

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

The registration of vital events is one of the important source of population information. The other sources of population such as: census and survey provide cross-sectional data i.e. the state of population at a fixed point in time, but vital statistics provides data on a continuous basis. Therefore, these data are very useful in studying population dynamics.

There is a continuous change in the population. These changes, generally, is brought by birth, death, marriage, migration and divorce. So, the events which brings change in human population as well as human life are called vital events. The process of keeping records of all these events is known as Vital Registration (VR). This registration provides the information about the change in population.

A person's entry into the world (by birth) and a person's departure from it (by death) are considered to be vital events, for these events mark the beginning and the end of a person's life. From the demographic point of view, a still birth or a foetal-death is also considered as vital event, because it is related to both the events of birth and death. During the span of life from birth to death, a change may take place in an individual's civil condition, that is, he/she may get married or divorced, or may be adopted. Such events involving changes in the civil status of a person are also considered as vital events.

Vital records may be defined as those concerned with vital events or those which have recorded vital events, such as births, deaths, still births, marriages, divorces, etc. (Bhende and Kanitkar, 2003). The occurrence of a vital event is reported by the persons concerned to the appropriate authorities. For instance, parents report the occurrence of a birth, relatives report a death in the family or an individual report his or her own marriage.

In any society, births, deaths, marriages divorces, and migrations occur continuously. Hence such events are continuously recorded. This recording or registration of vital events is known as the Vital Registration System (VRS). The registered events are compiled and the resulting statistics are known as vital statistics (Bhende and Kanitkar, 2003).

On the other hand, according to UN, "Vital Statistics System is the legal registration, statistical recording and reporting of the occurrence of, and the collection, compilation, analysis, presentation, and distribution of statistics pertaining to 'vital events', which in turn include live births, deaths, foetal deaths, marriages, divorces, adoptions, legitimations, recognitions, annulments, and legal separations" (Shryock, et al. 1975).

The VRS, which is also known as civil registration, is an important tool for studying the dynamics of population. Because of this importance, most of the countries in the world seem to universalize in their country effectively. However, the history of the registration of vital statistics is a fairly long one. In earlier times, the registration of births and deaths in most European countries was done by the Church and other religious bodies. In the fifteenth century, the Archbishop of Toledo introduced registers for the recording of vital events. In 1538, by an order of Thomas Cromwell, the clergy of England was required to record baptisms, weddings and burials. By 1608, the first systematic parish register was established in Sweden, to be followed by similar register in Canada (1610), Finland (1628) and Denmark (1648). Later in the seventeenth century, civil registration was introduced in the colonies of Massachusetts Bay and New Plymouth in the United States. In these civil system, registration was under the charge of government clerks and the events of births, deaths and marriages were recorded rather than the ceremonies associated with these events. England further consolidated (combine) the law in 1686 to make VRS more scientific. In 1804, France adopted Napoleonic code which confirmed the civil rights of people only after the proof of births, marriages and deaths registration. This is an important land - mark in the history of vital registration. In 1837, England adopted vital registration records publishing laws. In 1839, there was the first published report

on the basis of vital registration records by the registrar Dr. William Farr. After in the nineteenth century, several countries in Western Europe and South America adopted the system of civil registration where the responsibility for the registration of vital events rested with the national government.

In the case of India, the registration of vital events was introduced by the British government more than hundred years ago. In the middle of the nineteenth century, administrators began to attach importance to the registration of civil events especially the deaths. Recently, the "Registration of Births and Deaths Act" passed in 1969, extends to the whole India, and makes the registration of births, still births and deaths compulsory. Failure to register such events is punishable under the Act.

In the context of Nepal, the system of civil registration of vital events includes births, deaths, marriages, divorce and migration in a continuous basis and total process of collection, compilation, analysis and publication is termed as Vital Registration System, however, UN has defined vital events to Live Birth, Death, Foetal Death, Marriage, Divorce, Adoption, Legitimation, Recognition, Separation, Annulment of Marriage (MoLD, 2003). Historically, the Village Panchayats were order to register vital events (birth, death and migration) in 1962. In 1964, the CBS has a pilot project on VRS. At the current situation, the office of registrars are under the Ministry of Local Development at the central level. The offices of village development committee and municipalities are also the registrars at local levels. A continuous VRS since April 1978 (2034 Baishakh 1) is in use.

Because of multiple significance of vital registration, most of the countries in the world seem to universalize the system in their country effectively. However, few of the countries especially first world countries are succeed in the effort. Countries like the USA, the UK, Canada, France, Sweden, Japan, Australia, etc. have made the system effective through which reliable demographic analysis are made possible. In many developing countries a sizable number of births and deaths are not reported, hence the records remains incomplete and imperfect (Bhende and Kanitkar, 2003).

## **1.2 Importance of Vital Registration**

After a vital event is reported and registered, a certificate is issued to the person concerned. Such registration of vital event has a dual importance: individual importance on the one hand and national importance on the other.

### **1.2.1 Individual Importance**

For the individual, the certificate of vital event plays an important role. For instance, after the birth is reported and registered, a birth certificate is prepared for the parents or guardians. Such a certificate is useful as a legal document having evidentiary value. This is the proof of the fact of his/her birth, is one of the most important uses of a birth certificate. Also, it is the best proof of his/her age. The birth certificate is also useful in establishing a person's nationality or citizenship for obtaining a passport. It is moreover, a legal proof for establishing family relationship, and is especially useful for settling question of inheritance or insurance claims. Also, by obtaining citizenship certificate depending on birth certificate, a individual can participate in social programmes (e.g., family allowances, tax benefits, education, service, care and protection of children, right to insurance benefits).

Similarly, a death certificate is required for the disposal of a dead body. In fact, it provides legal evidence of the fact circumstances of death. It is also required for settling questions of inheritance or insurance claims. Sometimes, it is used for demonstrating the right of the surviving spouse to re-marry and for the support of claims for other benefits which may be predicated on the death of an individual. A marriage certificate is useful for establishing the marital status of a person and the legitimacy of the children born through marriage. Also, records of marriage is useful for such purpose as receipt of alimony allowances, claims for tax benefits, provision and allocation of housing or other benefits related to marital status of a couple and changing national status of a couple, and changing nationality on the basis of marriage. In addition, records of divorces are important for establishing the right of an individual to re-marry and to be released from financial and other obligations incurred by the other party.

Hence, in a modern complex society, an evidentiary document such as a birth certificate, death certificate, marriage certificate etc. is absolutely essential, as a person is required to establish his/her right to citizenship and nationality and his/her place in the society, especially with respect to his/her privileges and duties as a member of that society.

### **1.2.2 National Importance**

For the development of a nation, different kinds of policies, plans and targets are needed. In order to make such policies, plans and targets, a regular source of data on population is needed, so that the achievement of previous planned programme also can be evaluated. There are such sources that they are either cross - sectional or expensive and tedious to obtain the reliable data. For instances, census is conducted in 5 or 10 years interval in which huge national resources should be needed and the processing of data takes long time when the socio-economic and demographic situation may have been changed drastically. Similarly, surveys can provide limited information at a specified time in the limit sample people. On the other hand, vital registration is such source which can provide data on regular basis even in smallest standard unit of area. Also, from VRS, demographic structure, size and trends are found regularly and the wide information is collected related with the registered events. So, seasonal, monthly, yearly change in socio-economic and demographic situation can be drawn from civil registration data.

Similarly, from the analysis of birth registration, influence and effectiveness of family planning programme, evaluation fertility rate and different factors of fertility differentials can be studied. In addition to the documentation of name, parentage and nationality for every child, the written document of birth date and consequently age - provides a source for a greater degree of accuracy in a wide range of age-related data needed for administrative purpose as well as statistical and epidemiological uses derived from such sources. Also, birth records are the basis for many community based public health programmes for post - natal care of mother and child, and may be used, when needed, for programmes of vaccination and immunization, premature-baby care, assistance to disabled persons.

The death certificate usually contains information on the cause of death. On the basis of which we can find the cause of death, the further research of medical science, arrangement of medical facilities according to mobility in the specific place in the specific time can be performed effectively. Death records are also necessary to clear a number of administrative files, such as disease - case registers, population registers, social security files, military service files, electoral rolls, identity files and tax registers. From the marriage registration, nuptiality trends, patterns and differentials can be found. Meanwhile, mean age at marriage, proportion of usual marriage type, age difference between husband and wife etc. are found and can be analyzed. Administratively, marriage records are used as proof of the formation of a marital bond, and may be needed to initiate family benefit programmes related to health, housing etc. From the registration of migration, the flow of migration from and to the major areas can be found. Similarly, the density of those areas can be observed, analyzed and predicted, which helps to manage overmigrated areas. Because of the increased national and international mobility of the population, vital records certificate, especially for the migrant, have taken on additional importance, which can prove his/her civil status and nationality.

Hence, data on vital records (i.e. vital statistics) is very much useful for policy makers, planners, administrators in the fields other than those of public health, especially for planning physical facilities, educational facilities, provision for food supply etc. Social, economic and health conditions of any society can also be known from its birth and death rates, and by an analysis of the causes of death, marriage, divorce and migration. This helps to expand the social and economical infrastructure, material infrastructure facilities, making investment policies and projections, to make an effective public management system and for other various activities.

### **1.2.3 Human Rights**

Vital Registration System plays an important role in human rights. For every government, it is the responsibility to guarantee the human rights in the country. Some important rights mentioned in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Child Rights depend on the vital registration. Mainly the rights are:

- Right to registration of birth,
- Right to name /identity,
- Right to citizenship,
- Right to security from parents and elders,
- Right to education,
- Equal right to legality,
- Right to social security, etc.

Neither the Universal Declaration of Human Rights nor the related International Covenants make any specific reference to the right to register a death. However, the right has been asserted in International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The right to register the death is also implicit in connection with the exercise of other human rights such as right to inherit and those arising from social security system and the collection of insurance.

Similarly, the right to register a marriage is not included as such in the International Human Rights Covenants. However, the Declarations of the United Nations General Assembly on the subject of the registration of the marriages are: the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (1967), and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women. On the other hand, resolution 843 (IX) of 1954 of the United Nations General Assembly on the status of women in private law urged governments to establish a register of divorces. Further, this revolutions also recommended by the Economic and Social Council in 1965. (UN, 1998)

Countries who have signed the declaration have inalienable responsibility to provide and preserve inalienable human rights. Further, in order to secure above mentioned rights, various important conventions like World Conference on Population held in Bucharest in 1974, UN Convention on ECOSOC in 1979, Mexico Convention on Population in 1984, and Cairo Convention on Population and Developments in 1994 have urged all governments to establish, improve, expand and regularize the Civil Registration System. Hence, realizing the importance of study in the dynamic process of demographic variables, agencies like UNFPA, WHO, PRB,

UNICEF, Plan International, Save the Children, among others are contributing in assisting and making hand in hand to the governments for the extension and improvement of Civil Registration System.

### **1.3 Situation Analysis of Vital Registration in Nepal**

Vital Registration System consists of two matters that 'publicity of registrations' and 'practical use of statistics'. An ideal vital registration should be precise and quick. However, vital registration in Nepal is inferior both in quality and quantity. As it is depending on an investigation of the Home Ministry that is done in 1989, only less than 14 percent residents registered it even during the investigation period. A resident registers many years later after occurrence of an event, so it is difficult exactly to analyze a data (JOCVN, 1996). Penalty of not registering a vital event is nominal and the use of registration certificate is also limited (MoPE, 2002). Information to sensitize people about the importance of vital registration is limit where most of the illiterate people are dwelling. One noticeable aspect is that there is very limit media to rural areas of Nepal and the access of those devices are in the hand of few people. Further, illiterate people cannot understand every message advertised to sensitize people either because of the media language is different from their mother tongue or because of memory lapse. In this matter visible media like television, video, etc. seems better than non-visible i.e. radio, FM, etc. But in these areas, visible media and devices are rarely accessible. As a consequence, most of the events are not registered or even if they are registered, they are registered very late, that is, years after the events have taken place.

At the same time, very little evolution studies have been carried out in this regard and recently, no evaluation studies regarding the effectiveness of coverage and improvement of the VRS has been done. Thus, it is difficult to know the percentage of under registration of vital events and whether it is improving or deteriorating. Thus, the data obtained from VRS are not used for demographic analysis.

The data obtained from the VRS over the years have been summarized in Table 1.1.



**Table 1.1 :Vital Events Registered since 2035-2061 BS in Nepal**

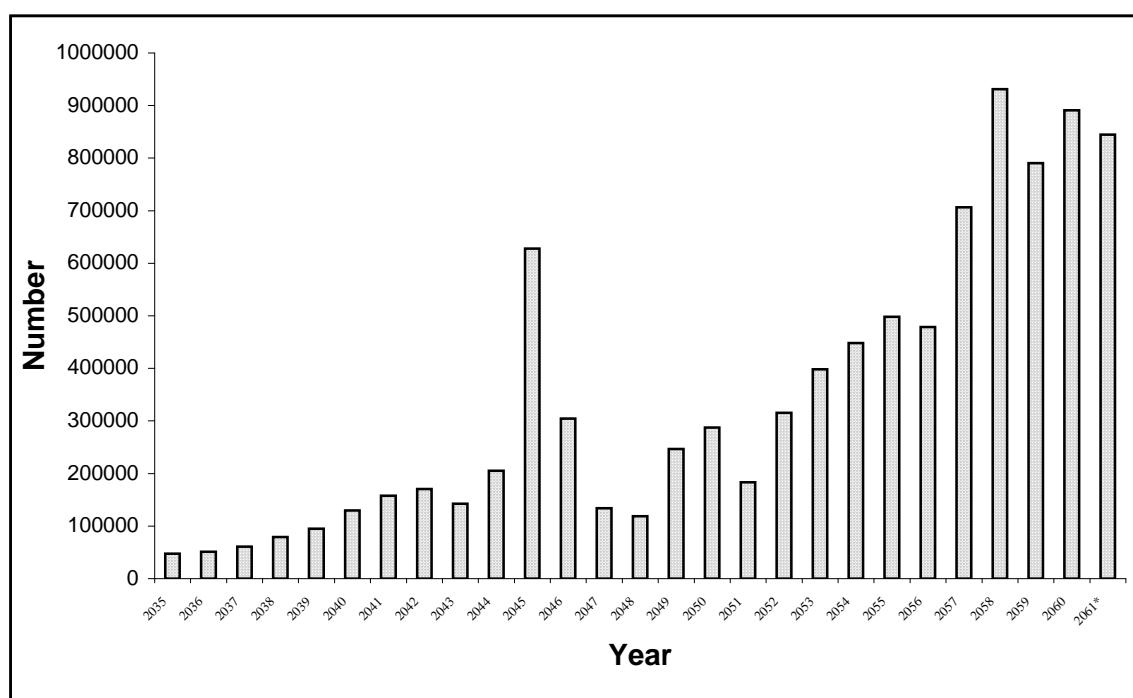
Year	Birth	Death	Marriage	Migration	Divorce	Total	Districts covered
2035	36310	6643	4269	0	0	47222	10
2036	36876	10511	3860	0	0	51247	17
2037	43517	12698	4525	0	0	60740	25
2038	54202	170132	8231	0	0	79465	34
2039	68010	18119	8651	0	0	94780	40
2040	67778	16071	10346	5628	0	129823	40
2041	108325	20181	14499	14932	0	157937	40
2042	126613	23466	15975	4679	21	170754	40
2043	103374	18719	14780	5443	12	142334	40
2044	150023	23319	24018	7714	15	205089	40
2045	445642	37162	116695	2876	11	628186	40
2046	204198	27067	48475	24968	14	304722	40
2047	84818	20154	20540	8561	0	134073	75
2048	68814	23566	16599	9667	31	118677	75
2049	177285	50182	33558	15556	71	246652	75
2050	188897	45900	33612	18930	57	287396	75
2051	116387	30830	22836	13289	33	183375	75
2052	179671	52650	49697	33443	108	315569	75
2053	222592	76730	61895	3711	82	398411	75
2054	270886	57821	79086	40487	38	448318	75
2055	301382	65447	80556	50685	18	498088	75
2056	295415	63857	79638	39735	50	478695	75
2057	488299	63178	702182	52591	41	706291	75
2058	688531	69874	121131	51346	57	930939	75
2059	563021	66993	113669	46738	104	790525	75
2060	620595	71031	143097	5643	97	891063	75
2061*	600395	73592	125644	44707	137	844475	75
Total	6311856	1062793	1358070	611130	997	9344846	

Source: MoLD, 2005

\* MoLD, 2006

From the Table 1, it is observed that the level of registration of vital events in Nepal has increased gradually in the later years. This trend has been shown in figure 1. In initial year 2035 BS, the total registered vital events were 47,222, which has gone up 628,186 in 2045 BS. Then it fell to the lower level in 2048 BS and than started to increase. In 2061 BS, total event registered were 844475 among them 600,395 were births, 73,592 were deaths, 125,644 were marriages, 44,707 were migrations, and only 137 events were divorce cases.

**Figure 1 : Trend in Civil Registration in Nepal 2035-2061 BS**



#### 1.4 Statement of the Problem

Since 29 years of existence of VRS, the coverage of registration of event is far to be met. There is coverage of area in the nation for civil registration to 75 districts only since 2047 BS. i.e. after the restoration of democracy.

Despite the importance of registration for individual as well as nation, the data obtained from VRS can not be used. A person registers the event many years later when he need a certificate of an event. We can find from the record that so many persons have register the birth event after 12 to 18 years or 6-8 years later of the birth. It is evident that the birth is registered when birth certificate is needed either enrolling

children in school or taking citizenship certificate. Similarly, the deaths are not registered either because there is no property in the dead person's name or because there is no relatives or eligible person to inform. Further a rare event of female death is registered because still female are lacking their own identity and property even if her husband or any male is alive in her house. Marriage cases are not registered or registered lately because most of the female are agrarian and they don't need any registration certificate and to take citizenship related to her husband. On the other hand, there is a very rare case of divorce. If the divorce is common in the society, most couple would register immediately because of fear of divorce or as a proof of marriage in the case of disharmony in their relationship.

Lastly, migration is not registered because there is freedom to buy and sell property anywhere inside the country. And there is no objection to use public resource and facilities to migrant. If any individual needs, the certificate of any event he/she will register. Even he/she has knowledge about registration, he/she does not register the event unless he/she does not need any certificate because he/she thinks that it is worthless and it is for others or nation. In the more remote rural areas, because of difficult geographical territory, it takes long time to arrive at local registrar's office (i.e. at VDC office) to register an event. So, it is also a barrier of not registering the vital event.

There are lots of INGOs, NGOs, CBOs, and other groups to rise about the other issues like family planning, HIV/AIDS, child labour, women's status, etc., and the studies have been carried out for the purpose to improve the respective global issues. But the very few agencies and governments hardly can take responsibility for the improvement of VRS. Few literatures are available in the subject of VRS. So, among at drawing an attention to concerned individuals, agencies, government and others, the problem is identified and attempted in the study.

## **1.5 Objectives of the Study**

Generally, the objective of the study is to access the status of the vital registration in the study area and to provide the direction for the improvement of VRS according to the findings of the study.

The other specific objectives are:

- To analyze the trend in Vital Registration,
- To analyze the civic knowledge on Vital Registration in the study area.
- To analyze the administrative efficiency of Vital Registration System,
- To analyze the behavior and the practices of Vital Registration,
- To analyze the attitudes of the people towards existent Vital Registration System.

## **1.6 Significance of the Study**

This study provides an assessment in-depth study in the area, which may represent other places to some extent. During the time of survey, it was aimed not only the collect information but appropriate information regarding vital events were given to users after filing the questionnaire. This study provides the picture of civil registration status, knowledge and attitude about the government programme on the subject among the respondent in the study area. Therefore, this report may be a guideline for policy - making programme for government, policy makers, respective agencies and individuals who are studying in this subject. This may become an interesting topic for researcher and readers. Since, very less study has been carried out in this subject in Nepal, this study has tried to attract an attention of population related student in this issue.

## **1.7 Limitations of the Study**

This study mainly focuses on VRS especially in terms of trend, effectiveness, knowledge, behaviour and attitude. Since, this is an small level study in an individual level, it is impossible to cover the area nationally, or even in district level. Sample area is choosen as Bharatpur Municipality. This case study can also be generalized to the similar socio-economic, geographical situational area. Because of coverage of small area, the result can not be generalized in other dissimilar areas. Also, no care of divorce is found in the study area. So, information about divorce is not included although it is taken as vital event.

## **1.8 Organization of the Study**

This study is organized into six chapters. The first chapter deals with background of the study, importance of vital registration, VRS in Nepal, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study and organization of the study.

The second chapter deals with literature review in which theoretical literature, empirical literature, conceptual framework and research questions are included.

The third chapter concerned with methodology of the study which includes sources of data, study area, sampling method and sampling size, research instruments, etc.

Similarly, chapter four provides background characteristics of the respondents and fifth chapter analyzes the data about vital registration trend, knowledge and practice of respondents. At last, sixth chapter presents the summary of findings, conclusions and recommendations.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Theoretical Literature**

Because the study depends upon deductive as well as inductive methods of research and because a research is a reproduction of new knowledge in the existing knowledge, this study has carried out deeply on the problem seeking out to the existing literatures. To find out the way of conducting research and collecting more information on the issue to fulfill the objectives, many available literature are reviewed as far as possible.

#### **2.2 Vital Registration in Different Countries**

The registration of vital events was started from Europe in fifteen century. Until 1662 the records were not used for statistical purpose. After then, for the better and reliable statistics, it was experienced that the registration of vital events should be continuous, compulsory, permanent and universal. Keeping this in mind, many countries had made strong laws for the registration of vital events.

In England and Wales, centralized registration system was established in 1837 through the creation of the General Registrar Office by an Act in 1836 (Registration Act and the Marriage Act of 1836). This legislation was amended Birth and Death Registration Act of 1874, which is particular, placed the responsibility for registration of births upon the parents instead of on the local registrars (Wolfenden, 1954). Effective civil registration commenced in Scotland and Ireland in 1855 and 1864 respectively.

In Canada, the British Columbia civil registration system began in 1872 under legislation entitled "An Act Respecting the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages in the Province of British Columbia". (VPL, 2006). Here, birth, death and marriage are taken as vital events.

According to Wolfenden, 1954, because the attainment of nation-wide registration has been a problem of inter-state-co-operation, the American Public

Health Association in 1895 suggested a model State Bill. It dealt with only registration of births and deaths, so the Bureau of the Census in 1938 recommended to the state of a Uniform Vital Statistics Act covering marriages and divorces as well as births and deaths (also still births) as vital events. It embodied the Model State Bill to authorize records the data on births, deaths, still births, marriages, divorce and annulments of marriages as vital events and use of vital statistics as evidence.

Prior to the 1950, vital registration hardly functioned in China. In 1957, vital registration was expanded to several large cities. In 1987, the Ministry of Health established a VRS to record the facts and causes of deaths. At present, VRS covers 41 cities and 85 counties adjacent to large cities. The total population covered by this system in 2000 was about 110 million, half in cities and half in rural counties, which occupies only 8 percent of the national population (Yang, et al. 2005).

In Bangladesh the first law of registration of birth was enacted in 1873. Under this law, the registration of births was very low. The parliament of Bangladesh approved a new Births and Deaths Registration Law in 2004. This law considers the birth and death as vital event. The new law on births and deaths registration includes an enforcement clause that any person providing false information or refuse to register without appropriate cause should be fined. It is expected that this clause will encourage people to register. However, the rate of registration of births in Bangladesh remains at a very low that is, only 9 percent as of December 2005 (Plan-Bangladesh, 2006).

In 1886, the government of India introduced the Births, Deaths and Marriage Registration Act, which served very little purpose, for registration under this Act was purely voluntary. Recently, the 'Registration of Births and Deaths Act' passed in 1969, extends to the whole of India and makes the registration of births, still births and deaths compulsory. Failure to register such an event is punishable under the Act (Bhende and Kanitkar, 2003).

Though any failure to register births and deaths is punishable by law, the coverage of registration of vital events in India is very far from satisfactory. The

extent of non-reporting of vital events is found to be very high in rural areas, one of the cause of this is mass illiteracy (Bhende and Kanitkar, 2003).

In 2000 alone, some 50 million births went unregistered-over 40 percent of all estimated birth world wide that year. These unregistered children and almost always from poor, marginalized or displaced families or from countries where systems of registration and not in place or functional. In south Asia, over 40 percent of the world's unregistered birth in 2000 (UNICEF, 2003). This shows that many vital events are not registered. In 1994-95, less than one third of the Asian countries were known to have reliable registration (Bhende and Kanitkar, 2003).

## **2.3 Vital Registration System in Nepal**

### **2.3.1 Historical Background**

Vital Registration Act in Nepal was passed in 2033 (1976/77) and implemented or activated from 2034 BS (1977/76) (MoPE, 2002). It was realized that the significance and needs of individual records of registered events officially in the national level. However, at first the legal establishment and implementation of keeping records of civil events was started by the Village Panchayat Act 2018 BS, Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) conducted a pilot project in three districts (Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur) in 2020 BS, to register the vital events. But the programme of the project was stopped working on the areas. In 2028 BS (1971/72), Family Planning and Maternal Child Welfare Project lunched a programme of registering vital events which was aimed at evaluating family planning. But the programme was canceled in 2032 BS reasoning that the work was not in the criteria of the project.

In 2034 BS, vital registration division was established inside Home Ministry to bear the responsibility of recording civil events. According to the law passed in 2033 BS (1976/77) and regulation passed in 2034 BS (1977/78), vital registration in Nepal was lunched in 1<sup>st</sup> Baishakh 2034 BS (April 13, 1977) with coverage of ten districts. The programme coverage was gradually expanded to 17 districts in 2035 BS (1978/79), 25 districts in 2036 BS (1979/80), 34 districts in 2037 BS (1980/81), 59



districts in 2038 BS (1981/82) and 75 districts (nation wide coverage) was covered from Baishakh 1, 2047 BS (i.e. April 14, 1990) after the restoration of democracy.

Again, the government transferred the job regarding VRS from Home Ministry to Ministry of Local Development (MoLD) in 1993 i.e. from Shrawan 1, 2050 BS. Then the MoLD had a responsibility of quickly and effective completion of the system. For this purpose, it established Vital Registration Section inside the MoLD and appointed Registrar. A manager of Vital Registration Section is a registrar of Nepal.

Now at each district there is a unit of vital registration that District Development Committee (DDC) (75 units) manages. There are units of civil registration in each municipality and each VDC that belongs to the DDC. There is a Local Registrar (LR) at each office and has a responsibility at each area. A LR has an authority to hand over the certificate to informants. The registered forms that the Local Registrars send in their respective districts are arranged by DDC and been sent to MoLD.

### **2.3.2 Legal Provision**

Vital Registration Act in Nepal 2033 BS (1976/77) had been implemented, in order to develop in a systematic manner throughout the country. In addition, with the implementation of this law, VR Rules were made in 2034 BS (1977/78). Similarly, the rules are included in VDC and Nagarpalika Ains' so as to indicate the duties of VDCs and Municipalities registering the events. By the registration of records in an authorized book provides a proof of the events and the proof will help to unit the legal system so that the law would not bear the obstacles. Some important Acts in Nepal as a law in order to reduce the obstacles in the process of registration of vital events, which was passed 2033 BS and amended in 2037 BS and 2048 BS for the first and second time respectively. The main articles of this act are as follows:

Act 2 : Definition : If the term is not used for other purpose,

- A. The term 'vital events' should be known as birth, death,

marriage, divorce and migration of an individual.

- B. 'Migration' should be known as the process of shifting from one VDC or municipality to another VDC or municipality within the country or migration to abroad or entering into the country from the abroad for more than 6 months period.
- C. 'Registrar' is known as the personal (Registrar or Local Registrar) nominated according to Act. No. 3.

Act 3 : Registrar and Local Registrar: In order to use this act, HMG can nominate a registrar and under his supervision nation wide in every VDC and municipality LRs can nominated.

Act 4 : Information on the Vital Events:

1. In the following situation, following individuals should inform filling the form within 35 days of occurrence of an event at the Local Registrar Office:
  - A. The information on birth and death should be given by household head (HH) and in his/her absence among male adults in the households, the older one should inform,
  - B. The information on marriage by both husband and wife,
  - C. The information on divorce by any one of the couple,
  - D. The information on migration should be provided by HH in case of family migration and migrated person should inform in case of individual migration.
2. If the event occurs outside from Nepal, (according to Sub-Act 1), the responsible person as indicated in Sub-Act-1 should inform within 60 days when he/she comes in Nepal.
3. The responsible person as indicated in Sub-Act 1 can refer other person for the registration of an event.

Act 5 : Registration of Vital Events:

1. After getting the information according with Act-4, the LR registers the events on related register according as:
  - A. To check whether the form filled by the informant is correct or not and correct it if it is not.
  - B. If the informant is illiterate, registrar fills the form himself or ask to fill and thumb sign of informant's on it.
2. While registering divorce, verdict of the court with respect to divorce case should be observed.
3. As prescribed in Act 4 Sub-Act (1) or (2), if a person comes within 35 days after the prescribed date, the event should be registered by LR taking fees of Rs. 8.
4. Boyound the out of criteria, if a person comes to register an event after the times as indicated in Sub- Act (3), the LR can register the event taking an approximate fine of Rs. 50.

Act 6: Providing Certificates:

According to Act 5, LR will hand a certificate recently after registering the event over the person as indicated by Act 4 Sub-Act (1) for free.

Act 7 : Duplicate Certificates of Registered Event Cans be Given:

1. In the loss or destroy of the certificate handed according to the Act 6, an application should be given by the responsible person in the LR's office.
2. With respect to the application field according to Sub-Act (1), LR can given duplicate certificate taking a prescribed fee if he sees the application correct and true.

Act 9 : Validity of Registration:

Certificate of registration will be valid as a proof of any office and court or can be used in personal work.

9.A. Registered name, age and caste can be corrected:

1. The birth of a baby taken place after the date of this act's implementation and if the birth is once registered, the name, age and caste of the baby can be corrected before 6 months of registration if responsible person gives application to the LR.
2. The application filed according to Act 9 (A) Sub Act (1) will be investigated. After investigation the application filed according to Sub-Act (1), the LR can give the birth certificate correcting in the register for free.
3. Beyond the rule of this act, the existent name, age and caste prevalent in the register and given certificate according to this act can not be corrected by any other prevalent laws.

Act 13 : Punishment:

2. If somebody gives the wrong information on vital events of others for his self benefit or aiming at deceiving others and if the information proved to be a fake, the informant will be fined an approximate Rs. 100 or one month imprisonment or both and if the event was already registered, the registration will be cancelled.
3. If somebody destroys information form or Register book or family list intentionally for his self benefit, which were in his/her responsibility to care, he will be punished for 3 months imprisonment or fine of Rs. 300 to 600 or both.
4. If somebody disturbs (makes obstacles) to eligible informants coming to register the event, he will be punished for an approximate Rs. 200 in case of the disturbance is proved.

(Note : The above mentioned main acts of legal provisions are non-official translation and expected that the translation does not given different meanings).

After obtaining the main articles of legal provision about VRS, there arise some questions as: Is this enough or not ? Is this reaches to all individuals or not ? Is the use of vital certificates, to the related field, compulsory or not ? etc. Hence, the

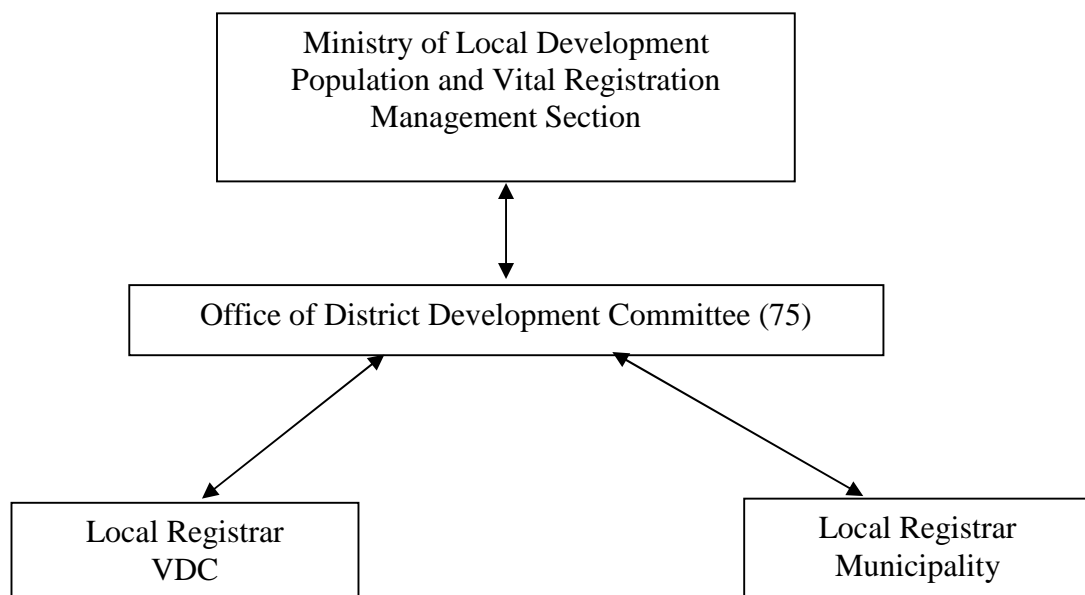
existing legal provision seems to be review according to the demands of time and situation.

### 2.3.3 Existing Organizational Management

At present, the Registrar's Office is the main agency responsible for the implementation of the system. This office is placed under MoLD as a section of Population and Vital Registration Management. This central level office has 11 staffs including registrar.

At the district level, the office of DDC is responsible for collecting and managing the forms of the districts and sending the records at Central level office. Generally, there are two staffs at this office for each, all total there are 80 manpower, in DDCs. Similarly, all total 26 manpower in municipality level in the country. At VDC level, the authority has given to the secretary for registering vital events. (MoLD, 2003).

For the better performance in vital registration, there should be continuous communication among the related institutions. The relation among these institutions for the communication of information about vital registration programme from local level to central level can be shown as:



Source: MoLD, 2005.

## 2.4 Empirical Literature

The VRS is a reliable, continuous and cost effective source of demographic data, which also secure the social and individual human right of any individual who registered the event. Despite its importance, the VRS is very weak in Nepal.

In Nepal, there is still 45.9 percent of illiteracy (CBS, 2005). Even the people know that the vital events should be registered, they don't think it's importance if they don't need any certificate.

Infant mortality rate in Nepal is 64.4 percent per 1000 live birth and crude birth rate is 30.62 percent per 1000 population (CBS, 2005), which are considered as very high. Many people register the birth of baby after baby grows up to the age to be allowed to enroll in the school. So, it is very difficult to calculate birth rate and almost impossible to calculate IMR using registered data. On the other hand, most of the births and deaths occur not at hospital but at home where family cannot recognize cause or killer disease. So, it is difficult to analyze the major cause of death.

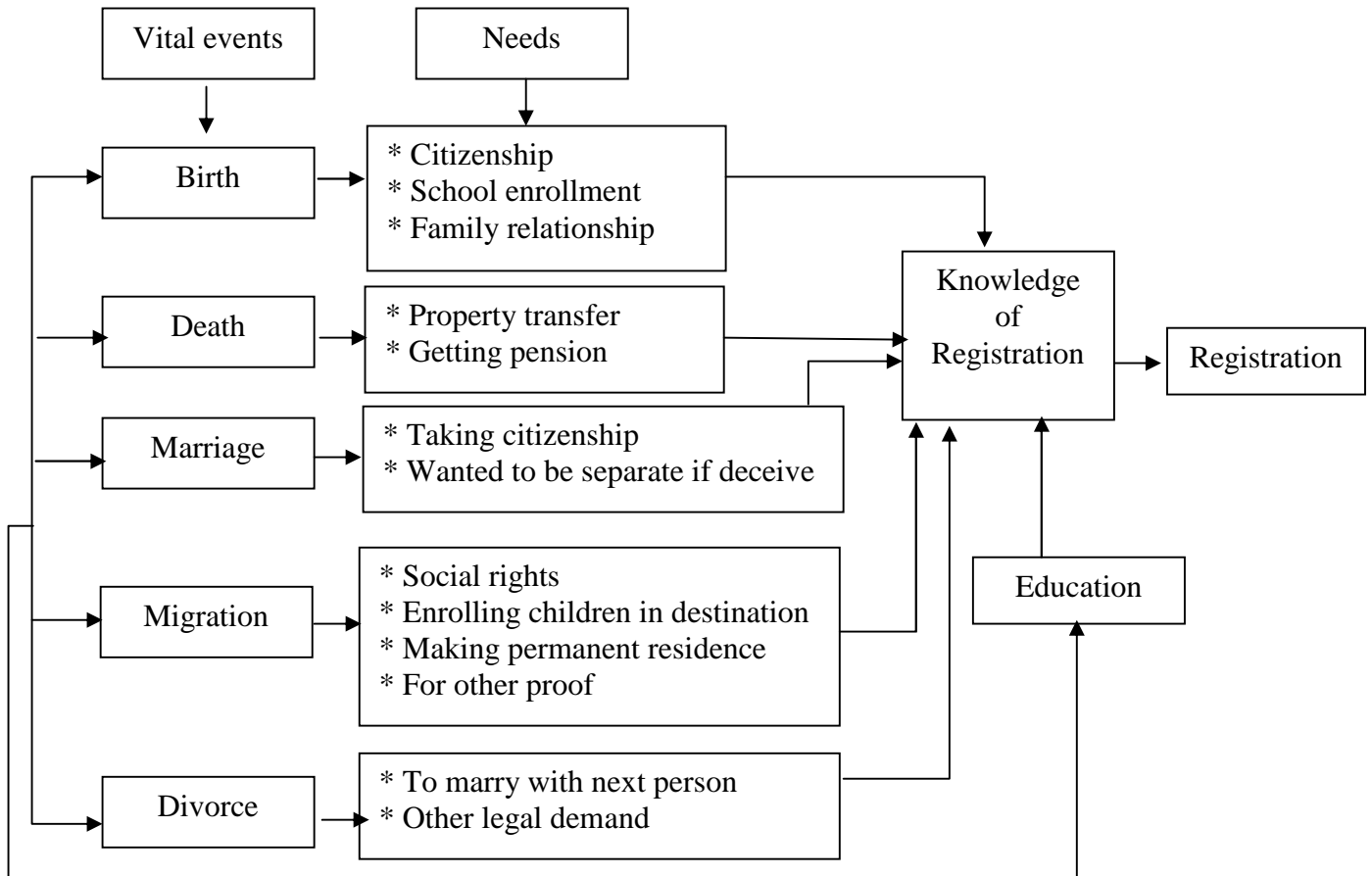
A resident of Nepal registers an event when he/she needs certificates of events. So, the more births were found to be registered after 6 or 12 or 16 years of occurrence of the event. At that time, because of memory lapse, information may not be valid. Accordingly, death is registered when the assets of the dead person have to be transfer to other's, migration is mainly registered when they need migration certificate. Marriage is mainly registered when both spouse are going abroad and they need certificate for other purpose.

Bohara, 2005, had conducted a research in Kirtipur municipality. He found that about 95 percent of the respondents have heard about vital registration . Among the total events (121) occurred, only about 34 percent were registered officially. He also found that the main cause of not registering the event was no need of registration certificate.

In most of the rural area of Nepal, people get citizenship certificate and enroll into school without birth certificate. Because of difficult geographical territory, people might have long hours trip for the registration of an event leaving their daily work for

a day and even they cannot be sure that either the LR or forms are in the office or not. So, they either never register or postpone it to their leisure time.

## 2.5 Conceptual Framework



## 2.6 Research Questions

To fulfill the given objectives, the study attempted to answer the following research questions:

- i. What is the proportion of respondents having knowledge of Civil Registration ?
- ii. What are the main sources of information to Civil Registration ?
- iii. The proportion of Civil Events registered with in one year ?
- iv. The proportion of Civil Events registered in proper time in the study area ?
- v. How the people perceive about Civil Events ?

## **CHAPTER III**

### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction of the Study Area**

Bharatpur municipality lies in Chitwan district as district headquarter, which is situated at central region of Nepal. This municipality is in central point from different other cities such as Butwal, Pokhara, Gorkha, Birjung, Kathmandu etc. From capital city Kathmandu, it is not so far, it is only 146 km apart in west-south direction. The East - West Mahendra Highway crosses out this municipality, in which the highway from Kathmandu meets. This municipality is expanded in 162 square km area. In Eastern part of this municipality some area of evergreen forest, as well as Ratnagar Municipality, Jutpani and Bachhauri VDCs are lie. Gitangar, Phulbari and Patihani VDCs are lie in west boundary. Royal Chitwan National Park (RCNP), which is a best place for tourism, lies in southern boundary. The holi river Narayani and holi place Devghat are the northern boundary of this municipality. The RCNP, holy place Devghat, holi river Narayani, all make this municipality beautiful and lovely place.

Bharatpur was established as Nagar-Panchayat in 2035 BS and in 2048 BS with expanded area, it was established as municipality (Nagarपालिका), which has 14 wards. Although Tharu, Derai, Kumal, Chepang, etc are ethnic groups in this area, due to the migrated people from other places, especially from hilly area, these groups has become nominal.

Topographically, Bharatpur municipality is plain area with different types of land i.e. cultivated and non-cultivated land. This municipality is facilitated by various infrastructures (i.e. road, electricity, schools, campus, hospitals, etc.) but some area are still lacking telephone and public transport.

Demographically, there are 19,922 households with the total population 89,323 constituting 45,858 males and 43,465 females according to census 2001 (CBS, 2003). The sex ratio of this municipality is 105 per 100 females. There were 75 caste /ethnic groups found in 2001 census in which majority of population is Brahman hill accounted for 43.3 percent followed by Chhetri (12.1%), Newar (11.3%). Other



caste/ethnic groups such as Gurung, Magar, Tharu, Tamang, Thakuri, Kami, Sarki, etc. also live in this area. In terms of religion, Hindu constitute 86.5 percent followed by Buddhist (11.3%) and Islam (1.2%). Other religions Kirat, Jain, Christian etc also found. Majority of the population speak Nepali language (80.3%). The literacy status among the people 6 yrs. and above is 77.3 percent which is greater than national level (54.1%) (CBS, 2004). Again, the household density (number of household per square km) is 122.9 and population density is 551.4.

### **3.2 Nature and Source of Data**

The study was carried out in the field so the data used in analysis are from primary source. However, some secondary source of data are used to analyze the national trend on registration. Because of difficulty in covering a large area in an individual study, the area of only one municipality was chosen i.e. Bharatpur municipality in Chitwan district. The nature of data are mostly quantitative. Some open-ended questions were also asked so as to draw a qualitative analysis and for the purpose to draw a conclusion from the people's perspective. Literature review chapter totally based on the review of secondary source. But the generalization of the study is based on the findings from the field.

### **3.3 Sampling Method and Sample Size**

The purpose of sampling should represent all the population of a sample area. In this study, the same principle was considered. Because of highly denser area covering of every household having a vital event during one year preceding the survey was a difficult task. That's why determining the sample size of 140 household, purposive sampling method was adopted to select the household having vital cases during the reference period. Only 10 households were selected purposely from each ward (total 14 wards) of the municipality. Household head was chosen as respondent but in the case where the household head couldn't be met, any member who knows well about the household activities was asked the questions. Mainly, if the birth was occurred in the household during one year (from Chaitra 2061 to Phalgun 2062 BS.) preceding the survey, either mother or father of the baby was asked about the event.

In the household where the marriages were occurred, either bridegroom or bride was chosen as respondent. Similarly, in the households where migrations and deaths were occurred, the household heads were selected as respondents. In the case when respondent couldn't respond properly, the person who registered the event was asked about the information so as to find out better response.

There were 19,922 households in Bharatpur municipality according to census 2001. Among them, in 140 households where at least one vital event was occurred during a year preceding the survey were chosen purposely as a study population. Among them, only 9 households were found having occurred two events during the reference period.

### **3.4 Research Tools and Instruments**

A semi-structured questionnaire was developed for the study. The structures as well as language of the questionnaire was mainly based on the translation of the questions developed by Home Ministry in 2049 BS which was set up while conducting a survey named "Vyaktigat Ghatana Darta Namuna Sarvekshan." Necessary modification was done to accommodate the study population in view of the objectives of the study. Most of the questions of the study were close-ended. However, some open-ended questions were also used. Questionnaire was developed in English and asked in Nepali and some time the necessary help was taken from local friend at the time of interview. Pencils, erasers and sharpeners were used to fill up the responses for the purpose to correct suspected and recalled answers.

### **3.5 Field Operation**

Field work was conducted from Phalgun 26 to Chaitra 16, 2062. For quality control, more than 10 interviews were not conducted in a day. Taking help from local people, household having vital events in reference period was searched. After the search of related households, related respondents were selected and by asking few primary questions that were not included in the questionnaire, in order to become familiar, the respondents were interviewed. Researcher himself has asked the questions to the interviewers. A careful and cross-checking was done during and after

the interview to conform the reference period. In some households, respondents were hesitating to respond correctly and easily. In such cases, the purpose of the study was cleared them.

### **3.6 Data Management and Analysis**

The questionnaire were pre-coded, but in case of open-ended questions, coding was done after the completion of field work. For the analysis of data, at first, different types of dummy tables were designed that could present data on different ways. Finally, the model was approved that showed the different aspect of VRS. Then, the classification and counting was done with the help of tally bars, as it is done traditionally, to generate tables. After generating tables, for the analysis of data, frequency and percentages are used. From the tables descriptive analysis has been made to observe the trend and situation of VRS. Data are displayed through figures wherever felt necessary.

**CHAPTER IV**  
**BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS**

This chapter presents the socio-economic and demographic background of the respondents. In this study, the respondents are those who responded about their household events like birth, death, marriage and migration. Respondent's age and sex, caste/ethnicity, religion, literacy and educational attainment, occupation, family size, etc. status are discussed.

**4.1 Age and Sex**

Age and sex of the respondents may have a great impact on the status of registration of vital events. That's why information on age and sex were collected among the respondents which is tabulated in Table 4.1.

**Table 4.1: Distribution of Respondents by Age and Sex**

Age group	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
15-19	3	2.1	2	2.0	1	2.4
20-24	19	13.6	8	8.2	11	26.2
25-29	27	19.3	17	17.4	10	23.8
30-34	24	17.1	16	16.3	8	19.1
35-39	15	10.7	13	13.3	2	4.8
40-44	10	7.1	7	7.1	3	7.1
45-49	12	8.6	10	10.2	2	4.8
50-54	10	7.1	7	7.1	3	7.1
55-59	7	5.0	6	6.1	1	2.4
60-64	11	7.9	11	11.2	0	0.0
65 +	2	1.4	1	1.0	1	2.4
Total	140	100.0	98	100.0	42	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

It is clear from the Table 4.1 that among the total households having cases of vital events during the reference period, highest proportion (19.3%) of the respondents were in the age group 25-29 years . Among them, 17 were males and 10

were female. Similarly, 17.1 percent were from the age group 30-34, in which 16 were males and 8 females. The least proportion is found for age 65+ which accounts only 1.4 percent.

#### 4.2 Caste /Ethnicity

Bharatpur municipality is a living place of multi-ethnic groups. The census year 2001 has depicted 77 caste/ethnic groups in which the majority falls to Brahman-Hill followed by Chhetri and Newar. In this study, 13 caste/ethnic groups are recorded among the selected population. The Table 4.2 presents the summary of caste/ethnicity among the respondents.

**Table 4.2: Distribution of Respondents by Caste/Ethnicity**

Caste/ethnicity	Number	Percent
Brahman-Hill	65	46.4
Newar	22	15.7
Chhetri	11	7.9
Gurung	9	6.4
Tamang	8	5.7
Magar	6	4.3
Tharu	4	2.9
Kami	4	2.9
Damai	3	2.1
Kumal	3	2.1
Thakuri	2	1.4
Sarki	2	1.4
Churoule	1	0.7
Total	140	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

From the Table 4.2, it is found that majority (46.4%) of respondents are Brahmin-hill caste/ethnic group followed by Newar (15.7%), Chhetri (7.9%) and Gurung (6.4%). Less than 2 percent each of the respondents are Thakuri, Sarki and Churoute.

### 4.3 Religion

Nepal is constitutionally a Hindu Kingdom with legal provisions of no discrimination against other religions. But, historically, Nepal is a country of multi-lingual, multi-religious and multi-ethnic country. Therefore, it is common to find multi religion in this study area. Being Hindu religious country, majority of the respondents were Hindu.

**Table 4.3: Distribution of Respondents by Religion**

Religion	Number	Percent
Hindu	123	87.9
Buddhist	16	11.4
Muslim	1	0.7
Total	140	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 4.3 is evident that a vast majority of the respondents are Hindu which is accounted for about 88 percent followed by Buddhist (11.4%), only 0.7 percent respondents are Islamic. The percentage of Hindu and Buddhist are more than national level (80.6%) and (10.7%) respectively. While the Islam (0.7%) is lower than national level (4.2 %).

### 4.4 Occupation

Occupation is an indicator which shows status of family, cultural, educational, health and economic background. So, occupation is not merely the source of gaining of money but also the major factor that determines many things which are happening in human life. But finding exact occupation and income for every people is a challenging task because of privacy and difference in nature of the people. Some are likely to expose differently than what they do and what they earn. For example, if somebody is involved in service and holds some agricultural land, he/she is likely to say his/her occupation as an agriculture. Even though, based on the response of the respondents Table 4.4 shows the occupation status.

**Table 4.4: Distribution of Respondents by Major Occupation**

Occupation	Number	Percent
Agriculture	24	17.1
Business	39	27.9
Service	41	29.3
Daily Wage	19	13.6
House wife	5	3.6
Study	5	3.6
Pensioner	3	2.1
Poultry	4	2.8
Total	140	100.0

Source; Field Survey, 2006.

Table 4.4 shows that majority of respondents (29.3%) are holding service out of total respondents followed by about 28 percent respondents are holding business. Similarly, slightly greater than 17 percent of the respondents are holding agricultural occupation and 13.6 percent respondent's occupation is daily wage. Nominal cases are found for study, housewife, poultry and pensioner.

#### **4.5 Education**

Education is the most influencing factor for almost all variables especially related to demography. Without any correlation with education, a demographic research may be a lame resulted. Education is sense - eye of any advanced society. Education does not help only to live healthy life but also helps to made the goal of any government programme. Therefore, education is the first way of development. Respondents were asked whether they could read and write. The respondents who said that they could were further asked about grade passed. The responses of the respondents form the study population is presented in Table 4.5.

**Table 4.5: Distribution of Respondents by Literacy/Educational Attainment**

Literacy/Educational Attainment	Number	Percent
Literacy		
Illiterate	7	5.0
Literate	133	95.0
Total	140	100.0
Educational attainment		
No schooling	9	6.8
Primary	21	15.8
Lower Secondary	14	10.5
Secondary	10	7.5
SLC	23	17.3
Intermediate and above	56	42.1
Total	133	100.0

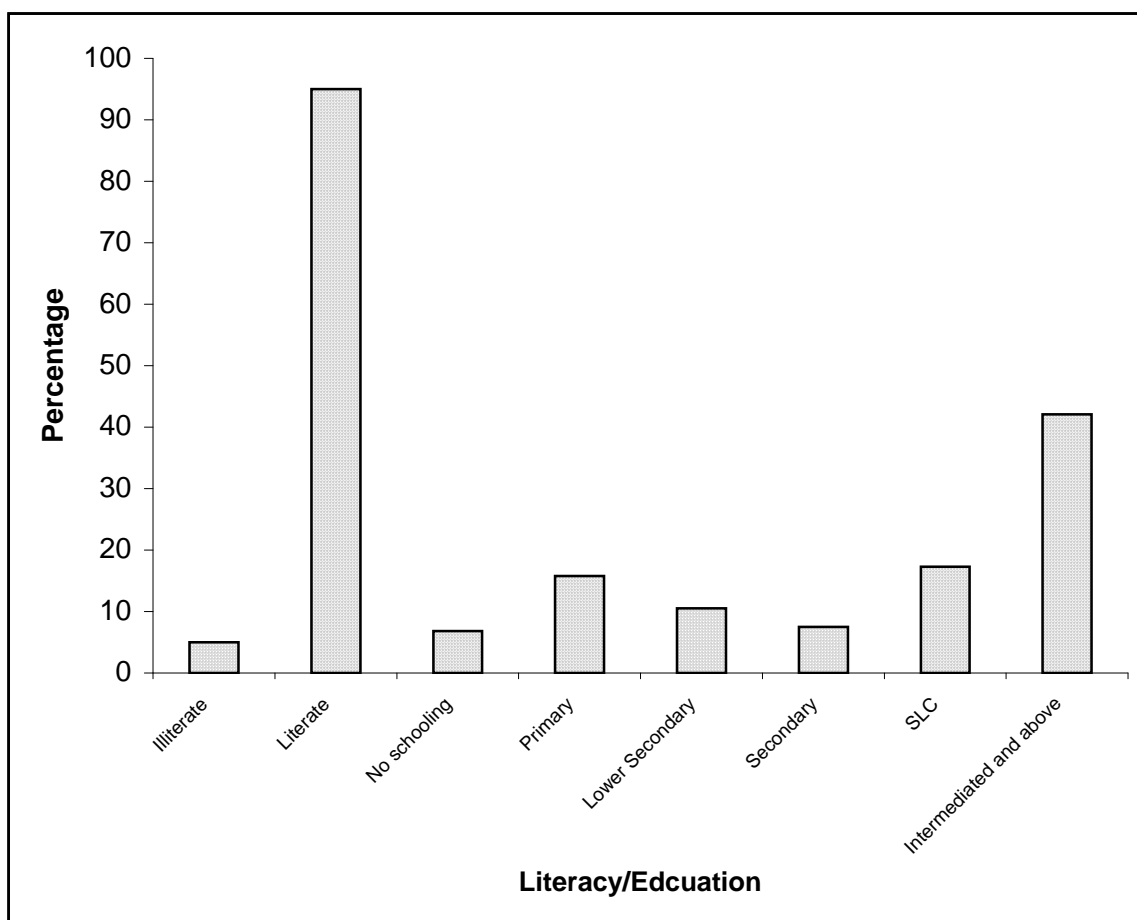
Source: Field Survey, 2006.

It is evident from Table 4.5 that 95 percent of respondents are literate and the rest of them (5%) are illiterate. Among the total literate respondents, the highest proportion (42.1%) have attained intermediate and above level of education followed by SLC which accounts for 17.3 percent. This shows that respondents are highly educated. About 16 percent have attained primary level education. Similarly, 10.5 percent and 7.5 percent of the literate respondents are found attending lower secondary level and secondary level respectively. On the other hand about 7 percent of the literate respondents are literate without formal education.

Figure 2 further makes easy to perceive about respondent's literacy /educational attainment status at a glance, which is presented below:



**Figure 2 : Respondent's Literacy and Educational Status**



#### **4.6 Family Size**

The types of Nepalese family is joint or large size where obviously more members of family with more than two generations share their kitchen together. The size of family determines the quality of life. Quality of life depends on fulfillment of basic needs which includes education and health. Therefore, education determines the knowledge in every aspect which may include the knowledge on vital registration. Respondents were asked about the family size keeping in view the above mentioned fact. The responses according to their family size are tabulated in Table 4.6.

**Table 4.6: Distribution of Respondents by Family Size**

Family Size	Respondents	Percent
< 5	35	25.0
5-7	71	50.7
8-10	29	20.7
11+	5	3.6
Total	140	100.0
Average Family Size	6.1	

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 4.6 shows the mean number of family size among the respondents is 6.1 which is greater than national average (5.25). The majority of the respondent's (50.7%) households have 5-7 members. The figures for the respondents who have less than 5 and 8-10 members are 25.0 and 20.7 percent respectively. The least proportion of the respondent's are found having 11 and more members in their house.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **VITAL REGISTRATION TRENDS, KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES**

#### **5.1 Situation of Vital Registration**

Although, very few studies carried out in this respective issue, every study has revealed that vital registration in Nepal is very poor and almost all the registered events are very lately registered. The study area (Bharatpur Municipality) of this paper may not be an exceptional case.

##### **5.1.1 Situation of Vital Events Registration in Bharatpur Municipality**

In Chitwan district, the registration of vital event was started from 1<sup>st</sup> Baishakh 2036 BS (1979/80). Since, Bharatpur municipality lies in Chitwan district, here also, registration of vital events was started from 1<sup>st</sup> Baishakh 2036 BS, under the Vital Registration Act 2033 BS. In the initiated year, total 121 events were registered, among them 86 were births, 23 were deaths and 12 were marriage events. No case of migration and divorces were registered. Because of the importance and needs of registration certificate has increased, the trend on registration of vital events also seen as increasing in later year. However, in Nepal, very few events are registered and almost the registered events had occurred many years ago. The Baratpur municipality is not an exceptional case. The data obtained from the registration section are tabulated below:

**Table 5.1: Distribution of Registered Events since 2036 to 2061 BS in Bharatpur****Municipality**

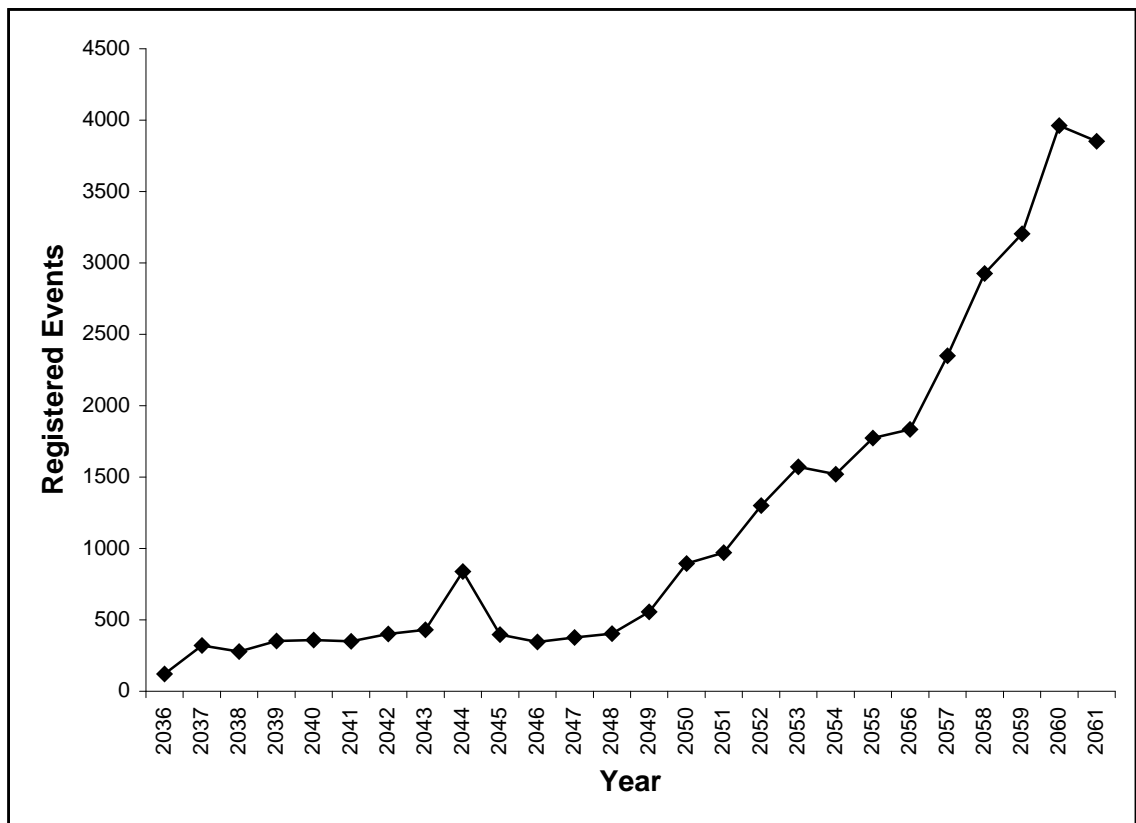
Year	Birth	Death	Marriage	Migration	Divorce	Total
2036	86	23	12	-	-	121
2037	249	38	34	-	-	321
2038	195	59	18	5	-	277
2039	246	70	22	14	-	352
2040	260	47	42	9	-	358
2041	259	43	41	6	-	349
2042	271	59	37	35	-	402
2043	308	69	32	22	-	431
2044	580	75	137	46	1	839
2045	210	89	49	48	-	396
2046	165	72	51	57	-	345
2047	172	78	48	79	-	377
2048	160	110	81	52	-	403
2049	260	109	133	55	-	557
2050	478	142	180	95	-	895
2051	424	163	273	111	-	971
2052	493	189	390	228	-	1300
2053	683	194	390	304	-	1571
2054	550	203	415	352	-	1520
2055	729	201	520	330	-	1774
2056	847	203	466	316	1	1833
2057	1110	202	510	525	2	2349
2058	1671	229	579	444	2	2925
2059	1749	281	690	485	-	3205
2060	2371	240	778	571	2	3962
2061	2110	304	882	557	-	3853
Total	16636	3492	6810	4746	8	31692

Source: Municipality Records, 2005 (Civil Registration Cell)

From the Table 5.1, it is observed that at the beginning period, very nominal events are registered. In later period, the trend of registering events is in increasing. The amount of birth registration increased significantly since 2057 BS. Similarly, registration of death, marriage and migration events, is in increasing trend, however, it is not found that amount of under registration events. In the last year 2061 BS, total 3853 events were registered, among them 2110 were births, 304 were deaths, 882 were marriages and 557 were migration events. In case of divorce, no case was registered because, in Nepalese society, it is not common. In total, only 8 events of divorce is registered from 2036 to 2061 B.S.

The trend of vital registration in Bharatpur municipality is also shown in following figure.

**Figure 3: Trend of Registered Events since 2036 to 2061 BS in Bharatpur Municipality**



### 5.1.2 Events Registered During One Year Reference Period (From Chaitra 2061 to Phalgun 2062).

The arrangement and filing system despite the low registration is found well in the municipality office. In the records, it is also observed that the events were registered which were occurred many years before. Only one case of divorce is registered in this year. Few questions were also asked with the Local Registrar of the municipality, he said that because of necessity of the certificate, mostly births are registered even if they are late but until and unless the people do not need certificate, they don't register any vital events. The municipality's registration records during reference period is shown in Table 5.2.

**Table 5.2: Distribution of Monthly Registered Events during One Year Period, 2061/62 BS**

Month	Birth	Death	Marriage	Migration	Divorce	Total
2061 Chaitra	363	30	116	61	-	570
2062 Baishakh	385	29	99	54	1	568
2062 Jestha	254	23	95	98	-	470
2062 Ashad	248	26	83	79	-	436
2062 Shrawan	136	19	63	65	-	283
2062 Bhadra	161	17	58	36	-	272
2062 Aswin	137	9	60	37	-	243
2062 Kartik	249	26	80	58	-	413
2062 Mansir	255	22	71	69	-	417
2062 Poush	259	31	83	64	-	437
2062 Magh	870	19	63	51	-	1003
2062 Phalgun	816	24	101	73	-	1014
Total	4133	275	972	745	1	6126

Source: Municipality Record, 2006 (Civil Registration Cell).

Table 5.2 shows that 6,126 cases of vital events were registered during one year period. The data seems very appropriate in the sense that very large no. of marriage is registered in the month of Phalgun and Chaitra. In case of birth, more

number of events are registered in Magh and Phalgun months. One of the reason is that, for registering an examination forms of class 8, student needed birth certificate. This shows that people have registered the events only when they need certificate, whether they have knowledge and positive attitude towards registering an event in time. Accordingly, there were registration of 4133, 275, 972, 745, and 1 events of birth, death, marriage, migration and divorce respectively in the municipality during a year.

## 5.2 Knowledge on Vital Registration

By knowledge, changing behaviour in any aspect is occurred. In the case of vital registration also, knowledge of vital registration among people is important which increase the registration status. However, some studies have shown that there is no sufficient knowledge among people about vital registration. But in the study area, there is significant knowledge of vital registration. Respondents were asked if they have heard about vital registration to find the level of knowledge about it. The responses are presented in Table 5.3.

**Table 5.3: Distribution of Respondents having Knowledge about VR**

Vital registration knowledge	Number	Percent
Yes	117	83.6
No	23	16.4
Total	140	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 5.3 shows that the majority of the respondents have knowledge on vital registration. Among the total respondents, about 83.6 percent of them have knowledge on civil registration. Rest, (16.4%) of them are found ignorant about vital registration. One of the interesting thing is found that most of the people know vital registration as birth registration (Janma Darta).

## 5.3 Time of Knowledge

Respondents were asked about how many years/months/days before they had heard about vital registration among the respondents who had knowledge of vital

registration. The mean years before since the respondents had heard about civil registration is found to be 6.84 years and the median years being 9 years. Table 5.4 summarizes the responses about the time in years before since the respondents have knowledge about civil registration.

**Table 5.4: Distribution of Respondent's Knowledge about Civil Registration for Number of Years before Survey**

Have heard about VR Year before	Number	Percent
1 Year	3	2.6
2 Year	5	4.3
3 Year	6	5.1
4 Year	7	6.0
5 Year	5	4.3
6 Year	6	5.1
7 Year	8	6.8
8 Year	7	6.0
9 Year	12	10.3
10 Year	14	12.0
12 Year	15	12.8
15 Year	4	3.4
20 Year	4	3.4
Don't Know	21	17.9
Total	117	100.0
Mean Years	6.84	
Median Years	9	

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 5.4 shows that about 13 percent of the respondent who have heard about vital registration had heard about it 12 years before followed by 10 years before which comprises 12 percent. About 10 percent said that they have been heard vital registration for 9 years. But the majority of the respondents (about 18 percent), who had heard about vital registration, could not report about the time when they heard



about vital registration. There were 4 respondents who have heard about vital registration a long before 20 years ago.

#### 5.4 Source of Information

Ministry of Local Development (MoLD) has been giving the information of vital registration from different media. The access of information is low especially in rural areas and comparatively higher in urban areas. Respondents were asked about their first source of information about vital registration. Mixed responses were found from them. Some respondents were not sure that from where they heard about it first. Also, some of them gave multiple answer which were accepted as different categories. Table 5.5 below shows the source of information on vital registration among the respondents.

**Table 5.5: Distribution of Respondents by First Source of Information about vital registration**

Source	Number	Percent
Radio	58	49.6
Television	46	39.3
Friends	34	29.1
Newspapers	15	12.8
While studying	9	7.7
Family members	6	5.1
Neighbours	5	4.3

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Note : The number and percent of the above table are multiple responses and are based on total 117 respondents.

It is evident from Table 5.5 that large proportion of the respondents have heard about vital registration from radio and television which are accounted for 49.6 and 39.3 percent respectively. Similarly, about 29 percent respondent have heard from their friends, and about 13 percent respondents have known about vital registration from newspapers. Some respondents have known while studying and from family members. The least proportion of the respondents are found to have heard about vital registration from their neighbours.

## 5.5 Knowledge about Time Period of Registration After the Occurrence of an Event

Respondents were asked about the time duration within when the event should be registered according to Vital Registration Act in Nepal, so as to find their proper knowledge about VRS, among those who said to have heard about vital registration. They were asked questions "where should we register the vital events ?" and "within how many days of occurrence of an event we should register the event?" The response of the first question undoubtedly was municipality office with LR from all respondents. So, it can be said that every people who have heard about vital registration also has knowledge about where the event should be registered.

The response of the second question about the prescribed days within which an event should be registered is presented in Table 5.5.

**Table 5.6: Distribution of Respondents by Knowledge of Time Duration of Registration**

Response	Number	Percent
Within 30 days	4	3.4
Within 35 days	43	36.8
Within 45 days	28	23.9
Within 1 year	4	3.4
Don't know	38	32.5
Total	117	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

It is clear from the Table 5.6, the significant number of respondents have knowledge about the prescribed time of registration of an event which accounted for about 37 percent. This proportion is less because Bohara's study (2005) in Kirtipur Muicpality has found that there were about 45 percent respondents who had heard about vital registration known about the prescribed duration of registration. Again, 3.4 percent of the respondents reported this time duration is 30 days. On the other hand, about 24 percent and 3.4 percent of the respondents said within 45 days and 1 year

respectively, of occurrence of an event, the event should be registered. This is their misinformation about it. Significant proportion (32.5%) of the respondents do not know about the duration of registration. Combining the response percentage of 'within 45 days', 'within 1 year' and 'don't know', nearly 60 percent of the respondents don't know about the time duration of registration. It is one of the cause of not registering the vital events in time.

## 5.6 Perception about Vital Registration

Respondents were asked about their perception towards importance of vital events or why they feel it is necessary to register an event. Multiple responses were accepted in this respect. It is also found that respondents have better knowledge about reason for birth, death and marriages registration than that of migration. The responses are tabulated separately.

### 5.6.1 Respondent's Perception about Birth Registration

A question 'why they feel it is necessary to register birth event ?' was asked to the respondents. Almost 96 percent of them gave their answer at least one option. The response results are classified below in Table 5.7.

**Table 5.7 Distribution of Respondents by their Perceptions about the Birth Registration**

Why birth registration ?	Number	Percent
To enroll in the school	18	15.4
To get citizenship certificate	37	31.6
To provide information to government	6	5.1
All of the above	31	26.5
To enroll in school and taking citizenship	11	9.4
To get citizenship and providing information to government	4	3.4
To know the increase of population	4	3.4
For administrative purpose	2	1.7
Don't know	4	3.4
Total	117	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

From Table 5.7, in study area it is found that majority of the respondents (31.6%) have answered that birth registration is required to get citizenship certificate. About 27 percent of respondents have understood that main purpose of registering birth for three main purposes which are namely 'to enroll in the school', 'to get citizenship certificate', and 'to provide information to government'. Similarly, 15.4 percent of the respondents reported that birth is register only 'to enroll in the school'. Slightly more than 3 percent of the respondents don't know that why the birth is to be registered.

### 5.6.2 Perception about Death Registration

It is found that respondents are less alert about death registration rather than birth registration. Some respondents had puzzled for some moment when the question "why we should register death event ?" was asked. After remembering the options of previous questions, significant proportion of respondents said 'to provide information to government.' Almost all responses are categorized in Table 5.8 below:

**Table 5.8: Distribution of Respondents by their Perceptions about Death Registration**

Why death registration ?	Number	Percent
To transfer the assets and pension of dead person	43	36.8
To solve the insurance problem	2	1.7
To provide the information to government	17	14.5
All of the above	21	17.9
To transfer the assets and pension of dead person and to provide information to government	8	6.8
To transfer the assets and pension of dead person and to solve the insurance problem	3	2.6
For administrative purpose	2	1.7
To know the decrease of population	5	4.3
Don't know	16	13.7
Total	117	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2006.

Table 5.8 shows that about 37 percent respondents responded that the death should be registered 'to transfer the assets and pension of dead person' which is followed by the respondents who said all three categories; 'to transfer the assets and pension of dead person', 'to solve the insurance problem' and 'to provide the information to government' account about 18 percent. Similarly, slightly more than 14 percent of respondents gave the answer that the death is registered only 'to provide information to government'. As well, 9.4 percent responded in multiple ways. However, about 14 percent said that they don't know about the reason for death registration. This shows that people have less knowledge about death registration than birth registration comparatively.

### 5.6.3 Perception of Respondents about Marriage Registration

Respondents were asked a separate question "why you feel it is necessary to register marriage ?" in order to know their perception of registering marriage. While asking this question, some married women were seen teared because of disturbance in relationship with husband. However, mixed answers were obtained in this issue. Table 5.9 further classifies the perception of respondents about the purpose of registering marriage event.

**Table 5.9: Distribution of Respondents by their Perception about Marriage Registration**

Why marriage registration ?	Number	Percent
To prove relationship	29	24.8
To legalize the event	28	23.9
To get the share of property	11	9.4
All of the above	17	14.5
To legalize and to prove relationship	13	11.1
To make passport	2	1.7
To prove relationship an to get the share of property	1	0.9
Don't know	16	13.7
Total	117	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 5.9 shows that the majority of respondents (24.8%) accept that marriage is registered to prove relationship. Also, about nearly equal proportion (23.9%) of the respondents accept marriage should register for legalize the event. On the other hand, 14.5 percent of respondents had multiple responses that marriage should be registered for all three categories as 'to prove relationship', 'to legalize the event' and 'to get share of property'. Similarly, slightly more than 11 percent respondents said that marriage should register 'to legalize and to prove relationship'. However, about 14 percent of respondents do not know why the marriage should be registered.

#### 5.6.4 Perception of Respondent's about Registration of Migration

The respondents who have heard about vital registration were again asked why they feel it is necessary to register the migration in order to depict their knowledge and perception about registration of migration. There was less knowledge and perception among the respondents and why it is necessary to register migration. They were found to be confused that whether the migration is registered as vital event. Therefore, the majority of the responses were found that they don't know why the migration should be registered. The different responses are tabulated in Table 5.10.

**Table 5.10: Distribution of Respondents by their Perception of Registering Migration Event**

Why migration registration?	Number	Percent
To get social rights in the place of destination	33	28.2
To provide information to government	22	18.8
All of the above	14	12.0
To know the place of origin	4	3.4
For voting purpose	3	2.6
To get citizenship and to buy land	2	1.7
To know the decrease and increase of population at the place of origin and place of destination	2	1.7
To legalize the event	1	0.9
Don't know	36	30.8
Total	117	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 5.10 shows that the majority of respondents (28.2%) accept that marriage is registered to get social rights in the place of destination. About 19 percent of the respondents have responded 'to provide information to government'. Similarly, 12 percent of the respondents gave answer 'all of the above', which includes 'to get social rights in the place of destination' and 'to provide information to government'. However, about 31 percent of the respondents do not know why the migration is registered. Other respondents have their own type of answers.

## 5.7 Respondent's Interaction Status

Social interactions are the most important to broaden the area of knowledge of people in a society and relay the information to the society. Information on registration of vital events has the same level of importance and it heavily depends in social interaction. To know the closeness to municipality office, LR, neighbours and among family members, some questions were asked to the respondents. The responses are tabulated in Table 5.11.

**Table 5.11: Distribution of Respondent's Interaction Status with Municipality Office, Neighbours and among Family Members**

Questions	Respon Category				Total No
	Yes	%	No	%	
Have you ever discussed with others about VRS ?	74	63.2	43	36.8	117*
Do you used to talk about VRS in your family ?	98	76.1	28	23.9	117*
Have you ever visited municipality office ?	106	75.7	34	24.3	140

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

\*Note: The respondents who have no knowledge about vital registration were not asked about the discussion status with others and family.

Table 5.11 shows that 63.2 percent of the respondents who have knowledge of vital registration, have discussed about it with others and the rest have no communication about it. Similarly, 76.1 percent of the respondents have discussion about vital registration in the family. This shows that communication about vital registration in family is more common than outside the household. Among the total respondents, about 76 percent of them have visited municipality office and rest have never visited the office.

## 5.8 Respondent's History of Registration of Events

Respondents were asked whether they had ever registered any event during the reference period. Only slightly more than 41 percent of the total respondents said they have registered at least one event. Majority of the respondents said they have not registered any event. Table 5.12 clarifies the respondent's history of vital registration.

**Table 5.12: Distribution of Respondents according to the History of Registration Vital Events before Survey Date**

History of event registration	Number	Percent
Ever registered ?		
Yes	58	41.4
No	82	58.6
Total	140	100.0
Registered event		
One birth	11	19.0
Two births	5	8.6
Three births	1	1.7
One birth and one death	2	3.5
One birth and one migration	3	5.2
Two births and one death	1	1.7
Three births and one death	1	1.7
One birth and one marriage	3	5.2
One birth, one marriage and one migration	1	1.7
One death	8	13.8
One death and one marriage	2	3.5
Two deaths and one marriage	1	1.7
One marriage	14	24.1
One migration	5	8.6
Total	58	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 5.12 shows that majority of the respondents (58.6%) have not registered any vital events from their household while only 41.4 percent of respondents have registered at least one event. Among the respondents who said to have registered the vital events, 24.1 percent ever registered only one marriage followed by one birth which accounts 19.0 percent. Similarly, about 14 percent have registered one death



and 8.6 percent of respondents have registered two births and one migration for each. Registration of other event comprises less than 6 percent of respondents.

## 5.9 Civil Registration by Socio-Economic Variables

A cross tabulation of Civil Registration status according to various socio-economic variable is established in order to see whether there is influence or significance of any variable to motivate vital registration. However, no vast difference between literate and illiterate, agricultural and non-agricultural and large and small size family group is found,. But, according to educational attainment, significance is found. Table 5.13 shows that relation between various socio-economic variables and vital registration.

**Table 5.13: Distribution of Respondents by Socio-Economic Variables**

Variables	Registered	Not registered	Total
<b>Literacy</b>			
Illiterate	2 (28.6)	5 (71.4)	7
Literate	56 (42.1)	77 (57.9)	133
Total	58 (41.4)	82 (58.6)	140
<b>Educational Attainment</b>			
No Schooling	2 (22.2)	7 (77.8)	9
Primary	3 (14.3)	18 (85.7)	21
Lower Secondary	5 (35.7)	9 (64.3)	14
Secondary	4 (40.0)	6 (60.0)	10
SLC and above	42 (53.2)	37 (46.8)	79
Total	56 (42.1)	77 (57.9)	133
<b>Occupation</b>			
Agriculture	8 (29.6)	19 (70.4)	27
Non-agriculture	48 (46.6)	55 (53.4)	103
Study	2 (33.3)	4 (66.7)	6
House -Wife	-	4 (100.0)	4
Total	58 (41.4)	82 (58.6)	140
<b>Family size</b>			
<5	11 (31.4)	24 (68.6)	35
5-7	33 (46.5)	38 (53.5)	71
8-10	12 (41.4)	17 (58.6)	29
11+	2 (40.0)	3 (60.0)	5
Total	58 (41.4)	82 (58.6)	140

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Note: Number in the parenthesis are the percentages of the respective row total.

Table 5.13 shows that among the total respondents (140), majority of them (58.6%) have not registered any vital event. So, for every variable, it is seen that majority of respondents have not registered any event. Among the total illiterate respondents (7), slightly more than 71 percent have not registered any vital event, only about 29 percent have ever registered the vital events. Similarly, about 58.6 percent literate respondents have not registered any event while about 41 percent literate respondent have ever registered vital event. Among the respondents who said they have ever registered at least one event, majority are literate. The educational attainment has no significance for registering vital event up to secondary level. But more than 53 percent of the respondents, who have attained SLC and above level of education, have ever registered the events. This shows that there is no effect of education below SLC in vital registration.

Respondent's occupation has been classified into four categories i.e agriculture, non-agriculture, study and housewife. Respondent's occupation seems more positive to vital registration. More proportion (46.6%) of the non-agricultural respondents have registered at least one event preceding the survey than the respondents who have occupation as agriculture (29.6%). Almost all house-wife are not seem to register the vital events.

No discrepancy has been observed regarding family size. But the slight influence has been seen in family size 5-7 member which accounts more than 46 percent for registering at least one vital event. Similarly, slightly more than 41 percent of respondents have 8-10 family members have ever registered the event followed by the group of more than 11 family members which accounts to 40 percent have ever registered vital event.

#### **5.10 Respondent's Access to Registrar and Registration Forms**

To know the effectiveness of service provided to people in the case of civil registration, some questions were placed in the questionnaire. Since, long time taken to reach the registration office affects and may be one of the cause of not registering an event, a question was asked to know the time taken to reach registration office. Almost all the respondents had said that they reach the office within 45 minutes by

the use of bicycle or motor bike or other vehicle. This shows that the office is not so far.

Similarly, easy access to registrar office, and availability of forms and certificates plays an vital role in covering vital records effectively. If one suffers for register an event by lacking forms, sometimes by absence of LR and by other factors, he returns without registering an event. He postpone the registration either in his/her leisure time or don't go to register until he needs certificates. So, these are the factors in which the completeness of vital registration depends.

Respondents were asked several questions orderly to find their previous experience of easy access to registrar and registration forms etc. among the respondents who had registered at least one vital event. The results are tabulated below:

**Table 5.14: Distribution of Respondent's Access to Registrar and Registration Forms**

Questions	Respondents *			
	Yes	%	No	%
Did you easily find the registration office ?	57	98.3	1	1.7
Did you easily visit the registrar ?	56	96.3	2	3.4
Did you easily get the registration forms ?	55	94.8	3	5.2
Did the registrar hesitate to register and called you for next day ?	4	6.9	54	93.1

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

\* Note : Only those who have registered at least one vital event.

Table 5.14 clearly shows that respondents had not to be suffered from slow office system. Among the 58 respondents who had visited municipality office to register vital events. Slightly more than 98 percent had found the registration office easily, about 97 percent had found easily visited at local registrar, about 95 percent had found the registration forms easily for the registration of an event. similarly, about 7 percent respondents had said that the registrar hesitate and called for next day

to register an vital event reasoning that he had no time to register. Therefore, a question was asked for those respondents, how many times they went to register an event, then they said that they all (4 respondents) had visited 2 times for registering a single event.

### 5.11 Causes of Registering Vital Events

Respondent's were further asked about the reason for registering the event among those who said to have ever registered the event. Mostly, individual causes were found in this respect. However, the main cause was their need of certificates. Therefore, it can be predicated that people tend to go to register the event only when they need certificates. Table 5.15 further presents the causes of registering the vital events.

**Table 5.15: Distribution of Respondents by Causes of Vital Events Registration**

Causes	Number *	Percent
Legal compulsion	11	18.9
To get citizenship	14	24.1
To transfer the private assets	1	1.7
To enroll the children in school	9	15.5
To transfer the private assets and pensin of dead person	5	8.6
To enroll the children and getting citizenship	5	8.6
Legal compulsion, to transfer the pension and other enumeration	1	1.7
Legal compulsion, enrolling children and getting citizenship	5	8.6
To enroll the children, getting citizenship and to legalized the event	3	5.2
To legalized the event and getting citizenship	2	3.5
To enroll the children, to get citizenship and to transfer the private assets and pension of dead person.	2	3.5
Total	58	100.0

Source : Field Survey, 2006.

\*Note : Only those who have registered at least one vital event.

Individual differences can be seen in Table 5.15 in which majority of the respondents who have ever registered the event, 24.1 percent of them responded that they registered because they have to receive a citizenship certificate. About 19 percent said legal compulsion rather than their needs. Similarly, 15.5 percent responded that they registered because to enroll the children in school. Even if the responses are categorized into different categories as found from the field, combining together, slightly more than 41 percent of the respondent needed certificate either to enroll in school or to take citizenship or to transfer private assets, pension of dead person, etc.

### **5.12. Respondent's History of Timely Registering the Vital Events**

Respondents who said to have ever registered the vital events were asked whether they have registered the event timely. They were even cross questioned if they paid any cost (fees) for registration so as to find out whether the events registered were timely or not. Because if the event is registered in time i.e. within 35 days of occurrence of an event, there is no any cost (fees) needed for registration. The responses are tabulated in Table 5.16 below:

**Table 5.16: Distribution of Respondents by Cost Paid while Registering an Event**

Cost paid ?	Number	Percent
Yes	35	60.3
No	14	24.1
Don't know	9	15.6
Total	58	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 5.16 shows that 24.1 percent of the respondents had registered vital events within the time i.e. within 35 days of occurrence of an event. On the other hand, 60.3 percent of the respondents had paid some amount for registering an event and 15.6 percent had either forget the amount they paid or the respondents themselves had not gone to register the events so they didn't know about it. This shows that the status of timely registering an event is very poor in the study area.

### 5.13 Registration Status of Vital Events during Reference Period

In order to analyze a situation of rate of completion of vital registration for all events occurring within reference period, Table 5.17 presents findings in the study area.

**Table 5.17 : Coverage of Registration among the Occurred Events during Reference Period**

Events	Registered	Not-Registered	Timely Registered	Total Event Occurred
Birth	12 (26.7)	33 (73.3)	5 (11.5)	45
Death	14 (35.9)	25 (64.1)	2 (5.1)	39
Marriage	20 (45.5)	24 (54.6)	9 (20.4)	44
Migration	6 (28.6)	15 (71.6)	2 (9.5)	21
Total	52 (34.9)	97 (65.1)	18 (12.1)	149

Source: Field Survey 2006

Note: Numbers in parenthesis are percent of row total of events occurred.

Table 5.17 shows that out of 140 households (respondents) there occurred 149 events all together in the reference period of one year. The registration status is found very poor and the timely registration is very nominal. Out of total events occurred in the respondent's households, about 65 percent events are not registered whereas about 35 percent events are registered and only about 12 percent of the events are registered timely i.e. within 35 days of occurrence of events.

Similarly, among the total birth events (45), only 26.7 percent are registered officially in which 11.1 percent are registered timely. Out of total deaths (39), about 36 percent are registered and 5.1 percent are registered timely. In the case of marriage, out of total events (44), 45.5 percent are registered in which 20.4 percent are registered within time. About 29 percent of the migration cases are registered in which 12.1 percent are registered in time. However, some questions about divorce were put in questionnaire no case of divorce was found.

### 5.13.1 Status of Birth Registration according to Birth Order

Respondents were asked about the birth order of the baby born within reference period regardless of registration to find out whether there is any difference of registration according to birth order. The result is tabulated in Table 5.18 below:

**Table 5.18: Distribution of Births by Order and Registration Status**

Birth order	Registered	Not registered	Total
First	7 (35.0)	13 (65.0)	20
Second	4 (26.7)	11 (73.3)	15
Third	1 (11.1)	8 (88.9)	9
Sixth	-	1 (100.0)	1
Total	12 (26.7)	33 (73.3)	45

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Note: Numbers in parenthesis are the row percentages.

At the time of first birth, there is happiness in every family but the happiness decreases in second, third and higher order of births (MoH., 2049 BS). The impact of the happiness may fall to birth registration as well. Considering the fact, this study also attempted to collect information on the issue.

Table 5.18 shows that out of 20 cases of first birth order, 35 percent are registered. In the case of second order birth, about 27 percent are reported to registered. Similarly, about 11 percent of births are register in the case of third order but no sixth birth is found to have registered. The causes of not registering the successive birth order can be drawn as:

- More births are given by poor and illiterate family where they have less knowledge about registration,
- The parents cannot enroll later born children in school as the number of children increase, so they don't tend to register the birth,
- The family suffers from many domestic problems when they have large number of children.

### 5.13.2 Father's Education and Birth Registration

Due to the patriarchal social system in Nepal, husband plays an important role in every decision of household. Also, educational status of husband makes an additional point for decision making. In the case of registration of children's birth, education of father may have positive impact, because, generally, it is assumed that educated father have knowledge of registration as well as the importance of it. In this study, considering the same assumption, information on father's education was collected and the relation with registration of birth are tabulated below:

**Table 5.19: Distribution of Registered and Not Registered Births by Father's Education**

Father's Education	Registered	Not registered	Total
No schooling	-	2 (100.0)	2
Primary	-	9 (100.0)	9
L. secondary	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	3
Secondary	1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)	4
SLC and above	10 (37.0)	17 (63.0)	27
Total	12 (26.7)	33 (73.3)	45

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Note: Numbers in the parenthesis are the percentages of the respective rows.

Table 5.19 shows that there is no close positive relation between father's education and number of birth registrations. There seems reverse relation for all level of education attained by fathers. However, among the registered events, some positive impacts are seen between birth registration and SLC and above educated fathers. Out of 27 cases in which father's education was SLC and above, 37 percent births have registered while 63 percent births have not registered.

### 5.13.3 Mother's Education and Birth Registration

Mother's education influences the knowledge and attitude on every aspect of behaviours and household decision making. It is said that if male is educated it is for himself but if female is educated, the whole family is educated. So, an emphasis was



given to check mother's education on birth registration in this study and mother's education was asked in each registered and not registered birth cases. From the responses an attempt has been made to see the impact of mother's education in birth registration.

**Table 5.20: Distribution of Registered and Not-Registered Births by Mother's Education**

Mother's Education	Registered	Not-registered	Total
Illiterate	-	3 (100.0)	3
Literate (no schooling)	-	3 (100.0)	3
Primary	-	7 (100.0)	7
L. Secondary	2 (40.0)	3 (60.0)	5
Secondary	-	-	-
SLC and above	10 (37.0)	17 (63.0)	27
Total	12 (26.7)	33 (73.3)	45

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Note: Number in the parenthesis are the percentage of the respective rows.

It is clear from Table 5.20 that out of 3 cases of birth from illiterate mother, no one has been found to be registered the birth. Same case has been found literate but no schooling mother. Out of 7 cases of primary attended mother is found not registered. On the other hand, no mothers were found who attended secondary level education and gave birth of children during the reference period. Only 37 percent of the SLC and above level attendants have registered the birth, out of 27 cases. This shows that reverse relationship between mother's education and birth registration.

## **5.14 Causes of Not Registering Civil Events**

### **5.14.1 Causes of Not Registering Births**

Among the households where birth events were occurred during reference period but were not registered, were asked about the cause of not registering the birth event. Mixed responses were found. Because of not knowing the importance of registration and no need of birth certificate, were the answers of more respondents. It has shown that their unwillingness to register an event. The responses are tabulated in Table 5.21.

**Table 5.21: Cause of Not-Registering Births**

Causes	Number	Percent
Not thinking important	6	18.2
No need of birth certificate	10	30.2
Not getting time to go for registration	7	21.2
Absence of husband	1	3.0
Not knowing about registration	9	27.3
Total	33	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

It is found from Table 5.21 that the cause of not registering the birth was because of no need of birth certificate which accounts 30.3 percent out of total 33 cases of not registered birth events during reference period. As well, 27.3 percent said that they did not know about the registration, 21.2 percent said not having time to go for the registration. Similarly, 18.2 percent of respondents have not registered because of they thought it is not important.

#### 5.14.2 Causes of Not Registering Death

The causes of not registering civil events were collected separately for every event from those who have not registered the events because the causes are different for different event. The cause of not registering the death events were also collected in the study and the obtained responses are tabulated below:

**Table 5.22 : Distribution of Not Registered Deaths by Causes**

Causes	Number	Percent
Not thinking important	5	20.0
No need of death certificate	8	32.0
Not getting time to go for registration	4	16.0
Not knowing about registration	8	32.0
Total	25	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 5.22 shows that the major cause for not registering the event were 'no need of death certificate' and 'not having knowledge about the registration', which constitute 32 percent of each among those who have not registered the death. The third main cause for not registering death was found to be 'not thinking important' (20%). Similarly, 16 percent of the respondents said because of not getting time to go register.

### 5.14.3 Causes of Not Registering Migration

Among the respondents who are migrated in the study area in the reference period and are not registered the event were asked about the reason for not registering. Despite the small number of cases of migration event, the expected and reasonable result is found in the sense that in the previous observation among all respondents, the knowledge about migration was lesser than that of other events. Therefore, the majority of respondents replied that they were ignorant about the issue. Table 5.23 shows the responses regarding the reason of not registering migration.

**Table 5.23: Distribution of Migrant Respondents who had Not-Registered Migration by Causes**

Causes	Number	Percent
Nobody asked to register	3	20.0
Not thinking important	1	6.7
No need of migration certificate	4	26.7
Not knowing about registration	7	46.7
Total	15	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

According to the response, the majority cause of not registering the event was ignorance about the registration of migration, which is accounted for 46.7 percent of the total not-registered migration events. As well, 26.7 percent said that they don't need migration certificate, so they haven't registered. Similarly, 20 percent said, 'nobody asked to register' which shows that they don't know about registration, 6.7 percent thought that this is not important and they don't registered.

#### 5.14.4 Registration of Marriage Event

In Nepal, the marriages are performed in the month of Mansir, Magh, Phalgun, Baishakh and Ashar, mainly. The time of data collection and end of reference period was Phalgun/Chaitra. Among the 44 cases of marriage events, 3 cases were found recently married just 3-4 days before at the time of data collection. However, the emphasis was given to education of bride and bride-grooms so as to find out the relation of education to registration status of marriage event. Table 5.24 shows the educational attainment of bride and bride-grooms and marriage registration status.

**Table 5.24: Distribution of Cases of Marriage by Educational Attainment of Bride grooms and Brides and Registration Status**

Educational attainment	Bride-groom			Bride		
	Registered	Not registered	Total	Registered	Not registered	Total
No-education	-	2 (100.0)	2	-	3 (100.0)	3
Primary	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	3	-	-	-
L. Secondary	3 (37.5)	5 (62.5)	8	6 (54.5)	5 (45.5)	11
Secondary	1 (20.0)	4 (80.0)	5	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	2
SLC and above	14 (53.8)	12 (46.2)	26	13 (46.4)	15 (53.6)	28
Total	20 (45.5)	24 (54.5)	44	20 (45.5)	24 (54.5)	44

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Note: Number in parenthesis are the percentage of the respective row total.

From Table 5.24, it is clear that out of 44 cases of marriage, 20 (45.5%) are registered and 24 (54.5%) are not registered. Two cases (66.7%) out of 3 among whom the bride-groom's education is primary are registered. Out of 8 cases, 3 cases (37.5%) in which bride-groom's education is lower secondary are registered and again 14 cases (53.8%) out of 26 cases in which the bride-groom's education is SLC and above are registered. Finding shows that even the bride-grooms education affect marriage registration. That means higher the bride-groom's education, higher the probability of registration.

The effect of bride's education on marriage registration has been observed in which more proportion of the marriage are registered within one year with the increase in the education level. Out of 11 cases among whom the bride's education is lower secondary, 6 cases (54.5%) are registered. Again 13 cases (46.4%) out of 28 cases in which the bride's education is SLC and above are registered. It is observed that lower secondary level education seems a behaviour modification attribute in this aspect and no influence of secondary and SLC and above level of education in registering marriage event.

#### 5.14.5 Causes of Not-Registering Marriage Event

Among the households where marriage events during reference period were performed but the event was not registered, respondents were asked about the reason of not registering the event. Among 24 cases of not-registered marriage events, 13 events (54.2%) were not registered because of no need of marriage certificate. Table 5.25 clearly shows the causes of not-registering marriage events.

**Table 5.25: Distribution of Not Registered Marriage Events by Causes**

Causes	Number	Percent
Not getting time to register	3	12.5
No need of marriage certificate	13	54.2
Not knowing about registration	6	25.0
No need of marriage certificate and not getting time to register	2	8.3
Total	24	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 5.25 shows that majority of respondents (54.2%) had not need of marriage certificate, followed by 25.0 percent said that they were ignorant about registration, where as 12.5 percent respondents had not get time to go for registration. Also, rest 8.3 percent respondents had multiple causes. This shows that respondents have thought that the registration of marriage is not important.

### **5.15 Respondent's Attitude towards Civil Registration**

At the end of the questionnaire two questions about their comment on the Civil Registration System and suggestions for further improvement, were asked in order to analyze their attitudes and perceptions.

It is found that out of total respondents (140), 80.7 percent respondents didn't want to comment the system. But among the respondents who had commented, 10 percent said that this system is not effective. Similarly, about 8 percent respondents commented that it has less publicity, so, less usefulness. As well, 1.4 percent respondents commented that it should be follow up timely so that it becomes effective.

With respect to the suggestions, most of the respondents (45.7%) didn't want to give suggestions. However, among those who gave suggestions, most of the respondents (30%) suggested that household visit should be arranged by municipality if possible to register the event by recruiting a local man power in each ward offices, due to which the people who do not have time to go to registrar's office and who are ignorant about registration, can get benefit and the government system would be effective. Other suggestions also were provided by them. VRS should be published and broadcasted through electronic and non-electronic media, which accounts 5.7 percent, so that it becomes effective; should provide service from ward office, which accounts 10.7 percent.

## CHAPTER VI

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 6.1 Summary of the Findings

The study was carried out in Bharatpur municipality selecting 140 households as sample size where there were vital events within reference period. Based on the obtained data this study has found the major findings of information about the Civil Registration which are listed below:

- ) Among the total households having cases of vital events during the reference period, the highest proportion (19.3%) of the respondents are from 25-29 years age group followed by 30-34 which is accounted for 17.1 percent.
- ) The majority (46.4%) of respondents fall in Brahman-hill caste/ethnic group followed by Newar which accounts 15.7 percent.
- ) Because of Hindu religious country, majority of the respondents (87.9%) are from Hindu religion followed by Buddhist (11.4%).
- ) Majority of the respondents are involved in services which accounts 29.3 percent followed by business (27.9%), agriculture (17.1%) and daily wage (13.6%).
- ) It is found that 95 percent of respondents are literate among them 42.1 percent have attained intermediate and above level of education.
- ) Mean number of family size among the respondents is 6.1 which is greater than national average (5.25). Majority of the respondents (50.7%) has 5-7 members in their household.
- ) Most of the studies have revealed that vital registration in Nepal is very poor and almost all the registered events are very lately registered. The study area (Bharatpur municipality) may not be an exceptional case. But the registration of vital event is in increasing trend.
- ) The obtained data from the municipality office records shows that 6,126 cases of vital events were registered during one year period. Among them 4,133 cases of births 275 cases of death, 972 cases of marriage, 745 cases of

migration and only one case of divorce were registered in municipality during the year.

- J This study shows that the respondents have good knowledge about vital registration. Among the total respondents, 83.6 percent of the respondents have knowledge on vital registration.
- J About 13 percent of the respondents who have heard about VR had heard about it 12 years before followed by 10 years before which comprises 12 percent respondents.
- J More respondents (49.6%) have radio for getting information on civil registration. The second major source of information about VR is seemed as television.
- J Above 37 percent of the respondents who have heard about vital registration responded correctly that any event should be registered within 35 days of occurrence.
- J In this case study, it is observed that majority of respondents (26.5%) understand that main purpose of registering birth is 'to enroll in the school', 'to get citizenship certificate' and 'to provide information to government'.
- J About 37 percent of the respondents responded that the death should be registered 'to transfer the assets and pension of the dead person'.
- J Majority of the respondents (24.8%) said that the marriage is registered 'to prove relationship' followed by the respondents who said 'to legalize the event' which accounts 23.9 percent.
- J About 31 percent of the respondents don't know why the migration is registered and more than 28 percent of the respondents gave the answer that registration of migration is done 'to get social rights in the place of destination'.
- J More than 63 percent of the respondents use to discuss about vital registration with others in the community and more than 76 percent of the respondents also use to talk about vital registration in the family. The majority of respondents (24.1%) have registered one marriage event followed by 19 percent registering one birth.



- J More than 53 percent of the respondents who have attained SLC and above level of education have ever registered the events.
- J More proportion (46.6%) of the non-agricultural respondents than agricultural (29.6%) are found to have ever registered the vital events.
- J More than 93 percent of the respondents responded that the registrar did not hesitate to register an event and didn't called for the next day.
- J Among those who have ever registered the vital events, more than 24 percent of the respondents responded that they registered the event because of to get citizenship and about 19 percent of the respondents said legal compulsion.
- J Out of 140 households there occurred 149 events all together in the reference period. Out of total events occurred in the respondent's household, about 65 percent events are not registered, only about 35 percent events are registered and only about 12 percent of the events are registered timely i.e. within 35 days of occurrence of an event.
- J It is found that in the study area, 35 percent of the first births and 26.7 percent of second births are found to be registered.
- J According to father's education, 37 percent of the fathers who attained SLC and above level have registered the birth whereas only slightly more than 33 percent of the lower secondary level attendants have registered.
- J Only 37 percent of the SLC and above level attendants mothers have registered the birth while this figure is slightly greater for those who attended lower secondary which accounts 40 percent.
- J Slightly greater than 30 percent of the unregistered births are not registered because of no need of birth certificate followed by not knowing about registration, which accounts 27.3 percent.
- J It is found that major cause of not registering deaths were 'no need of death certificate' which accounts 32 percent and 'not knowing about registration' this also accounts 32 percent.
- J Among the not registered migrants, majority of the respondents (46.7%) responded that the cause of not registering migration was 'not knowing about registration of migration'.

- ) The proportion of registered marriage events within one year period is in increasing trend with the increase of education level of both bride and bridegroom. No marriage registration observed where the bride's education is below lower secondary.
- ) The majority of respondents (54.2%) who have not registered marriage events said that they did not need of marriage certificate.
- ) With respect to the suggestions, among those who responded, 30 percent suggested that household visit should be arranged by municipality if possible to register the events by recruiting a local manpower in each ward office. To make it more effective it should be broadcast and publish through electronic and non-electronic media with highlighting it's importance.

## **6.2 Conclusions**

In Nepal, vital registration programme has crossed 27 years. But the achievement of this programme is inferior in both quality and quantity. It is well known that very little efforts have been made to increase the coverage of the vital events. Penalty of not registering a vital event is nominal and the use of registration certificate is also limited. As a consequence, most of the events are not registered or even if they are registered, they are registered very late, that is, years after the events have taken place. On the other hand, very little evaluation studies have been carried out and recently no evaluation studies regarding the effectiveness, coverage and improvement of this system have been done. As a result, no body knows the percentage of under registration of vital events and whether it is improving or deteriorating. So, for demographic analysis, the data obtained from civil registration is not used.

It is also observed that, an individual registers an event when he needs registration certificate of the event. So, the more births were found to be registered after 6 or 12 or 16 years of occurrence of the event. At that time, there may occurs the probability of memory lapse, the information may not be valid. Similarly, death is registered when the assets of dead person have to be transfer to other's name. Migration is registered if the birth occurred in destination and certificate of birth is

needed from that place or enrolling the children in school or in any other institution or if any purpose migration certificate is needed. Marriage is mainly registered by the fear of spouse thinking if deceived by any and if certificate is needed to get citizenship certificate for bride or when both spouses are going abroad or they need certificate for other purposes. However, the quantity of birth registration has been seemed increasing because of many fields of application of birth certificate.

In Nepal, the weakness of the system may be due to lack of sufficient budget for the administration, supervision, control and monitor of the system because most of the government's effort depends upon donor agencies. These agencies have been giving the priority on the issues of women and children's vulnerability, health, family planning, HIV/AIDS and other profitable fields, which are global and burning issues. But the civil registration cannot have contribution in these global issues because the system is not effective and complete. As well, the weakness of the system start from central level to local level. There is lack of manpower, equipment and separate offices/rooms to perform the registration of vital events and related works. The existing manpower have also no motive to help government and to motivate people rather to save their job. It may due to they are not trained as a consequence they don't know importance of registration of vital events but they think it is just for a job. Also, it is found that people don't have intention to register the events even if they have knowledge about it. Therefore, no positive relation between educational attainment and vital registration has been observed.

Due to the difficult topographical structure of Nepal, in the remote rural areas, an individual has to walk hours or day to reach the VDC or registrar's office. Also, if s/he goes to register, it is not sure that s/he can register the event because, there may be lack of forms of related events and registrar may not be present. If s/he fails once, s/he may cancel the registration or postpone for many days/months/years later. This condition also observed in sub-urban areas where there is no facility of transportation.

In case of Nepal, if the process is made easy and who ever comes for registration and if the event is registered, it may bring many social problems in the border side because any of the Indian residents can register event for his/her self

benefit and can take citizenship of Nepal easily. That's why it is not an easy task as we rise voice for its completeness.

Since, the registered forms and certificates are very valuable evidences of his/her life or proof of his/her identity and nationality, so these documents should be long lasted. But the paper and printing quality of form and certificate are very low. The loss of any evidence may arise other legal problems.

If the VRS becomes very effective and complete, it provide us populations related data monthly/annually which helps us to analysis the effectiveness of any programmes. It helps National Planning Commission to make social policy and programmes after analyzing the vital statistics. Similarly, from the record of births and deaths registration, an effective and error-less voter list can be made. Also, the registered documents provides the related proofs to judiciary body of government. Information about death registration is also beneficial for Health Ministry to find the causes of death and to solve that problems.

Despite the importance of vital data for the different ministries, planning commission, judiciary body and other governmental, non-governmental and civil society, no efforts of integrating the civil registration have been made by them. The Maoist problem and political crisis rather worsen the system. Local Registrars have no environment to work in the VDC and most of the remote VDCs are destroyed. Therefore, the firm records and regularity of system has been difficult to conduct.

### **6.3 Recommendations**

Based on the findings, conclusions drawn from the obtained data and review of existing literature, the recommendations to strengthen the VRS in the study area especially in Nepal are listed below:

- ) The existence vital registration law should be reformed according to the demand of time and implementation of the law should be effective,
- ) Civil registration should be made compulsory not only a will of the citizen,
- ) The ways and places of necessity of registration certificate should be broaden,

- J People have knowledge about civil registration but they have no sufficient knowledge and they don't know the importance of civil registration but they only know the civil events should be registered and why it should be registered, they can hardly answer. That's why they should be provided enough information needed to enlighten in this regard,
- J The emphasis on the sufficient knowledge about vital registration in school curriculum and in population subject of higher level of education should be given,
- J The manpower of vital registration should be added and they should have appropriate qualification in this matter to collect and manage the records properly,
- J In the remote areas where a resident has to walk hours to arrive at VDC office for registration, ward level government body should be authorized to distribute forms and s/he should inform about related documents,
- J In case of urban area, where population density is high, ward level service should be provide by adding manpower of vital registration, if possible household visit should be performed,
- J The quality of registration forms and certificates should be improved both in paper and printing,
- J At least one computer for the purpose of keeping record should be equipped with necessary materials in each district and municipality office,
- J A continuous training programme for manager, supervisors and staffs who are working in registration of vital events should be carried out. The training plan should distinguish between internal training, which is directed towards civil registrars, vital statisticians, and other technical and administrative personnel or emphasize techniques, methods, and skills, and external training, which is directed towards policy makers, local officials, medical and health personnel and others associated with the quality and uses of civil registration and vital statistics, which should be designed to inform groups about the needs and function of civil registration and vital statistic,

- ) Seminars and workshops for personnel from within the system should be scheduled periodically to exchange views on problems encountered in civil registration and vital statistics operations,
- ) The most important thing is that the target groups whose vital events have been or will be recorded, must inform about the compulsory and importance of civil registration. The general public need to know where, when and how to register the events. The best way to reach the general population through media, and other information, education and communication campaign techniques,
- ) In Nepal, radio is still only one and strong media to supply the information about vital registration to remote rural areas, so sufficient information on local language through this media should be supplied. Entertainment programming on television and radio can be a powerful force for the communication of messages, especially among illiterate or semi-literate audiences,
- ) Information through press media should be supplied by using newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, posters, hording boards, booklets, etc.,
- ) In urban area, where access of internet is possible, should be inform though internet broadcasting,
- ) For the implementation of the above mentioned fundamentals, a sufficient budget, assets and aid is necessary.

So, Ministry of Local Development, Ministry of Health and Population, National Planning Commission, other doner agencies especially working for the management of population, health, nutrition and human right, INGOs, NGOs, and community based organizations should integrate civil registration in their programmes and should assist and co-operate with the Vital Registration Management Section of the government.

## REFERENCES

- Bharatpur Municipality, 2005, *Hamro Bharatpur* (Bharatpur: Bharatpur Municipality Office).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, *Municipality Records Data Sheet on Civil Registration* (Unpublished) (Bharatpur: Vital Registration Section of Bharatpur Municipality).
- Bhende, A. and Kanitkar, Tara, 2003, *Principles of Population Studies* (Delhi: Himalaya Publishing House).
- Bohara, Umesh Kumar, 2005, *Vital Registration System, Knowledge, It's Completeness and Utility: A Case Study of Kirtipur Municipality, Kathmandu District: An Unpublished Dissertation Submitted to the Central Department of Population Studies* (Kathmandu: CDPS).
- Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), 2003, *Population Census 2001: Selected Urban Tables* (Kathmandu: CBS)
- \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, *The Population and Socio-Economic ATLAS of Nepal* (Kathmandu: Survey Department of CBS)
- \_\_\_\_\_, 2005, *Nepal in Figures* (Kathmandu: CBS).
- Japan Overseases Cooperation Volunteers in Nepal (JOCVN), 1996, *Vital Registration Statistics in Nepal*, (Kathmandu: JOCVN).
- Ministry of Home (MoH), 1993, *Prativedan* (Vyaktigat Ghatana Darta Namuna Sarvekshan) 2049 BS (Kathmandu: MoH)
- Ministry of Local Development (MoLD), 1998, *Vyaktigat Ghatana Darta Karyakram Ek Parichaya*, (Lalitpur: Vital Registration Section, MoLD).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 1998, *Vyaktigat Ghatana Darta Garne Sambandhma Diyeko Nirdeshan. 2056 BS.* (Lalitpur: MoLD)

- \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, *Janma, Mirtu Tatha Vyaktigat Ghatana (Darta Garne) Ain, 2033 BS.* (Lalitpur: MoLD).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, *Janma, Mirtu Tatha Vyaktigat Ghatana (Darta Garne) Niyamawali 2034 BS,* (Lalitpur: MoLD).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 2003, *Vyaktigat Ghatana Darta Karyakram, Barsik Partivedan 2060 BS.* (Lalitpur: MoLD).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 2005, *Nepalma Vyaktigat Ghatana Darta Karyakramko Samkshipta Chinaree,* 2061 BS, (Lalitpur: MoLD).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, *Vyaktigat Ghatana Darta Karyakram, Barsik Partivedan 2061 BS.* (Lalitpur: MoLD).
- Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE), 2002, *Nepal Population Report 2002,* (Kathmandu: MoPE).
- Nepal, Bimal, 2006, *Nepalma Panjikaran: Sthiti, Pravriti Ra Chunauti* (Annapurna Post,31, January, 2006).
- Plan-Bangladesh, 2006, *Country Report Presented in Fourth Asia and the Pacific Regional Conference on Universal Birth Registration Bangkok, Thailand, March, 2006,* ([http://www.plan\\_international.org/pafs/bangladeshcp.paf](http://www.plan_international.org/pafs/bangladeshcp.paf)).
- Shryock, Henry S., Siegel, Jacobs and Associates, 1995, *The Methods and Materials of Demography,* (New York: Academic Press, INC).
- Shrestha, Chandra B., KC, BK., Koirala, GP., 1985, *New Plan on Vital Events and Civil Registration System in Nepal, Draft Report,* (Kathmandu: UNFPA)
- United Nations (UN), 1998, *Handbook on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System, Preparation of Legal Framework, Series F, No. 7* (New York: UN).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 2001, *Principle and Recommendations for Vital Statistics System, Revision-2* (New York: UN).



UNICEF, 2003, *Fact sheet: Birth Registration* (<http://www.unicef.org/newsline/2003/03fsbirthregistration.htm>).

VPL, 2006, *Civil Registration* ([http://www.vpl.ca/ccg/civil Registration. html](http://www.vpl.ca/ccg/civil%20Registration.html)).

Wolfender, HH., 1954, *Population Statistics and Their Compilation*, (Chicago: The University of Chicago, USA).

Yang, G, Hu J., Rao KQ., Ma J., Rao C., Loiper AD., 2005, *Mortality Registration and surveillance in China: History, Current Situating and Challenges* (<http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/articlerender.fcgi>).

## Appendix 1 : Questionnaire

### Individual Characteristics

Code No: .....

Date: .....

District: Chitwan

Municipality: Bharatpur

Ward No:

Village/Tole:

Name of Household Head:

H.H members:

Name of Respondent:

Caste/Ethnicity :

Age:

Sex: Male: 1

Female: 2

Religion: Hindu.....1

Bouddhist...2

Muslim.....3

Christen..4

Other (specify) ...5

Literacy Status: Literate .....1

Illiterate.....2

Educational Attainment

Primary .....1

Lower Secondary ..2

Secondary .....3

SLC .....4

Intermediate .....4

Diploma & above ..5

**Occupation**

Agriculture .....1

Business .....2

Industrialist .....3

Service .....4

Daily wage .....5

Other (specify).....6

**Income (monthly): Rs.**

### Questionnaire on Vital Registration

Questions		Response Category		Skip
1	Please mention the number of vital events occurred in this house during one year (from Chaitra, 2061 to Phalgun 2062 B.S).	<u>Event</u>	<u>No.</u>	
		1. Birth	.....	
		2. Marriage	.....	
		3. Migration	.....	
		4. Divorce	.....	
		5. Death	.....	
2	Have you heard about vital registration?	Yes	.....	Q.No.11
		1		
		No	.....	→
		2		

3	If yes, when did you know?	Before ..... Year(s)..... Month(s)	
4	What was the source of information about vital registration?	Radio ..... 1 Television ..... 2 Newspaper ..... 3 Hording board ..... 4 Friends ..... 5 Other (specify) ..... 6	
5	Where should we register the vital events?	Municipality office with local registrar ..... 1 with municipality chief ..... 2 Other (specify) ..... 3 Don't know ..... 9	
6	Within how many days of occurrence of an event, we should register the event?	within .....days Don't know ..... 9	
7	Why should we register the birth?	To enroll in the school ..... 1 To get citizenship ..... 2	

		<p>To help the government providing information</p> <p>.....</p> <p>3</p> <p>All of the above</p> <p>.....</p> <p>4</p> <p>Don't know</p> <p>.....</p> <p>9</p>	
8	Why should we register the death?	<p>To transfer the private assets and pension of dead person</p> <p>.....</p> <p>1</p> <p>To solve the insurance problem</p> <p>.....</p> <p>2</p> <p>To provide information for government</p> <p>.....</p> <p>3</p> <p>Others (specify)</p> <p>.....</p> <p>4</p> <p>Don't know</p> <p>.....</p> <p>9</p>	
9	Why you feel it is necessary to register the marriage/divorce?	<p>To prove the relationship</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.1</p> <p>To get the share of property</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.2</p> <p>To legalize the event</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.3</p> <p>Others (specify)</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.4</p> <p>Don't know</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.9</p>	

10	Why you feel it is necessary to register the migration?	To get social rights in the place of destination ..... .1 To provide information for government ..... .2 Others (specify) ..... .3 Don't Know ..... .9	
11	Have you ever visited at municipality office?	Yes ..... .1 No ..... .2	
12	Have you ever met local registrar?	Yes ..... .1 No ..... .2	
13	Have you ever used to discuss with others about vital registration?	Yes ..... 1 No ..... 2	
14	Do you use to talk about vital registration in your family?	Yes ..... 1 No ..... 2	
15	Have you ever register the vital events (birth, marriage, divorcee, migration, death)?	Yes ..... 1 No .....	Q.No. 28(a) →

		2	
--	--	---	--

16	Which of these events have you registered?	<u>Event</u> 1. Birth ..... 2. Marriage ..... 3. Migration ..... 4. Divorce ..... 5. Death .....	<u>No.</u> ..... ..... ..... ..... .....	
17	How much time it takes to arrive at the municipality office?	Around ..... minutes Don't know  9 .....	.....	
18	Did you easily find the registration office?	Yes ..... 1 ..... No ..... 2 .....	.....	
19	Did you easily find the form there?	Yes ..... 1 ..... No ..... 2 .....	.....	No.21 
20	If no, what were the causes not found the forms?	Lack of forms ..... 1 ..... Due to over crowding in the registration section. 2 ..... Others (specify) ..... 3 .....	.....	
21	Did you easily visit the registrar?	Yes ..... 1 ..... No ..... 2 .....	.....	
22	Did the register hesitate to register and called you next day?	Yes ..... 1 ..... No ..... 2 .....	.....	Q. No.25 

23	If yes, what were the causes to called you nex day?	Lack of forms ..... 1 Late arriving in office ..... 2 Due to over crowding in the registration section ..... 3 Others (specify) ..... 4	
24	How many times you have to go for registration?	..... times	
25	While going to register the vital events, what was the reason for registration?	Legal compulsion ..... 1 To enroll the children in the school, ..... 2 To get citizenship ..... 3 To transfer the pension and other remuneration ..... 4 Other(s) (specify) ..... 5	
26	Did you pay any money for the registration?	Yes ..... 1 No ..... 2 Don't Know ..... 9	
27	If yes, how much did you pay for what event?	Event No. 1. Birth ..... 2. Marriage ..... 3. Migration .....	



		4. Divorce	.....	
		5. Death	.....	

### Birth Related Questionnaire

28 (a) If there is any birth occurred in the house during this year (from Chaitra, 2061 to Phalgun 2062 B.S) and (if it is registered go to Q. No. 30)

#### Childs:-

Birth Place: Home: ..1  
Hospital...2  
B. Order: Sex: Age:  
B. Date: Reg: Date

No.	Father	Mother
i. Name		
ii. Age		
iii. Education		
iv. Occupation		
v. Income (monthly) Rs.		

28. (b) If the birth is not registered?

#### Childs:-

Birth Place: Home: ..1  
Hospital...2  
B. Order: Sex: Age:  
B. Date:

No.	Father	Mother
i. Name		
ii. Age		
iii. Education		
iv. Occupation		
v. Income (monthly) Rs.		

29	If you have not registered the birth, what are the causes of not registered?	Not thinking important .....1 Not need of birth certificate .....2 Could not meet the registrar .....3 Others (specify) .....4	
----	--	---	--

### Death Related Questionnaire

30	Is there any miserable event like death occurred in this year (from Chaitra 2061 to Phalgun 2062)?	Yes .....1 No .....2 → Q. No.35	
31	In which place, death is occurred?	At the house .....1 At hospital .....2 On the road .....3 Others (specify) .....4	
32	What was the reason of death?	Old age .....1	

		By illness	.....2	
		Accidents	.....3	
		Other (specify)	.....4	

33	Have you registered the death?	Yes .....1 No .....2	→ Q. No.35
34	If No, what are the reasons of not registering the death?	Not thinking important .....1 Not need of death certificate .....2 Could not meet the registrar .....3 Others (specify) .....4	
<b>Migration Related Questionnaire</b>			
35	Where is your birth place	..... District.....Anchal	
36	How long have you been living here?	since..... years (s), ..... month (s) Don't know .....9	
37	Were you migrated here?	Yes .....1 No .....2	
38	If yes, where were you coming from?	District..... Anchal.....	
39	What was the reason for migration?	.....	
40	Did you register your migration?	Yes .....1 No .....2	→ Q. No.42
41	If no, what is the reason for not registering?	Do not knowledge .....1 Nobody asked to register .....2 Not thinking important .....3 Could not meet the registrar .....4 Other (specify) .....5	
42	When did you register your migration?	Before ..... year (s) ..... Month (s)	
<b>marriage Related Questionnaire</b>			
43	Is there any marriage occurred in this house during this year (from Chaitra 2061 to Phalgun 2062)?	Yes .....1 No .....2	→ Q. No.45(b)
44	if yes, have you registered the marriage?	Yes .....1 No .....2	

45 (a) If the marriage is registered

No.	Bride-groom	Bride
i. Name		
ii. Age		
iii. Education		
iv. Occupation		
v. Income (monthly) Rs.		

Marriage date: .....

Marriage type: .....

45 (b) If the marriage occurred and not registered.

No.	Bride-groom	Bride
i. Name		
ii. Age		
iii. Education		
iv. Occupation		

v. Income (monthly)		
Marriage date: .....	Marriage type: .....	Registered date:.....

46	What is the reason why you couldn't register?	Not getting time to register .....1 Not need of marriage certificate .....2 Could not meet the registrar 3 Others (specify) .....4	
----	---	---	--

**Divorce Related Questionnaire**

47	Is there any divorce occurred in this house during this year (from Chitra 2061 to Phalgun 2062)?	Yes .....1 No .....2	<del>Q</del> No. 51
48	If yes, have you registered the divorce?	Yes .....1 No .....2	<del>Q</del> No.49 (b)

49. (a) If the divorce is registered ( skip to Q. No. 51)

No.	Husband	Wife
1. Name		
2. Age		
3. Education		
4. Occupation		
5. Income (monthly)		

Divorced Date:..... Regd. Date: .....

49 (b) If the Divorce is not registered

No.	Husband	Wife
1. Name		
2. Age		
3. Education		
4. Occupation		
5. Income (monthly)		

Divorced Date:.....

50	If the divorce is not registered, what are the causes?	Not getting time to register ... 1 Not need of divorce Certificate ... 2 Could not meet the registrar	
----	--	---	--

		3 Other (specify) 4	... ....	
51	Your comment about existent vital registration system.			
52	Do you have any suggestion about the vital registration system?			