

A near-escape!

A longtime migrant from Nepal to India, Bhim, 43, was earning a living and providing for his family in Bengaluru, India. But how long can a person stay away from their family? Bhim decided to pack his bags and return home. On December 21st, he arrived at the Nepal-India border crossing point. As he was approaching Gaddachauki Ground Crossing Point (GCP) on Nepal's side, a group of strangers suddenly encircled him and took him towards nearby woods. Bhim was carrying his luggage and money he had saved for his family. The burglars showed no mercy and snatched everything Bhim had. He escaped and ran to the GCP where he reported the incident to a case management officer. The Psychological First Aid (PFA) responders were the first to hear him out. They helped him contact his family and referred his case to Nepal police. The PFA responders were calm to receive him and guide him through the process.

Bhim is one of the many cases at GCP that IOM has supported through its Effective case management by strengthening Isolation Centres and Ground Crossing Points (GCPs) management for Rapid Response and Preparedness against COVID-19 project by providing protection-related services.