

The press and the nation's democracy rise and fall together

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Sudan scam takes a new twist, three Home Ministers being dragged

Kathmandu: The Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA) is all prepared to file a case against former Inspector General of Police-trio Om Bikram Rana, Hem Bahadur Gurung and Ramesh Chand Thakuri, but the anti-graft commission is under excessive pressure not to bring to book three other political heavy weights who are presumed to have been involved in the, Darfur, Sudan

corruption case.



Will they be penalized?

To recall, a parliamentary committee headed by Pradip Gyawali of United Marxist Leninists after thorough investigation had found out that embezzlement of Rs 350 million had taken place in the purchase of Armored Personal Carrier, APC, for Nepal Police Peace Mission in Darfur, Sudan.

Some three dozen high ranking police officials including Additional Inspector General Kalyan Timilsena, Madan Khadka and Arjun Jung Shahi have been found guilty by the

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Obscure consensus

It appears that Chairman Dahal will continue, as per the new scheme, to pounce upon India but the new lobby comprising of Bhattarai and Baidya will take a soft corner as regards the Indian establishment and thus no wonder that Dr. Babu Ram Bhattarai is being taken as a consensus candidate for the next Nepal Prime Minister post whose elevation to this coveted post if at all that takes a formal shape, will not only soothe India but will also provide some succor to the so called liberal parties who generally toe the Indian instructions in their political conducts. It has now become a tradition, unfortunately.

Indepth-Analysis

Kathmandu: The Nepal Maoists provide an impression that they just want to behave as is demanded in the democratic society but yet some cynics take the fresh Maoists overtures as a ploy of the former rebels to keep their detractors diverted from the main issue of the completion of the peace process and the

constitution draft, which according to Nepali Congress leader Khum Bahadur Khadka, is to capture the state ultimately.

However, what is in the Maoist party's inner mind no body knows to the extent that the party's insiders even have failed to understand the real intent and the motives of their own party's

top hats?

Though, for the outsiders, the Maoist party appears to have been clearly divided into two distinct lobbies, the first is talked to have been led by Prachanda with his meager followers then the second one is being run by the joint efforts of Baidya and Bhattarai, yet some sharp brains claim that the splitting up observed inside the Maoist camp is nothing more than a gambit to keep the party's critics in sheer hallucination.

The same sources opine that Prachanda, Baidya and Bhattarai adhere to the same line of State capture though at times they collectively dramatize the whole affair to give an impression that they were a divided lot.

Politics is more than meets the eye, say observers.

"It is not that what they have given us to understand of late", thus takes an intelligent analyst while talking to this paper over telephone.

He further adds, "Neither there

exist different lobbies as is being talked nor do they differ in their chartered ideologies".

The whole affair is to keep rest of the parties to think that the Maoists have now changed with the fresh five point agreement, adds the same source.

But yet the Maoists have changed a bit. The party, as per the agreement, has begun abandoning the prevailing dual security system. To the extent that those Maoists militias who had been on duty at Chairman Dahal's house have been already sent to Chitwan cantonment which raises the hope that other militias providing securities to their top hats too will soon pack.

Positive overtures have been observed.

Highly informed sources claim that the Maoists have devised a new stratagem on how

to keep the Indian regime in good humor but keeping intact their tirade being made against India.

Two pronged policy thus appears to go in parallel.

It appears that Chairman Dahal will continue, as per the new scheme, to pounce upon India but the new lobby comprising of Bhattarai and Baidya will take a soft corner as regards the Indian establishment and thus no wonder that Dr. Babu Ram Bhattarai is being taken as a consensus candidate for the next Nepal Prime Minister post whose elevation to this coveted post if at all that takes a formal shape, will not only soothe India but will also provide some succor to the so called liberal parties who generally toe the Indian instructions in their political conducts. It has now become a tradition, unfortunately.

Needless to say, Bhattarai, the JNU graduate, is a Maoist leader who believes in the theory that a "grand intimacy" with the Indian organization was a must if Nepal

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Foreign forces forced split: Yadav

Kathmandu: Chairman Upendra Yadav of Madhesi Janadhikar Forum Nepal continues to cry foul against foreign forces (thanks he did not said India) for engineering yet another split in the party that he had carefully nurtured.

Yadav is also the deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs.

Addressing a press meet in Rajbiraj of Saptari district, Yadav, Sunday June 5, 2011, said that increasing foreign activities in Nepali politics is the main reason behind split in Nepali parties.

A delayed realisation indeed. "As long as Nepali political parties remain engaged in fighting with each other, foreigners will continue to manipulate our politics and such splits will be a regular phenomenon", Yadav opined.

Brilliant conclusion. While Yadav was making lectures at the press meet, MJF-Nepal Saptari district chapter was also divided.

So sad!

District Chief S.N. Mehta along with a dozen members joined the MID-Ganatantrik led by Jayprakash Gupta. Both Gupta and Yadav hail from the district of Saptari.

Yadav has already become a lone crusader.

Ekla Chalo Re...Ekla Chalo Re..

Ideal intimacy between UML and Maoists, ploy to buy time

Kathmandu: The United Marxist Leninists (UML) has formally asked the largest party in the constituent assembly, Unified Maoists, to lead the national unity government.

In response, the Maoists leaders have asked the Prime Minister Jhal Nath Khanal not to tender his resignation until national consensus reached.

What an exemplary friendship?

On matters related with Prime Minister's resignation, UML and Maoists leaders had held a meeting



at the Prime Minister's residence in Baluatar, Saturday June 4, 2011.

The UML had forwarded the informal proposal, according to reports, referring to a decision reached which says that the three

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Implement past agreements, Sushil asks Dahal

Kathmandu: "The Nepali Congress very much wants you, Prachanda Ji, to lead the nation...let me assure you that we have no preference but, we want logical end to the peace process first", Nepali Congress President Sushil Koirala daringly told Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal when the latter had come to meet him at his personal residence, June 5, 2011.

"Beginning 12-Points Agreement and as of now we

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Leadership Arrogant & Autocratic: Arjun K. C

Kathmandu: Here is one bad news for the Nepali Congress.

Why Arjun Nar Singh K.C., the NC veteran, is angry with his party leadership? This is the big question loaded with meaning.

Addressing a cadre training program called as "purification and unity campaign" organized by the Nepali Congress that saw the presence of some 200 cadres in Narayanghat of Chitwan district, Mr. K.C. alleged that the party leadership is becoming more and more arrogant and autocratic.

"I could observe that our leadership is turning arrogant and autocratic", said K.C. adding, "I would like to urge our cadres to stand up against such an autocratic leadership."

Whether K.C.'s outburst will contribute to the so-called

'purification and unification campaign' or it will be just the otherwise perhaps K.C. himself as one of the senior leaders of the party knows better.

Yet, K.C. who used to be a close chum of Surya Bahadur Thapa during the Panchayat regime did not divulge under what pretext the NC leadership was becoming dictatorial?

And to whom he was referring?

"We need to express our differing views in order to make the party becoming more democratic", he then toned down his attack.

Mr. K.C., a strong pillar of the Panchayati regime then later joined the Nepali Congress after the Janaandolan-I of the 1990.

Yet K. C. and Senior Thapa possess similar views. Old friendship.

Next-PM: Bhattarai?

Kathmandu: Though informally, with the ruling United Marxist Leninists' party asking the largest party in the Constituent Assembly, Unified Maoists to lead the national unity government, energetic search has already begun in the ex-rebel camp for a new candidate for the Prime Ministerial post.

Quite surprising it may be but true that Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal has in an informal manner said that he was least interested to lead the country. So who is the next Prime Minister?

Could be the best joke of the month.

Labelled as a hardliner, senior vice chairman Mohan Baidya Kiran says talking to the media

that "there is no debate as such that our party should lead the government but the party is yet to take a formal decision regarding the suitable candidate".

"Until consensus is reached in the party for the candidate and with the Chairman refusing to take the government leadership, the present government should be continued", Baidya told the media.

"Our Chairman will not lead the government that will change in four to five months", also said the Maoists ideologue and Prachanda's mentor.

It has already been reported that the panel led by Baidya is quite positive over elevating another vice chairman Babu Ram

Bhattarai as the next prime minister. But the offer has come with conditions attached.

According to a condition forwarded by Baidya panel, Narayan Kaji Shrestha should be released from his duties as the deputy leader of the party's parliamentary delegation and Shrestha should be replaced by C.P. Gajurel.

Gajurel and Baidya possess similar views.

If Dahal and Bhattarai panel refuse the offer, Baidya panel is likely to propose General Secretary Ram Bahadur Thapa 'Badal' for the prime ministerial post.

China, India, US, UK & EU want Bhattarai as next-PM: For

how long could have vice chairmen duo Mohan Baidya Kiran and Babu Ram Bhattarai of Unified Maoists Party allowed Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal- the so-called ferocious to continue divide them for their real ideological differences and rule the party as infinitum.

The strategy of divide and rule that his former New Delhi mentors inherited from the British colonial rulers, say Dahal's critics, Dahal might have inherited the policy while he was New Delhi's guest until few years back.

That Dahal was not having good relations with Bhattarai for long and also having lost his long

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Dual Security system for Maoists leadership ends

Kathmandu: "Chairman Comrade we are leaving but you take care of yourself".

Santu Darai 'Parwana' a former Maoists' guerrilla fighter who was the personal security guard of Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal of Unified Maoists party until June 6, 2011 since the days of rebellion made the heart-touching remark at a farewell ceremony.

His voice was choked with emotion.

"We are feeling hesitant to leave because we feel that our leadership is facing highest



security threats, but we will abide by the party's decision", said Yubraj Dulal.

Dulal was providing security to Dahal for the last five years.

While saying so, Dulal had

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TUBORG

...Wherever you are.



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K. P. Oli is answerable

The attention of the national population including those of the Nepali academia has been drawn towards two such events which though has been summarily shelved for good (?) but yet demand appropriate debate and the conclusions of which be made public. We mean it.

Certainly, the first attention has been centered on what the UML leader Surendra Pandey said of his own party colleague-Khadga Prasad Oli last weekend.

For some reasons, we will take up the second issue at some opportune moments in the days ahead. But this should not mean that the second event is of less important one. Both possess immense value for us all because it is directly related with our national pride and identity.

Pandey, presumed to be a close relative of the incumbent Prime Minister made several allegations on Oli-the Machiavellian brain inside the UML party and among the volley of those charges, the serious of it all, has demanded this debate. Debate now has become a must.

Pandey above all indicated at the party central committee the last week that Oli had developed 'unhealthy relations' with the Indian regime and that Oli was not at all in favor of the declaration of Nepal as a republican state.

These two allegations, among the crowd of many, are not only dangerous but contain the seeds of the birth of several Lendrup Dorjes' time permitting if Pandey was correct in his sudden outburst he made against his own party comrade-K. P. Oli.

Question thus comes to the mind of mature analysts as to why Surendra Pandey chose the party's CC meet to denude Oli? Looking at the gravity of the allegation and the serious manner in which he put it for the perusal of the party "fifty-fifty" comrades what becomes clear is that Mr. Pandey must have made such a vitriolic attack on Oli either he was told to do so by his "near and distant relatives" or he himself have concluded that it was the opportune moment to take to task Oli-the declared arch rival of Nepal PM Khanal.

Albeit, Oli enjoys the open support of Madhav Kumar Nepal who, according to the authentic rumors, was elevated to the rank of Nepal Prime Minister though was an election defeated candidate. Mr. Nepal deformed the very meaning of democracy.

The real *mens rea* of Pandey can't be read but what can be authentically said that Pandey was hell bent on exposing Oli and his ilk for some private and collective political reasons. Was it all a planted affair?

Oli though denied the grave allegation that he was tentatively an India man but his answers that he forwarded at the party meet were perhaps not sufficient enough to assuage the general population nonfigurative feeling that he was a man close to the alien force to which Pandey mentioned.

Oli thus remains answerable for furnishing his logical clarifications to rebuke Pandey's ruthless remarks but that must be a convincing one to the majority of the mass or else we all will have to gulp this bitter pill concluding that the fate of mother Nepal was so and that several "traitors" could also have been in the same conduit but yet remain uncovered. Sharp media brains must begin investigations.

Question could also be asked as to why Pandey made Oli his prime target? It is easier to hurl allegations but difficult to prove. Simple hobnob with the Indian Ambassador or for that matter the regime in the South doesn't necessarily make a Nepali leader the stooge of the friend in the South which is now being ruled by an Italian.

From East India Company then to Italy. So sad, as Yoga Guru Ram Dev lamented Sunday 9.35 PM NST as televised by AajTak TV Channel.

From fire to frying pan.

Having said all these, the fact is also that Oli, sorry to say, more often than not champions the cause of the Indian regime to prevail in his own country's politics though in an oblique manner. Oli must understand that the people take him like this as mentioned above.

He is free to have intimacy with the Indian leaders but he should not be allowed to impose the Indian dictates on Nepali politics if he dares to do so.

It would be in the fitness of the things that the senior UML leader Oli makes his clarifications before it is too late.

However, he must be given the benefit of doubt as it would be an affair of natural justice. Democracy and its fundamental norms would demand that Oli be taken in good faith until he clarifies his standpoints as against the grave allegation made by Surendra Pandey. The issue can't be dismissed simply because the UML has already shelved this matter. Nation and its interests should be accorded top priority and the UML party in no way can be more important than mother Nepal.

Oli must forward his rebuttal at the earliest or else the stigma will chase him for the rest of his life. Pandey has already made the issue an international one and the media has begun to watch Oli in a much more cautious manner.

That's all.

Terrorism, Natural Disasters and Least Developed Countries-II

By Madhukar Shumshere J.B.Rana
 Professor South Asian Institute of Management
 Former Finance Minister

Trade complementarities are minimal between the LDCs and the rest of Asia because these countries are mired in poverty and have very little surplus for trading. More than trade complementarities, it is submitted, 'production complementarities' are required by them so that their supply capacities can be enhanced. Foremost, what is required is massive investments in economic and social infrastructure befitting the grand opportunities for trade and investment that have arisen with the emergence of Asia and the innovations in regional and sub-regional cooperation.

On Natural Disasters

It is well recognized that being prepared for disasters though preventive actions contribute more to mitigating the psychological, social and economic costs from natural disasters than simply responding to natural hazards. It is fashionable for all nations to have a chapter in its national development plans on disaster management but it can not be said that these policies are integrated with sustainable development and environment protection. Furthermore, beyond a chapter the planning process does not engage the districts and communities for prevention and preparedness as it is here where rescue, relief, resettlement, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities have to take place and lessons learnt for future preparedness.

While the above may be a valid proposition, nevertheless it must be underscored that Nature does not recognize political boundaries and so the best modality is to cooperate regionally and sub-regionally. For example, flood mitigation necessitates the construction of dams and barrages over common rivers that should opt for a win-win scenario for all parties in the short, medium and long runs. Silt being transported by the Himalayan rivers is another acute problem that causes flooding.

The unilateral approach to flood control is a source of conflict and acrimony between South Asians that could cause local friction that cumulatively could lead to war if the water security problems get so acute as to lead to food insecurity, mass public health insecurity exaggerated by the erratic monsoonal behaviour. Droughts are becoming more frequent and alarmingly existing side by side with flooding in different parts of a country. The question that should be asked is this: can any country manage two natural disasters simultaneously? All the more reason why South Asia should cooperate regionally in disaster management.

Floods, flash floods and silt controls are best tackled if there is a vision to cooperate regionally by planning around regional watersheds. The horrific Tsunami and Kashmir earthquakes should at least herald a new era of bilateral and regional cooperation between India and Sri Lanka, on the one hand, and India and Pakistan, on the other, on joint actions be it in social science or engineering science research and development; establishment of safety codes for construction to prevent infrastructure collapse that causes the greatest death and destruction; development of e-training programmes for all major actors-- health workers, construction workers, security workers, community volunteers; common certification of architects and

engineers for similar environments; joint awareness programmes carried via TV networks and, not least, a common curriculum in all SAARC schools for disaster management and the role of students and teachers for generating awareness and taking preventive measures which should be culminated in a bi-annual SAARC Youth Festival for Disaster Prevention and Mitigation.

Three grand lessons must be learnt from the Tsunami and Kashmir quakes. They are:

(a) that dynamic State regulation is critical for effective coordination of the rescue, relief, rehabilitation, resettlement and reconstruction actions which can not be left to international and national civil societies to take the lead;

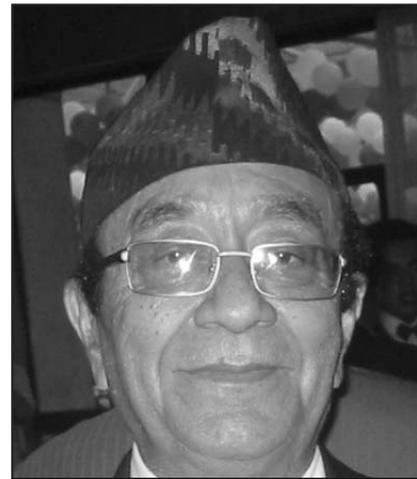
(b) peoples' do respond to natural disasters with great compassion and empathy from all walks of life: No State should, in the interest of people-to-people cooperation should arrest the feeling of solidarity by refusing to accept humanitarian charity from outside their own territory, and

(c) grand natural disasters provide great opportunity to break the ice in long-standing diplomatic relations, if it is seized by visionary leadership in the affected countries.

On Least Developed Countries

The rise of Asia is because of the rapidity of its trade expansion that has happened due to innovative policies pursued, firstly, by Japan and then later, since the 1960s, by the other East Asian economies of Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong. By the 1970s the South East Asian tiger economies of Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand by permitting the so-called "flying geese" to land in their territories, as Japanese manufacturing industries sought cheaper labour markets, solidified the industrial revolution that had begun in Asia through Japanese leadership. In short, trade has been the driving force behind Asia's emergence.

Trade complementarities are minimal between the LDCs and the rest of Asia because these countries are mired in poverty and have very little surplus for trading. More than trade complementarities, it is submitted, 'production complementarities' are required by them so that their supply capacities can be enhanced. Foremost, what is required is massive investments in economic and social infrastructure befitting the grand opportunities for trade and investment that have arisen with the emergence of Asia and the innovations in regional and sub-regional cooperation. Trade complementarities can be garnered through enforcement of the WTO's Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration on duty



NATIONAL

free and quota free access (DFQF) to all LDCs products on a sustained basis till they graduate from LDC status. Asia could start with its implementation in 2006 itself and not await 2008 as per the SDT text. By pursuing an expanded version of India's visionary doctrine of non-reciprocity--- the Gajral doctrine--- by making it pan-Asian and for which we, the LDCs and LLDCs, expect leadership from each of our regional leaders for the common good.

We note that the WTO does allow the member countries safeguard measures to provide DFQF where domestic industries are threatened. Where such safeguards are justified, nevertheless industrial countries (ICs) and the developing countries (DCs) of Asia must compensate LDCs by

(a) Providing additional labour market access to make up for the loss of foreign exchange earnings or

(b) Offering highly concessional soft loans or
 (c) A mix of both until the safeguards are in effect. Why is this necessary? Since excluding textile, clothing, footwear, bananas, sugar from the DFQF list excludes the full participation of LDCs in the global trading system as these are precisely the products in which they have comparative or competitive advantages.

SAARC solidarity can be manifest in a collective approach to WTO dealings. However, this did not happen as when Pakistan and Sri Lanka jointly moved, at the Hong Kong Ministerial Meeting, that the preference provided to LDCs should also apply to them as they had "similar economic circumstances". Thus the 100% free access was reduced to 97% product coverage under Annexure F of the final WTO Declaration. Which means that 157 tariff lines could be excluded that includes, significantly, textiles and clothing.

The ICs' classical divide and rule politics was obvious to those who could see it being maneuvered by the US and Japan as they enticed both Pakistan and Sri Lanka with the so-called 97% provision. The USA insisted on a ceiling of 97 per cent of tariff lines precisely because it allows it to protect its textile and garment sectors from imports from

countries such as Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Nepal (which earlier in the meeting it tried to exclude altogether). That figure also allows Japan to continue to protect rice, fish, and leather goods and footwear.

America has used the policy of preferential access as a political tool. Thus it picks the Caribbean and African countries as preferred partners. Europe does so likewise with the addition of the Pacific countries. Hence Asian nations must show complete solidarity to help Asian LDCs for Asia to emerge as the centre stage of global politics since LDCs are collectively the geo-strategic under belly of Asia; being susceptible to extra-regional influences in the unfolding multipolar world of globalization, as in the 19th century, but now with a difference. It will be based on the interplay of economic blocs rather than empires.

Production complementarities would be a grand reality with the Asian Highway and Asia Railway networks coming into effect at the earliest as this will link Tokyo with Istanbul by two vital modes of transport. However, it should start with investments in the LLDCs and LDCs to provide them with the necessary kick start to their economies. Further, creating Asian Airways and Asian Energy Grids should also be part of the solution as LLDCs and LDCs are endowed with water and energy resources. One might add here that for South Asia, especially the SAQG sub-region comprising Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal, a South Asian Water Grid would be an optimal solution to meeting our water, food and employment security needs as well as utilizing least cost water-borne transportation.

In the interest of Asian solidarity all Asian countries should ratify the New York Convention on Land-Locked Countries 1965 to give security to these nations based on the rule of international law. This will also help avoid all manner of policy and legal confusion arising in the various bilateral, regional and sub-regional arrangements for 'transport', 'trans-shipment' and 'transit' as it is necessary to keep separate issues pertaining to 'freedom of transit trade', which is required by all, from 'right of transit', which is the exclusive need of the land-locked states.

(Concluded)

सुनिश्चित महिला तथा
बाल अधिकार सुसम्पन्न
नेपालको पूर्वाधार



नेपाल सरकार
सूचना तथा सञ्चार मन्त्रालय
सूचना विभाग

My special tribute to late Jasuda!

I have abundant reasons to recall my intimacy with late Jasuda Pradhan and her family. It is not only because we were serving the nation being in the same profession but I think more than that we have had already developed familial ties which remain intact even as of today. If I am allowed to talk more then I should say that my love and honor for the family of Pushpa, son Pujab and daughter Punjita, has increased more after the sad and sudden demise of Jasuda. Pushpa may not have felt

"undeclared younger guardians" is no more in this material world. She was of a short temper but used to cool down herself the next second. This was her superb quality which forces me to remember her even in her complete absence.

On several occasions, she dared to teach me lessons but with a cause. She was supportive as well. It was her personal recommendation to Pushpa that I was allowed to publish my news paper from their small letter press and that too at a

with Jasuda and Pushpa, Pujab and Punjita were just primary school going kids.

The love and care with which the junior Pradhans were accorded was simply superb. A perfect family. Jasuda-a perfect mother.

One fine morning I suddenly entered into Pushpa's rented house in Ghatteku where I saw, Pujab and Punjita, quarrelling over some petty issues as it so happens between brothers and sisters but as soon as they recognized my arrival inside the guest room, the verbal clash came to a grinding halt. In fact this was not a quarrel but a minor event which is a regular phenomenon in each and every household wherein we have kids of the same age or the age difference is not that much.

Fortunately, Jasuda left this material world when she had already sent Pujab abroad for higher studies. Concurrently, she had also managed good education to Punjita. Punjita now is a qualified girl.

But when it was time for her to enjoy the real family life, she left the world. Unjust Mother Nature.

I can easily understand the pains of the family of the Pradhans. It is almost a year or so that we lost one of our loved one. For me, Jasuda's sudden demise meant that a straight forward talking sister is not with me now. Slowly I have been losing my intimate ones including Jasuda.

By the way, I have lost my parents and elder brothers in quick succession and thus I understand what it all means.

A girl from remote Ilam district forced the Kathmandu dwellers and the self proclaimed media hawks to provide her due recognition. She deserved that. One can imagine how much efforts and hard work it may

low price comparatively speaking. I still remember this special gesture awarded to me personally. How can I forget?

Jasuda embodied in her persona a full nation. She was mother Nepal in that she remained ever sincere in proving herself that she was one of the true daughters of mother Nepal and in the process she herself became the mother Nepal. Her nationalistic articles must have teased the Nepali versions of Lendhup Dorjers'.

I recall that several intimate friends of the Pradhan family deserted them while they were in their crisis for some mysterious reasons. But the family smilingly braved all the troubles in a collective manner. It must have been hard days for Pushpa and Jasuda. The hard work in the hard days finally made them even stronger that they emerged as

When I came in close contact



have taken to scale such heights? She finally exhibited that she can do it and she did it with prestige and honor which got reflected on the funeral day of Jasuda at Pasupati Aryaghat. A sea of her friends were there to pay their last tribute to her. This does tell us to how much she was honored among her own professional colleagues.

To sum up, my heart goes to Pushpa and the rest of his family members. I can understand their pain because I have seen for myself as to how much they loved each other. Mother Nature became suddenly unkind towards this blooming family. But I am happy to observe that the bereaved family has realized the eternal truth. They have adjusted to the new situation. Let me hope that Pujab and Punjita will take care of their beloved father. After all Pushpa lost his better half who both may have several things to accomplish together. May have common dreams to be fulfilled. Pushpa! Take the entire event as a nightmare. Alas! Rest in peace Jasuda!

En Bref

NC leaders pounce upon Maoist party

Kathmandu: The Nepali Congress leaders are quite sceptical towards the implementation of the five point deal signed between major political parties to extend the Constituent Assembly tenure, May 29, 2011. The five point agreement was made when the CA tenure had already expired, claim legal practitioners.

First to express his serious concerns was the NC senior leader Sher Bahadur Deuba who said that the Maoists were delaying the entire process by referring to internal dispute in the party.

Deuba blamed the Unified Maoists Party for the delay at an interaction program held in Kathmandu, May 4, 2011.

It is the bounden duty of the Maoists to implement each and every points of the deal, however, no progress as such has been made in this aspect, said Bimalendra Nidhi talking to one of the leading national dailies.

Nidhi and Deuba belonged to the same camp when the NC got split some years ago.

"I am sorry to say that Maoists are least concerned in putting the agreed upon deal into practice, they are not worried of the state of the peace process", says President Sushil Koirala.

Second generation leader Koirala (80 plus) was speaking at a different program which was also held in Kathmandu on Saturday, May 4, 2011.

"It is up to the Maoists to transform themselves in the changed order or the party will be wiped from the Nepalese political scene", also said Koirala.

Madhav Nepal, Sujata and Hisila in Bangladesh: Facebook builds pressure

Kathmandu: Madhav Kumar Nepal, Sujata Koirala and Hisila Yami- the three illustrious leaders of New Nepal have left for Bangladesh. After all, critics have it that the UML senior leader who was defeated twice in the Constituent Assembly election, Sujata Koirala too a CA election defeated Nepali Congress leader and Hisila Yami who is known more for her erratic activities and also as the wife of Vice Chairman Babu Ram Bhattarai than her contribution to the Unified Maoists Party or for that matter plight of Nepali women are not needed at all for the Constitution drafting process.

By the way, Sujata's son-in-law the VOIP notoriety Rubel Chaudhary also hails from Bangladesh.

Interestingly, the members of a FaceBook Social Networking Group organized a demonstration at the Tribhuvan International Airport, Friday June 4, 2011 against the untimely visit of the leaders.

The group claims that the leaders should not leave the country until country gets its new Constitution.

Does that mean the leaders should stay home always? Mr. Nepal had left the ongoing party central committee meeting in the middle and left for the airport.

Nepal's Industrialists restive: Disobedience campaign likely

Kathmandu: The Federation of Nepalese Chambers, Commerce and Industries, FNCCI, too appears to have become restive. The mood is to confront with the government.

The newly elected President of the FNCCI, Mr. Suraj Vaidya, said yesterday, May 3, 2011, that "none of the economic indicators available at the moment were a positive one".

According to Mr. Vaidya, the country's economy has become the victim of the prevailing high prices (inflation) and power load shedding. "Our economy has already approached to the danger point", added Mr. Vaidya.

The prices have gone up with two digits and the competitiveness of the Nepalese products has gone down due to the prevalence of increasing production cost, Vaidya continued.

"The liquidity crunch observed in the banking sector has begun hitting the industrial sector in a negative manner", stated Vaidya lamenting that such a liquidity chomp has forced the industrial sector to pay high interest rates.

Vaidya also declared in a determined manner that the minimum pay scale for the workers as forwarded by the government through the Gazette can't be honoured as the announcement has come without completing the required procedures and consultations with the industrial sector.

The FNCCI Vice President, Pasupati Murarka point blank said that we will not be able to claim such big thing because their inner eyes have not been well opened yet.

Moreover, the National Geographic and Discovery on TV channels, for instance, though there are other channels, show the animal activities and behaviours. It is good that people learn about the animal world through these channels and it assists in wild life conservation and preservation of some rare species of animals and plants. Most animals and insects are the sources of learning and good lessons, too, for man in many respects. Simultaneously, they also show the life style, activities and behaviours of some indigenous

people, mostly from Africa as well as from remarkably undeveloped countries, and such corners of the world, even from Nepal. The world perhaps enjoy watching these channels well that's why they are in existence, in such a tough competitive age of media market. These two channels are very famous among the audience, and they might have been earning well, so they are sustaining. The animals and indigenous people are displayed turn by turn through these channels, why? Maybe the condition of wild animals and indigenous people resemble to some extent. Both of them have the limited necessities of food, shelter and sex that they are only the main concerns to them. For example, in Nepal, the *Raute* people who reside only in the jungle, and Kusunda people might be well entertained by these channels. Number of documents, books and articles has already been published on the various topics of indigenous people that they have been good reading materials to many people. Are they only good raw materials to entertain the topics to the researchers and writers so as to make the good reading materials? The indigenous people have more to say. (Concluded)

SECOND IMPRESSION

N.P. UPADHYAYA

this nor have I told him so but the fact is that I take myself as one of their nearest and dearest undeclared guardian.

I remember very well that the family of the Pradhans was close to me since past three decades.

Pushpa and Jasuda constituted the family. Both comprised the family. Both provided a good shade to the family. Jasuda may have contributed more. This is what I firmly believe.

To be honest, only two media personalities have had the right and command to take me to task and when I committed a mistake.

Jasuda was the first one who had the right to do so because I always thought that this lady, my sister, speaks the truth and thus I normally listened to her long lectures even if those were aimed against me. I always took her suggestions in a serious manner. Thus I have reasons now to claim that one of my

low price comparatively speaking. I still remember this special gesture awarded to me personally. How can I forget?

Jasuda embodied in her persona a full nation. She was mother Nepal in that she remained ever sincere in proving herself that she was one of the true daughters of mother Nepal and in the process she herself became the mother Nepal. Her nationalistic articles must have teased the Nepali versions of Lendhup Dorjers'.

I recall that several intimate friends of the Pradhan family deserted them while they were in their crisis for some mysterious reasons. But the family smilingly braved all the troubles in a collective manner. It must have been hard days for Pushpa and Jasuda. The hard work in the hard days finally made them even stronger that they emerged as

When I came in close contact

Topics and the Indigenous People-II

Rajkumar Gurung

English Lecturer, Mahendra Campus, Tahachal

The indigenous people, who are waiting for their betterment because they are shown the false dreams by the strangers, become the character of sympathy when the foreigners and the people from developed countries comprehend their stories. Is it not the emotional bankruptcy? They are taken as the subject of astonishment and laughter. Some may make these stories jokes and means of pastime when they take them to their countries. It means they joke on these people instead of promoting their status. The essay doesn't mean to say that all the people do this. Some person like Hillary and some researchers have the real purpose to promote these people's life status which has been seen in practical ground as well. Though there is not any strong evidence to claim that they do this, but it is inferred that it can be done because some Nepalese have seen that the foreigners laughing watching the documentaries of such indigenous people. They may raise a lot of questions like, "Do they live such way? Do they eat this type of food? Do they have only this much income? Do they like this? Is this their life style?" Thus it is nothing more than the emotional bankruptcy.

The emotional bankruptcy has been common these days as the simple minded people are always being used for different purposes rather than to promote. The mission of the researchers seems to be really thought provoking but it hardly meets the target, and promoting and uplifting to needy group limits on the slogan. The indigenous groups are unspeakable for various reasons that one is lack of education and awareness. There are other factors too, as they are their own negligence, marginalization by the situation because of their weaknesses to envision the future, having less caliber and talent in majority, less hardworking habit by performing activities, ignorance of even a great loss like losing the kingdom and several remarkable lacking. Slowly and gradually, they have been unspeakable as Mansfield forwards.

For the fact was, the school the

Burnell children went to was not at all the kind of place their parents would have chosen if there had been any choice. But there was none. It was the only school for miles. And the consequence was, all the children of the neighbourhood, the Judge's little girls, the doctor's daughters, the store-keeper's children, and the milkman's were forced to mix together. Not to speak of there being an equal number of rude, rough little

VIEWES

boys as well. But the line had to be drawn somewhere. It was drawn at the Kelveys. (167)

This extract is from the "Doll's House" in which the two little girls- Else and Lili have been unspeakable because of their poor parents but not because of their birth. They belong to underprivileged group. They know that there is a doll's house in the house of the Burnells. The Burnell children are very much proud of having that doll's house. Kezia, the youngest child of the Burnells, is very eager to inform this to other children in order to impress them. The Kelveys children are very much longing to see it but they cannot even express their happy when they see this. The youngest Lili seems to be very much excited to see the lamp that was real. In the doll's house, they see the father and mother dolls in the drawing-room, their two little children asleep upstairs that attract them much but they cannot express their happy freely. Lili expresses her happy with her sister, Else giving a tug to her skirt from behind when she sees the lamp in the doll's house. No sooner had they looked the doll's house as much as they could quell their thirst than the parents of Kezia "shooed them out away as if they are chickens" (172). The Kelveys children were not allowed to speak to the children of doctors, judge and store-keeper that there was a demarcation line in between them. Man is separated by such social boundary. There should be beyond boundary maybe another

thesis of this paper, only then prosperity of all human being goes ahead. The ground level of the indigenous group is not so different from this. This essay doesn't mean

For the fact was, the school the Burnell children went to was not at all the kind of place their parents would have chosen if there had been any choice. But there was none. It was the only school for miles. And the consequence was, all the children of the neighbourhood, the Judge's little girls, the doctor's daughters, the store-keeper's children, and the milkman's were forced to mix together. Not to speak of there being an equal number of rude, rough little boys as well. But the line had to be drawn somewhere. It was drawn at the Kelveys. (167)

to say these people are never to be entertained as topics but their situation is also set under consideration.

The indigenous group has the various kinds of hunger and thirsts for chances and opportunities. They cannot have strengthened their situation because of deprivation and poverty. As Bruno Bettelheim opines, "deprivation and poverty do not improve man's character" (Heritage of Words 167), the underprivileged group's progress and prosperity is in question. To be a thinker and visionary person, one has to contribute a lot of time and money. The ones who are always suffering for hand-to-mouth problem cannot enhance their situation. So, it shows that the hungry people are easily led. Darwin argues, "[n]othing is more easy than to tame an animal" (Darwin 2). Similarly, nothing is easier than to convince the underprivileged group and it is very easy to deal with marginalized groups. They can easily be convinced. They trust others immediately. Generally, they don't suspect other people as they are brought up in such cultural environment. They think all the



people are like them. Maybe this is their weakness, but non-indigenous group never miss to befool the indigenous people sometime if beneficial for their sake. They hardly know that they are tricked and hunted by the world which has been too much selfish and opportunist. They believe on their muscles and fortunes more than in tactics and betrayal upon betrayal. It seems they have the principle of two hands are the best friends in the world but the world is not on this side that there has been a remarkable change of space and time which is beyond the imagination of such underprivileged groups. The indigenous people are not so visionary, except Harka Bdr. Gurung, because hungry stomach cannot provoke good thoughts.

The researchers, either they are foreigners or non-foreigners, write the stories of indigenous people in various topics; they take their interviews; they take their photographs; sometimes they record their village life in the video tapes, and they write the books or theses or dissertations by collecting all the necessary information. The researchers collect the information in free of cost as though they are totally valueless, they take this thing as the rubbish thing or an iron, and they turn it into gold, but most of the indigenous people cannot do this. After doing such research, their promotion is sure, their good income is sure, the students who read these stories broaden the horizon of their knowledge but the horizon of the indigenous people in terms of society, health, education, economy, and life style is as usual, rather it is

Everest

Issues and Challenges of Nepalese diplomacy in the contemporary world

Professor Ram Kumar Dahal

In this connection, Nepal has to correct its diplomatic weaknesses, promote its national interest and independent international identity and erase the image of a failed state by improving its diplomatic capability in the contemporary world. The protection, promotion and safeguarding of the national interest and national security of a small, landlocked, LDC, and weak country like Nepal and promote its independent identity in the comity of nations and erase the image of a failed state is really big challenge for Nepal. The Nepalese diplomacy in post 1995 days, (when Nepal was involved in armed conflict) has become very weak in regional and international politics. Due to its weak diplomacy, Nepal has also experienced the bitter humiliation and taste of defeat in the election of UN Security Council in 2007, and the in the president of General Assembly from Asia in 2010. The Nepalese diplomacy has also failed to protect the interests of its citizens/workers seeking job opportunities in different countries of the world (who have to suffer humiliation, exploitation, suppression and oppression of various forms).

The Nepalese diplomacy is suffering from various diplomatic weaknesses and challenges and is becoming weaker in today's globalized world. These existing challenges in the present globalized world are both national and global.

The internal factors creating challenges in Nepalese diplomacy including the existing political, economic, socio-cultural, environmental, constitutional/legal, and psychological ones are also creating several complications in Nepalese diplomacy. In course of analyzing the issues of Nepalese diplomacy, it is essential to analyze a number of core issues of the diplomacy including the objectives, goals and priorities of Nepalese diplomacy, the organization, powers and functions of MOFA, the criteria of appointment of ambassadors (e.g. *Afro manche* or *Ramro manche*; career diplomats vs. political activists), their screening by the Constituent Assembly/Parliament, system of transfer, their remuneration, facilities and privileges, the overall administrative provisions, and the legal provisions governing their behavior general, the responsibilities of the diplomatic

agents in the present global context; categorization of diplomats on the basis of the countries they are accredited to; practical basis for the establishing permanent embassies in foreign countries and establishing diplomatic relations with them are other crucial issues in this direction. The role of the Nepalese diplomats to meet the expectations of the people in the changed political context is other concerned issues. The issues of making

the next economic power next to the US. The ruling elites have to take maximum benefit out of their economic development and out of the existing competition between the US and China in one hand and China and India on the other. Nepal has also to learn to respect the security sensitivities of northern neighbor (e.g. not permitting anti-Chinese activities in the name of free Tibet from Nepalese soil).

In post 2008 days, the critical mass have even stated



DOSSIER

Nepalese diplomacy more inclusive and truly democratic based on the spirit of good will and friendly relations. The issues of meeting the needs, expectations and aspirations of the people in the 21st century making Nepalese diplomacy more effective and dynamic in future are other related issues. The need to frame comprehensive laws, rules and regulations for strengthening Nepal's diplomatic capability in the days to come and to regulate this sector efficiently are other related issues.

The strengthening and modernization of MOFA according to the need of the time and situation and according to the aspirations and expectations of the nation and the people never remained the priority of democratically elected governments as if the nation needs a friendly relations with China. The trend of hiding and destroying old documents in foreign policy bureaucracy, Nepal's declining international prestige and its diplomatic failure in international politics, including its diplomatic failure to solve Bhutanese refugee problem, and control anti-Chinese activities from Nepal has, among other things, raised the credibility issue. There is no trend of encouraging intensive research in various issues of foreign policy including its relations with India. Due to unstable internal politics, Nepal has failed to make its diplomacy sounder and more effective to strongly assert its national interests promote its independent international posture, erase the image of a failed state and implement its foreign policy goals effectively in practice. The lack of consistency in foreign policy and diplomatic behavior has also created confusions in this sector. Nepal, even in the present changed political

context, has failed to identify its diplomatic goals and objectives; determine effective criteria and qualifications for the appointment of diplomats (e.g. career diplomats vs. political activists or *Afro manche* vs. *Ramro manche*); basis of establishing diplomatic relations with the countries of the world. The democratically elected governments, even in post 1990 days, have failed to identify the grounds, criteria and the reasons for establishing permanent embassies abroad. No important assessments have been made whether its diplomacy was capable of meeting the growing expectations of the people and the country in the changed national and global context, and whether its embassies abroad have achieved its real foreign policy goals or not, whether it has played an effective and dynamic role in regional and sub-regional diplomacy or not. (e.g. sub regionalism or often known as the growth quadrangle, comprising India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan). The Nepalese diplomacy in the current years has also failed to assess the contribution of the non-resident Nepalese in Nepal, and to develop a clear-cut policy towards them.

The regional and global challenges are equally important. Nepal's growing strategic importance in the present day world (particularly due to the growing competition between China and the US in one hand and China and India on the other, and the Tibet/China issue for the west) in the 21st century, Nepal, due to this, has become the battleground for the western powers. The regional and global actors and state and non-state actors are influencing Nepalese diplomacy in their own ways serving their own interests and creating problem to a small and weak country like Nepal. The changes created by globalization, and the activities of regional and global actors/factors have created several problems.

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DATELINE KATHMANDU

Niraj Aryal

Pandey's Pandora's Box!

During Peoples' Uprising-62/63 he had made anti-republican remarks. He was favouring Monarchy.
He has links with criminal elements, protects them and supervises illegal activities.
What is your formal stance on the Indian role in Nepali politics?
He is operating parallel institutions such as Madan Bhandari Foundation, Madan Bhandari Sports Academy and is involved in various suspicious activities that have weakened the party. He is using those institutions against the party. The institutions receive funds from unknown sources.

These are some of the total 11 allegations recorded against United Marxist Leninists Leader K.P. Sharma by politburo member and erstwhile Finance Minister Surendra Pandey, May 31, 2011.

Pandey is close to the panel led by party chairman and incumbent prime minister Jhal Nath Khanal. Some even claim that Khanal and Pandey were close relatives.

To recall, just the other day Oli had recorded a nine point proposal against the party chairman-Khanal.

In the party central committee meeting, June 1, 2011, the leaders were set to discuss the 5-Point inter-party deal to extend the CA tenure however, no other topic except Pandey's allegation against the so-called influential leader Oli were discussed.

The most terrified of the lot that went on the berserk against Pandey was none less than the former Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal and his ilk. It was obvious. Birds of same feather flock together.

The central committee later asked Pandey to withdraw his allegations against the party senior leader and warned him not to get involved in such irresponsible activities as this.

The party out rightly rejected the proposal.

Having caused the damage, Pandey too as a disciplined cadre of the so-called Communist Party regretted for his decision however, he said that he had only handed over the proposal to General Secretary Ishwar Pokharel and was completely taken aback to see the proposal covered by newspapers the next day. Perhaps Pokharel was also playing double.

"It was my mistake to make those personal allegations. I would like to regret and withdraw my proposal. No one else except me had prepared this proposal."

Pandey tried to save Chairman Khanal.

But yet Oli is now held suspect.

It was Oli's turn to reply:

"I had never in my entire political career been charged with such grave allegations. I was taken aback that it was one of our own comrades hurling such grave charges against me. I challenge Pandey to prove these allegations"

"Regarding Madhan Bhandari foundation- the organization is involved in social activities thus it is also working in disseminating the ideology of multi-party peoples' democracy (bahudaiya janabadi). Is it a crime? Does it mean that I am operating a parallel institution?"

By the way, Madan Bhandari Foundation receives huge fund from the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu. Generous Indian embassy.

As far as my links with India is concerned, at time of signing of the 12-Point Agreement (22 November 2005) I too had gone to New Delhi to hold talks with the Maoists. I was also accompanied by Comrade Nepal (Madhav) and Comrade Amrit. While in New Delhi I have no idea who met whom there but we all returned to Kathmandu together. My relation with India is no different than the relation that the party shares with the Southern neighbour. I am the party's international bureau chief. It is my duty to establish relations with India, China and the US as per the party's structured line. Surendra Pandey has opened Pandora's Box.

Let people decide fate of Monarchy

In a rare interview, former Crown Princess Himani Shah talked to Bhuvan Sharma for Naya Patrika National Daily. Mrs. Shah is the Chair woman of the Himani Trust, Nepal.

Q: Well! You have kept engaged yourself in the social sector but a section of the people opines that you have been practicing politics through the Himani Trust. What is its essence? Will you shed some light?

Mrs. Shah: To establish intimate relations with the common people, one doesn't need to establish a Non Governmental Organisation-NGO. I always go to the people. I am always with them. I was with the people even long time back. There is no need to have a medium as such in going to the people. Wherever I have gone, people have provided me with great love. They are sympathetic towards me. Nepalese brothers and sisters have bestowed their immense love for me. Moreover, my inner desire to go to the people prompted me to establish the Himani Trust. I think that if the general people are benefited from my involvement in the societal works then I am there to serve and thus there is the existence of the Himani Trust. I just want to serve the people. I belong to a family which remained active in social activities and so my entrance in this sector. I have been inspired by my own family members.

Q: You have been working in Dolakha district and claim that you were working in favour of

the society, however, a section of the local people takes your activities as a political one. What say you?

Mrs. Shah: No! It is not like that. Had I wished to join politics, I could have opened a separate party myself on my own. Why I preferred the Trust then? The Trust has been in existence solely for serving the people and the society. I just want to remain in societal works and nothing more than that. I haven't heard so far of any protest as such of my engagement there. I am fortunate enough to bag immense sympathies from the local people in Dolakha. The people there continue to greet me with affection.

Q: Are you interested in politics or not?

Mrs. Shah: I see to politics much the same way as other common Nepali population has been watching. Like the common men, I am also abreast with the course of Nepali politics. But this doesn't mean that I wish to join politics.

Q: So how you take the prevailing politics of Nepal?

Mrs. Shah: To be candid, the country's politics is not moving as per the people's aspirations. The general population is not happy with the politics that we have at the moment. I share people's sad feeling.

Q: How do you feel while mixing with the people as ex-Crown Princess?

Mrs. Shah: It is not that I have mixed with the people only in the recent days and years. I used to go to the people even then. I feel immense pleasure whenever I mix up with the local Nepali brothers and sisters. When I meet them, I feel that I am their daughter or say in-law. I take it that way. This gives me immense pleasure.

Q: You were having the title of Crown Princess. Now how do you feel when people take you as ex-Crown princess?

Mrs. Shah: I am least concerned in this matter.

Q: Don't you think that a day may come when you will regain your lost title?

Mrs. Shah: Well! It is an issue solely to be decided by the people. Their preferences and wishes count. What the people prefer and long for, let it happen. I think this issue better be left to the will of the people. Let them decide as to what they want. Moreover, for the decision of this issue, one has to allow the population to forward their own verdict. One has to go to the people. We must abide by the people's verdict.

Q: Why you preferred Dolakha for the initiation of the activities sponsored by your Himani Trust?

Mrs. Shah: Nothing like a surprise.

One has to initiate activities from somewhere. Once I visited Dolakha and met the local inhabitants there. During my meet

with the local people, they not only exhibited sympathies and care for me but also talked of their prevailing pressing problems. I felt that my social jobs should right begin from Dolakha district. We are at the moment concentrating our entire efforts to make NAMDU as a model village. The experiences gained from this village will carry us to some other places. Our policy is to make serious efforts in the sectors such as, education, health, youth and development.

Q: What about the money in the Trust? Is it your private investment or some funding from outside as well?

Mrs. Shah: At the moment we have a pure of five million rupees in the Himani Trust. This is the money collected so far from our own executive committee members. But the process of receiving support is in progress. Himani Trust is receiving funds. Some international donors and a few INGOs have expressed their willingness to support us. Definitely, we need financial support in the process of accomplishing community works.

Q: Have you approached some donors for extending support to your Trust?

Mrs. Shah: Yes! We have approached some. The ocean itself is the collection of drops.

Q: Your husband, ex-Crown Prince Paras Shah, quite often remains in controversy. How do you feel as and when such controversies crop up?

Mrs. Shah: How and why he



with love from himani shah

is dragged into controversies too should be taken into proper account. Had those controversies been based on facts then it would have been taken as a normal affair. But the controversies crop up, more often than not, by exceeding the realities. It exceeds the reality as such. When the media raises such issues which were not based on facts and realities, it pains me. So I think such issues be only raised by the Nepali media only after examining the facts and the existing realities. This is how take it.

Q: How much pleased with your own family life?

Mrs. Shah: I am fully satisfied and happy.

Q: Don't you think that your husband should abandon his drinking (alcohol) habit?

Mrs. Shah: Each and every Hindu woman would want their husband refrain from drinking habit. So I could not be an exception. I too want what other

Hindu wives think.
Q: Were you in pains when the Nepal Royal institution was sidelined?

Mrs. Shah: It is a matter again related with the Nepali population. Whatever has happened, has already happened. My contention is that whatever the Nepali people think of this institution, it should be honoured.

Q: Are you interested in religious affairs?

Mrs. Shah: Yes! I have interest in religious affairs. I wish to participate in the religious events.

Q: Do you visit the temples?

Mrs. Shah: I go to the temples. Mainly I prefer Lord Shiva temples. I visit Pasupatinath temple.

(Text courtesy: Naya Patrika daily dated, June 1, 2011, Thaksh).

NEPALI CONGRESS HAS FALLEN IN THE TRAP OF MAOISTS

Khum Bahadur Khadka
Central Committee member, Nepali Congress

TGQ1: The life of the Constituent Assembly has been extended for three more months. How you have seen this new development? Also tell us whether it was a correct decision or something otherwise? Your comments please Mr. Khadka?

Mr. Khadka: Well, I think that the Maoists will not be honest once again with this extended term if you look at their past behavior coming from the 12 point agreements and several other agreements made down the lane up to this period. They have not yet agreed to free the seized private properties. I don't think that they will return the seized properties so easily and thus I am not that much hopeful of the successful completion of the peace process. The leaders appear to have trusted the Maoists and hence they agreed for the extension believing the Maoists. How these agreements come into implementation only then something could be explained.

If the peace process gets completed well within this three months extended period then that would be in the interest of the nation. But I don't think that the Maoists party will be willing enough to complete the peace process even in the extended CA tenure. I am puzzled whether the upcoming three months will invite a fresh conflict in the country or the extended period be a forward looking for the nation? I think that the Nepali Congress has provided this three month period to the Maoists in order to conserve energy. I think for the Maoists, this extended period is an opportune moment for the accumulation of energy. The Nepali Congress too should consider on how the peace process and Charter draft gets completed within this three months grace period. The NC must devise a calculated strategy to ensure the draft of the new constitution and also

for the completion of the peace process.

The NC should first decide as to how the party should proceed in the days ahead and the extended months?

TGQ2: What sort of strategies should the Nepali Congress devise? Shed light on how you take the May 28, 2011, mid night agreement which allowed the CA extension through the five point agreement?

Mr. Khadka: Why to wait for three months? We can see it within a few days. It has almost been a week of the five point agreement being signed and nothing so far substantial has come to the surface as regards the resignation of the Prime Minister Mr. Khanal. It was talked then that PM Khanal will resign within two to three days but he has not yet. And moreover, he will not tender his resignation for some time now. He should not resign at the moment. When we have talked of a national consensus, why he should resign prior to this national consensus?

I am not in favor of demanding his resignation.

As regards your tagged question, the fact is that the Nepali Congress had forwarded ten points demand which was approved by the Central Committee and had also decided to remain determined in its demands. It was these demands which were carried across the country by the party through mass meets. But the party officials consoled with only five points which they signed while extending the CA term. I am not at all happy with the fresh five point agreement. My displeasure is due to the fact that not even single demands out of those ten point demands framed by the NC were contained in the five point agreement. Unfortunately that did not happen.

TGQ3: Isn't it that the NC which is in the main opposition should have pressed hard the Maoists to

get its ten points approved prior to the CA tenure extension? Did this issue cropped up in the freshly concluded party's CC meet?

Mr. Khadka: Better ask this particular question to Sushil Koirala himself who is the Party President. Why he did it? They should know it better. How can I know of all these? Had it been a party wise decision then I would have got some indications on the issue. They might have concluded that they did a marvelous job with proper care and attention.

But the fact is that, and my contention is also, the five point agreement too should have been approved by the party itself. Ten points were limited to just five points while carrying out the Agreement and that too without having the approval of the party central committee. The five point agreement has thus come by trampling the party's previous ten point demands. This is how they have signed the new five point agreement. I mean it.

Yes! Definitely, the issue was raised in the party's central committee.

Questions were raised as to why the five point agreement was signed abandoning party's original ten point demands? It was just natural that we discussed this issue inside the party paraphernalia.

TGQ4: Well, you do not trust the Maoists given the fact that they have agreed in written that they would complete the peace process within three months? Or do you think that the Maoists will not hand over the weapons to the government even in the extended period?

Mr. Khadka: If at all I have understood the Maoists from my past experiences then I doubt that the Maoists will carry the peace process to its logical end and draft the new constitution. I don't think that the Maoists will provide a positive nod for the draft of a democratic constitution. This is what my personal analysis

is as regards the Maoists.

As regards your supplementary question, I think that the Maoists will not submit their weapons to the government. If they do not submit the weapons then how one could initiate the process of military integration? This is what I think as per the experiences I have so far gained as regards the Maoists attitudes and behaviors.

TGQ5: But the Maoists have accepted the removal of the double security system? Or do you think that the Maoists yet remain interested in State capture? And also tell us as to how the five point agreement will get due



Questions

the five point agreement. Our attention should have been drawn towards the successful completion of the peace process and the draft of a new constitution.

Resignation must not have been made a key issue. I sensed that some sort of power greed had already gripped some of our own party's leaders. But I don't think that PM Khanal will submit his resignation so easily what is being expected of him. This is what I see to it.
(Jana Satta Weekly)

Indian army involved in extra-judicial killings in Kashmir: WikiLeaks

Pakistan Observer - ?Jun 2, 2011: The latest leaked cables by the WikiLeaks reveals that Indian army tried to link Kashmiris with Pakistan after killing them in 2007.

A WikiLeaks cable reveals that Kashmiris were in a state of anguish and grief over extra-judicial killings during 2007. The Indian army labeled the victims as Pakistanis after killing them.

In a recently leaked cable, the website said that a Kashmiri carpenter, who was killed in 2007, was labeled as a member of Lashkar-e-Taiba and a resident of Multan.

The cable (ID 95785) issued on 2/8/2007 issued from the US embassy in New Delhi stated that Srinagar was once again gripped with protests on February 7th, as police officials announced that they had dug up five unmarked graves in an ongoing investigation of custodial killings.

Our interlocutors say Prime Minister Singh is influencing the investigations as a confidence building measure with Islamabad by urging security forces and the judiciary to address longstanding accusations that Indian police and security officials have tortured, killed, and disappeared thousands of Kashmiri civilians in the course of the 17 year long insurgency. While staged encounters and extrajudicial killings are by no means uncommon in India, the case has also prompted clashes in the J&K General Assembly between ruling coalition leaders Chief Minister Gulam Nabi Azad, of the Congress Party, and former Chief Minister Mufti Muhammad Said's daughter, Mehbooba, of the People's Democratic Party.

Widespread protests began in Srinagar on January 28th after the GOI began an inquiry into the custodial death of Abdur Rahman Padder, a Kashmiri carpenter. Press reports say the carpenter was arrested on December 8th and killed in a fake encounter staged by the Special Operations Group of the J&K Police. The police officers then announced to the press that he was a Lashkar-i-Taiba terrorist from Multan, Pakistan, claiming they had recovered an AK-47 rifle, three magazines, 36 rounds of ammunition, and a grenade from his body.

Police investigators later uncovered the killing because

an officer involved in the incident gave the victim's cell phone to a "surrendered" former terrorist as a reward for information. Investigators say the police were motivated by a desire for the recognition and rewards doled out to officers who arrest or kill a suspected terrorist and that the weapons were likely planted on the victim. The Police have now widened the investigation, digging up four more unmarked graves of terrorist suspects killed in similar encounters to see if their DNA matches those of other Kashmiri civilians who recently went missing. Press reports say the Senior Superintendent of Police, Ganderbal Hans Raj - who has a particularly brutal reputation for encounter killings - as well as his Deputy and the two junior officers directly implicated in the case are being held in police custody during the pending investigation.

Ravi Nair explained further that the Prime Minister had launched a policy to end the "scorched earth" method of putting down the insurgency in Kashmir, and that this was a key confidence building measure India was putting in place in talks with Pakistan. He said there has been a re-examination of the way India deals with advantage over China, internal army corruption, distrust of Pakistan and a desire to keep hold of advantageous territory that thousands of Indian soldiers have died protecting.

The cable stated that every time India and Pakistan came "very close" to an agreement on the Siachen issue, the prime minister of the day would be forced to back out by the Indian defence establishment, the Congress Party headline and opposition leaders.

When the 2006 India-Pakistan Foreign Secretary talks set up a joint mechanism for discussing counter-terrorism issues ended with rumours that Pakistan had made a concession on Siachen, observers had said that the prime minister will be significantly constrained in any part of his agenda with Pakistan in the coming months, especially in the face of significant opposition from within his own party and an emboldened BJP that viewed the joint mechanism as an opportunity to portray the Congress Party as soft on terrorism.

Experts respond to Kim Jong-il's visit to China

May 27, 2011: The visit opened possibilities of significant developments in economic cooperation and dialogue.

North Korean leader Kim Jong-il returned home Thursday following an eight-day, seven-night China visit. The Hankyoreh asked experts for their views on Kim's visit.

Kim Keun-sik, Professor, Kyungnam University

Following the strenuous objections that came from Pyongyang after President Lee Myung-bak's declaration in Berlin that he planned to invite Kim Jong-il to next year's Nuclear Security Summit, there had been speculation that North Korea might be abandoning its dialogue approach and returning to a hardline stance. But at this latest North Korea-China summit meeting, Kim expressed a determination, albeit one at a very basic level, to resume the six-party talks quickly and improve inter-Korean relations. This could be viewed as agreement to a dialogue framework that goes through Seoul and on to Washington.

If Washington and Beijing involve themselves actively in the resumption of dialogue on the peninsula, there is a chance

antagonism could give way to dialogue. With U.S. special envoy for North Korean human rights issues Robert King in North Korea to discuss food aid, this movement could be sped up depending on how things proceed.

But with President Lee not taking a proactive approach, we will have to wait and see as to whether dialogue takes shape, as Seoul set the bar too high for Pyongyang to accept in terms of its preconditions for dialogue.

Kim Yeon-cheol, Professor, Inje University

Not long ago, I paid a visit to Hunchun, a city on the Chinese side of the Tumen River between China and North Korea. Fork cranes were there digging the ground for the building of the Wonjongri-Rason highway. There was a report that said the groundbreaking ceremony for the development of Hwangpumpyong Island in Sinuiju had been cancelled, so there are probably some areas in need of working-level adjustments between China and North Korea, including wage levels. So it may be that the groundbreaking date was put off. But I do not believe there is any obstacle to the general

trend.

From China's standpoint, economic cooperation with North Korea means an opportunity to secure an East Sea port, mineral resources, and a low-wage work force. North Korea, for its part, needs foreign capital. In the broad scheme of things, their strategic interests coincide. Economic cooperation will gain momentum following this China visit by Kim Jong-il. What is needed now is internal reform in North Korea.

At the moment, North Korea appears to be on a reform drive. Former Prime Minister Pak Pong-ju, who lost his seat in a conservative backlash after pursuing reforms in 2004 and 2005, was reinstated last year as first deputy director of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee. This is a signal that Pyongyang plans to undertake reforms again. I predict that there will be follow-up reform measures as economic cooperation with China gathers steam.

Lee Hee-ok, Professor, Sungkyunkwan University

In the general context, the outcome of this China visit by Kim Jong-il and summit meeting is a continuation of

China's North Korea policy since July 2009. At that time, Beijing decided on a strategy of bringing Pyongyang closer through policy adjustments, and the strategic relationship between the two countries since then is solidifying within the broader framework, albeit with some small differences. In particular, with a change in leadership coming up in 2012, China needs North Korea's cooperation politically, and it is also in Beijing's interest in practical terms to strengthen relations with North Korea, for example by securing East Sea sailing rights. Improved inter-Korean relations, and stability on the Korean Peninsula in general, are another pressing issue. In this respect, Pyongyang's interests coincide with Beijing's. I think the latest summit saw a reaffirmation of this.

With Chinese President Hu Jintao in need of some diplomatic results ahead of his retirement next year, there is a chance he might apply pressure on Seoul if it adheres to its current hard line against Pyongyang. The South Korean government needs to show some imagination and find the momentum for resuming dialogue if it does not want to get left behind in the current trend in Northeast Asia. The Hankyoreh

Nepal should feel pride in naming Mount Everest as Sagarmatha

Jeff Botz
Himalayan Mountain Photographer Extraordinaire 5/31/11

Q1: Jeff let our readers know exactly what brings you to Nepal quite often. By the way how many times have you been here?

Jeff: This is the most beautiful land in the world. I've been to a lot of places including all around the USA including Hawaii, even to Africa, Japan, scuba diving in the Bahamas, some locations in Europe but no land as such has the very essence of beauty like Nepal. The dramatic mountain landscape, to me, has the ability to represent the intersection of divine presence with human emotion. Remember, if I could correctly express what appeals to me with words, I would be a writer instead of a photographer. My opinion about Nepal is best seen through my photos.

I have been here eight times, almost one year in the last ten years five of those trips.

Q2: We have come across with the information that you have been running some sort of a campaign on Everest? Could you please make our readers aware of this?

Jeff: It came to my awareness that the Tibetans had named the world's tallest mountain Qomolungma many centuries before the British appeared but somehow the British decided to ignore that fact and named the mountain after the Second

Surveyor General of India, George Everest. The naming of the mountain after a British civil servant really has no cultural connection with the very culture which owns the mountain but Qomolungma, interpreted as Goddess Mother of the World, seems much more appropriate and significant because the British name denies the emotional and religious significance of the mountain.

Then I realized that Nepal had the name Sagarmatha and I believe Nepal as an independent nation has the right to name locations within its borders - although Nepal has never legally asserted this right. The British name is a hangover from the age of British imperialism and I think this new nation of Nepal should reclaim its mountain as part of the restructuring of the Constitution and the new spirit of nationalism here.

I have a lot more to say about this and I did write a letter to the Prime Minister of Nepal encouraging him to claim the mountain and saying there would be financial benefits to this but he never wrote back to me and it's still a British possession as far as I can see.

Q3: As you have told that you have been in the Sagarmatha Base camp so many times...why don't you tell our readers what changes you have felt in these

many years in the vicinity of the tallest peak?

Jeff: Truthfully, in the time period I've been coming basically 12 years, it's hard for me to account for differences year by year because snowfall varies from year to year. But when I look at pictures of the early expeditions over the period '53 thru the 70's there is a huge amount of snow in base camp and I never see that now. I can see how the **Dudh Kosi** had very high watermarks for some previous years, but I've never seen it raging at the times I would expect it to be raging from the spring snow melt.

There's just not a lot of snow in the **Khumbu** in the spring below 18,000 feet. Also when I speak to people who've been around longer than me they will quickly speak about the receding glaciers and it is sad. I'm trying to document the area as quickly as I can before its character is completely changed.

Q4: You have recently organized a Photo Exhibition in Kathmandu on Sagarmatha and other mountains of Nepal. What is the response you have been receiving regarding the event and on the campaign you have initiated in Nepal?

Jeff: The response is truly amazing and gratifying. I had my first real show last week and people said they had never seen the mountains so clearly or with such passion. My pictures are an attempt to capture the wild spirit of the

landscape and the sacred nature of place and I think people can see it. So many people buy postcards of my pictures and some prints but many people make suggestions as to where else I might put on a show to share this work with a broader audience from France to Japan. It's very gratifying after 12 years on this project.

will open this week in Thamel and anyone can see the show any day (except Saturdays) from then on.

As far as my 'campaign' is concerned, it's more of an artist's statement that accompanies the photographs. I'm basically sharing the information about the naming traditions and my personal statement of belief that the British name is invalid and that the use of the Nepali and Tibetan names honor the nations and cultures in which this mountain is located. My show at The Hickory Museum of Art was titled **Everest Not Everest** and conveyed this information and Americans were surprised to learn about Qomolungma and Sagarmatha and they were supportive of my statement, after all we did rebel from British colonialism 250 years ago.

Right now I'm just passing on observations and information, any campaign for the recognition of the names must come from the Nepalese people and I would be happy to help in whatever further I can. For a more complete statement of my opinion about this visit jeffbotz.net.

Q5: Nepal is currently celebrating Tourism Year. You are in Kathmandu and there is Bundhs/Strikes in series. As a good friend of Nepal what do you feel personally on such happenings?

Jeff: I don't know too much about every issue only like the big one that I read about in the papers and the exact purpose of strikes isn't always clear to me. The bundhs and strikes are convenient but if you believe in the principles of democracy you must accept this as a valid and significant part of an involved electorate, Thomas

South Block affiliated Indian media take Baidya as a hardliner. However, it is not unusual in Nepal that nationalists are either labelled monarchists or at best anti-India.

It is as simple as that. The interesting news coming from the panel led by Baidya is that it has decided to propose another vice chairman Bhattarai as the country's next prime minister. However, the proposal also comes with a condition that the panel has demanded recalling Narayan Kaji Shrestha as the deputy-leader of the party's parliamentary delegation and appointing C.P. Gajurel in the post which Shrestha occupies at the moment.

Rajdhani Daily quotes leader Devendra Poudel as saying, "We have found Baidya panel quite positive in forwarding Baburam Ji as the prime ministerial candidate."

"We do not think that anyone will dare stand against Bhattarai's candidacy in the party", Poudel said and added "if there is any resistance we will get the issue settled by the parliamentary delegation".

"If Bhattarai is elevated as country's prime minister we will also receive adequate international support", Poudel tells Rajdhani Daily, June 3, 2011.

Countries representing various countries have also claimed that international support will grow if Bhattarai is the prime minister", Poudel adds.

"Lately ambassadors of China, India, US, UK and EU upon meeting Bhattarai have assured of their support", Poudel also claims.

But China has no Ambassador at the moment. Whether Girija Prasad...sorry Pushpa Kamal will allow that to happen is a matter of intense debate, claim experts.

Having said all these, the Bhattarai and Baidya union is a mystery. Politics swings to the South?

Sudam...

CIAA.

Unconfirmed reports have it that CIAA's two investigating officers had intense debate over



Jefferson would have endorsed these grassroots actions. I just hope your legislators get it right at this critical and formative moment for the New Nepal.

Q6: Jeff! you have also witnessed many a political changes taking place in Nepal.

Jeff: This is a critically important question at this critical moment. I think that for one brief moment the leaders need to put aside any thoughts of personal or even group advantage and think about setting a foundation for a new nation which guarantees personal freedoms as well as civic responsibility and the opportunity for personal advancement based on merit and accomplishment. I also

think they should enact term limits and very low pay for members of parliament as they did in ancient Greece where it was an honor to serve as a senator and they were not paid at all.

Q7: Being a US citizen as we understand it has become quite difficult to visit many interesting places in the world due to changed international political order.

Jeff: No, no problems. The people here still have a high regard for Americans and I hope we as the American nation continue to earn that high regard although I sometimes regret some actions my nation makes, for instance the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. But America takes on a lot of responsibility and it's a difficult position to be in - everyone can't be happy with every move we make.

Interviewed by Sujit mainali
Telegraph Weekly

whether to file case against the three AIGs or not?

However, reports confirm that secretary at the CIAA Bhagwati Kafley and other investigating officers are under intense political pressure to let free three political leaders (The Home Ministers) found involved in the case.

"We are all set to file the case against three former police chiefs and we can't avoid labeling charges against three former Home sources", Kantipur quotes CIAA

sources as saying and adds, "But, we are being pressurized by the political leadership not to file any case against the three former home ministers".

Are they above the laws of the land?

The three illustrious Home Ministers who headed the home ministry while making the payment for the APC are respectively Krishna Prasad Sitaula (Nepali Congress), Bam Dev Gautam (United Marxist Leninists) and Bhim Rawal (United Marxist Leninists).

"Kafley is receiving threats since three days thus he has not been able to file the case against all the culprits in the special court", reports further reveal.

The CIAA spokesperson Ishwari Poudel tells Kantipur, "The culpable will not be spared whether they belong to politics or somewhere else."

It is also suspected that including late Girija Prasad Koirala of Nepali Congress, Girija's daughter Sujata Koirala, former home secretary Umesh Mainali and some high ranking police officials were directly involved in the Sudan Scam.

Observers opine that Sujata too must be interrogated for some understandable reasons.

Sujata's Bangladeshi son-in-law Prince Rubel Chaudhary is also one of the accomplices, it was reported then.

So the money could have been lifted to an alien land? The likelihood remains.

Notably, news reports also had it that erstwhile Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal under pressure from Nepali Congress had made a direct telephone call to one of the investigating officers and asked to ignore the case.

Corrupts too have a society.

Implement...

signed 5-Points Agreement to extend the Constituent Assembly

think they should enact term limits and very low pay for members of parliament as they did in ancient Greece where it was an honor to serve as a senator and they were not paid at all.

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Interviewed by Sujit mainali
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and all other commitments that your party has made so far, let me tell you frankly Prachanda ji, you should put them into practice", boldly said Koirala.

"We are left with limited time now, we cannot continue the CA extension", said a politically matured Koirala drawing the attention of Chairman Dahal.

Later talking to media men, Dahal informed that he too was totally committed to bring positive end to the peace process.

Dahal-Koirala duo developing intimacy.

Duel Security...

already become sentimental. The Maoists' party had organized a program to bid adieu to some 20 Peoples' Liberation Army men who were providing security to the party top-bracket.

There were some 106 PLA men with 96 units of weapons deployed to provide security to the party leadership.

33 of the total were providing security to Chairman Dahal.

Thus the Maoists dual security mechanism has come to a formal end. What happens in practice only time will tell?

As has become quite a common phenomenon, Chairman Dahal shed tears when the PLA men were making the remarks.

Long association but separation pain.

The program was organized at the personal residence of Chairman Dahal in Naya Bazaar, Kathmandu June 5, 2011.

The state owned Nepal Police and Armed Police personnel have already replaced the PLA men, it is reported.

"I am highly indebted to the efficient management of the PLA because I was never attacked under your security arrangements", Dahal acknowledged and added, "I have valued highly the role you have played after the party decided to become a part of the peace process."

"We had to tell you to leave under pressing circumstances", Dahal said and continued we would want you to put your energy in favour of the country and its people.

"Let me assure you that honorific integration will be carried out for you all", Dahal assured.

In all, the entire event was a moving one.

We have taken the Maoists' decision to end dual security system quite positively, this will set the tone for quick end of the peace process, said Dr. Ram Saran Mahat of Nepali Congress.

Obscure...

were to enjoy political stability and there by achieve development goals, if any.

This on the contrary means that unless Nepal submitted to the Indian dictates of the friend in the South, Nepal will ever remain in a brittle state.

India will be more than pleased if Nepal remained in a damaged state for all time to come.

Bhattarai's line of thinking is thus treacherous.

But the question is that how come Mohan Baidya, taken as a hardliner in the Maoists camp who quite often ventilates his acerbic feeling against India, is tooth and nail supporting Bhattarai-the opposing camp-and wants to elevate the adherent of a declared Independent man to the Nepal's Prime Ministerial post?

This is a puzzle and the puzzle could at best be, if simplified, a structured and calculated plot to take all for a ride for quite some time including the Indian authorities who are now being controlled by the Italian queen-Mrs. Sonia Gandhi who is the Chairwomen of the ruling Indian Congress?

The second puzzle is whether Prachanda-an all time ambitious Maoists leader, will allow his arch rival to get elevated?

Currently though India is in a disorder and any thing untoward could happen there if Baba Ram Dev's supporters come to the streets across the country. The probability remains as some influential parties, for example, the Bharatiya Janta Party for one, have sided with Baba's campaign against corruption.

Nepali followers of Ram Dev too have become restive and they also initiated a similar campaign to be demanded in Nepal.

Heart beats may have gone up in Nepal for some. Just to add fuel to the fire.

Definitely India, the trouble maker, is itself has landed in trouble. Justice has been done by the Almighty.

Back home, mere seventy eight days remain at hand for the preliminary constitution draft to come to the public, as has been promised by the "dust bin" Nepal leaders, prior to the expiry of the defunct CA body.

Nepal Prime Minister Khanel diagonally claims that he was least interested in resigning from his current post though he opines that he will quit the day a complete structure of a national government in consensus come to his table.

Character of Dr. Jekyill and Mr. Hyde.

Intra and inter party wrangling have begun to surface to bag the PM post. Himalayan efforts are being made by each and every party to forward their claims for the post of new Nepal Prime Minister. Reports have it that horse trading too has begun.

Talks are centered on how to occupy the post of the Prime Minister. The issue of peace process and of the constitution draft has already taken a back seat. Notwithstanding, some efforts have been made which gives an intuition that the peace process was moving in a positive direction, however, suspicions are also there that the entire process may come to a grinding halt should the parties' accord post priority to the formation of a new government.

Consensus appears elusive as of now. PM post matters much more than peace process and constitution draft.

The word consensus has in itself become a national burden.

The key Nepali leaders prefer to make luxurious trips abroad.

Those who invite them were the real conspirators. Be it known to all and sundry.

Ideal...

top parties will lead the government in rotation. The fresh offer according to reports is made as per the institutional decision of the UML.

The Cycle politics.
Reports refer to Surendra Pandey

of UML as saying that, "The party has asked Maoists to lead the government after a month completing all the internal nitty-gritty's involved in the peace process."

Says Prime Minister's aide Prakash Jwala, "The offer has been made as per the resolution passed recently by UML's central committee meeting regarding peace and constitutional processes and towards the formation of a national unity government."

To add, senior leaders Madhav Kumar Nepal is out of the country and K.P. Oli is not feeling well due to his Kidney ailments.

Nepal-Oli duo is widely taken as rightist camp inside the UML party.

"We have taken this UML offer positively, we need to hold discussions between major parties", Barsa Man Pun "Ananta" of the Maoist party confirms.

Ananta is talked to be closer to Prachanda.

Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal, vice chairman Babu Ram Bhattarai, general secretary Ram Bahadur Thapa 'Badal' and steering committee member Barsa Man Pun of Unified Maoists Party and Prime Minister Jhal Nath Khanal, Prakash Jwala, Surendra Pandey, Ghanshyam Bhusal and others were present at the meeting.

Great game of buying time, it appears.

Next PM...

term friend and mentor Kiran, the situation has become such that both Bhattarai and Baidya are forced to come closer. And that is happening.

Unity is for a "cause" which is perhaps to get rid of Dahal hegemony.

Whereas Bhattarai is considered closer to the Southern neighbour and that he has himself expressed several times his camaraderie with India, Baidya on the other hand is being projected as a friend of China by politically motivated quarters, and thus a sharp critic of India.