of the state of the Constitution of Nepal. By reviewing the treaties in the past, the way to make treaty agreements on the basis of equality and mutual benefit has been facilitated by the Constitution of Nepal itself. So I will work under this article.

10. Budget allocation:

- To inform the relevant ministries as well as the Ministry of Finance about how much budget is needed to turn the dream we have seen into reality, by submitting a timely and well constructed report.
- Working on the proper structuring of the Socio-cultural system, working on technological development, learning from the past to change the present and properly planning to turn a future dream into reality, all of this will require a lot of resources. So submitting a study report to put a related program in the financial allocation bill is important.

- Advocating to disclose the money spent from the tax collected area, in the annual budget every year.

11. Other agendas:

Matters that an MP advocates as well as recommendations from them, hold major significance within the parliament. Those topics should reflect the state and desires of the country and its citizens. I would like to draw everyone's attention to the following matters:

11.1 Nepalis in foreign land:

- To take initiatives in all three levels of the government and make a policy to open a Brain Back Bank in the matter of creating positions in executive and advisory roles in various agencies of the country with special facilities for those who have acquired advanced education in different universities abroad.
- Introducing easy loan schemes and consulting policies for doing businesses and entrepreneurship in Nepal for people who have returned to Nepal after working overseas for a fixed period of time.
- Initiative to implement voting rights of Nepalis living abroad.

11.2 Environment, Nature and Climate Change

We have clearly felt that the extreme impact of climate change has been on poor and developing countries like Nepal. We must plan only those actions that do not adversely affect the environment. But in addition to that, we should speak up to hold developed countries accountable for excessive pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, adverse damage to poor countries like ours and the decline in agriculture and productivity. Whoever harms the earth more must pay more. The earth belongs to everyone. Thus, I will strongly raise the issue in international conferences and seminars that all countries and their citizens have the right to live here in an equitable manner.

11.2.1 Biopiracy

Description: Because our economic situation is not very strong, in developing and poor countries like ours, big multinational companies come and take the seed formula or seeds from our country and open factories with huge production capacity in their place and patent all rights related to the production. Our farmers are legally brought into prosecution, in addition to having their seeds, production rights and prohibition from production snatched. But they themselves make billions from the same seeds and do not even share the revenue with the farmers. This is called biopiracy.

To discourage biopiracy, we must put a certain Geographical Indication (GI) on our biological produce, for which Nepal should make its own GI policy. I will proceed with the work of making that policy. Geographical Indication means that the indication of the product is based on the geographical origin of any product, food, seed, so that it is easy for the businessmen of that geography to sell their products in the international market. I will proceed to make the necessary policy regarding Geographical Indications in Nepal. In addition, I will submit a study report to the government to make a law to classify them and establish a regulatory body to ensure the protection of our indigenous and endangered seeds.

11.2.2 Conservation Policy of Biologically Endangered Species

Description: Conservation of endangered biological species can bring balance to the environment. When there is an imbalance in our ecosystem, our crops do not grow well, there is a lack of food for wild animals in the forest, which causes them to attack human settlements, and many life-taking situations occur, such as clean water not flowing in rivers and streams. Therefore, to keep our environment in balance, I will study every important biological organism that is endangered and make a conservation policy as an MP according to the obtained reports.

11.2.3 Policy on biohazards and Border Security

Description: The earth does not work only because of humans. We are just a small part of the ecosystem. The rule of nature accommodates different animals, insects, plants and microbes in the environment we live in. We require a special apparatus to see the microbes as they are invisible to naked eyes. Likewise, we should be aware of the infection and diseases caused by plants and animals so that even if some kind of infection starts to spread, we can prevent the long-term damage they can cause. We all know that in the past, due to the lack of necessary regulatory bodies and resources in the open and regular borders of Nepal, Covid-19, SARS, SWINE FLU, Bird Flu and other types of infections have spread amongst humans and animals. Therefore as a member of parliament, I will work on envisioning a regulatory body at border points to control future pandemics and epidemics and their impact on our people.

11.3 Tax System

Description: It has become crucial to digitize the entire tax system of the country. Therefore, starting from a certain sector, the tax system should be gradually and completely digitized. It brings transparency and also makes the government and other stakeholders accountable.

- Formulate policies, guidelines for the complete digitization of the tax system.
- Formulate a policy of not taxing the salary of pregnant women for a certain period.

11.4 For digitization, I will keep raising my voice for the proper and effective formation of Nepal's own server and I will give advice and suggestions to the government in consultation with the concerned agencies.

11.5 Waste Management Company Limited (WMCL): A Waste Management Concept

I will put forth an initiative suggesting the government a plan regarding the formation of a waste management plant company by the federal government, in cooperation with the local government. I will present a study report on the long-term management of waste by creating a Public Private Partnership model and opening an institution that the citizens can take an ownership of.

11.6 Regarding amendment/change of provisions in existing law

- Making a rule that the seats assigned to certain genders, castes and classes cannot be changed when standing in an alliance in elections.
- Advocating to change the definition of coercion and rape
- Advocating to increase or abolish the limit statute of limitations on rape, sexual violence under Article 19 of the Criminal Code Act.

The image is a fundraising campaign poster for an election. It features a portrait of a woman in a red shirt on the left. Below the portrait is a Nepali slogan: "चुनाव चिन्ह 'सेलरोटीको चाड'" (Election Symbol 'Selo Roti's Feast'). In the center is a QR code with the Prabhu Bank logo below it. On the right, under the heading "Account Details", the following information is provided: Name: Ranju Neupane, Bank: Prabhu Bank, Account number: 078021293600011, Branch: New Baneshwor. The entire poster is framed with a red border.

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For Financial Support