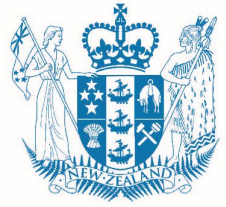


Hon Erica Stanford

Minister of Education
Minister of Immigration



7 October 2025

MPOL 271

Dr. Achyut Aryal
Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) – New Zealand
president@nrnanz.org.nz

Tēnā koe Dr. Achyut,

Thank you for your email of 13 September in which you raised concerns due to recent events in Nepal, and the impacts on Nepalese students in New Zealand.

I understand that relevant officials at Immigration New Zealand (INZ) have been in touch with you directly regarding your correspondence, advising you that student visa processing teams have been made aware of the issues you have raised.

INZ is aware that Nepalese Government and official activities were halted between 8 and 13 September 2025, but that there has been a de-escalation in the days following. I am advised that access to financial documents and transactions should now be returning to normal.

INZ officials appreciate that there may be some delays obtaining official documentation due to the pause over early September, but the expectation is that students will be able to proceed with obtaining No Objection Certificates and complete fee transfers without significant issue.

In May 2025, INZ published guidance for immigration officers in assessing applications that may be affected by civil unrest in the applicant's home country. The guidance emphasises a pragmatic and holistic approach when assessing such applications, taking into account the applicant's specific situation and the nature of the disruption in their home country.

I am advised INZ has also instructed the team processing Nepalese student applications to respond with appropriate flexibility around deadlines on a case-by-case basis. Any students experiencing issues with transfers or documentation are encouraged to communicate this to their immigration officer. This can include requesting an extension to the deadline to provide documents requested by INZ.

Thank you again for writing and take care.

Nāku iti nei, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Erica Stanford'.

Hon Erica Stanford
Minister of Immigration