

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

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Indian Border Forces on Mission 'Deforest Nepal'

Kathmandu: Let us now dwell on what else Border Security forces deployed by Nepal's generous neighbour India is doing except illegally occupying Nepali lands, beating to death Nepali nationals and harassing Nepali civilians crossing the forced open border.

The news coming all the way from the district of Bardia is that freshly the Sheema Shashastra Bal



of India has undertaken the job of deforesting Nepali lands.

"Since one week they have been entering into Nepali territory and cutting green trees mercilessly", reports Nagarik Daily, May 9, 2011.

Locals claim that the Indian border forces enter into the Nepali territory to inspect the border pillars,

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Cluttered politics

Kathmandu: A precarious political void is round the corner. Such a situation is sure to add more complication to the already convoluted politics of the country. Constitutional crisis is awaiting Nepal.

With mere seventeen days remaining at hand for the sure shot termination of the sitting Constituent Assembly body, the three major parties yet going on with acts of mud slinging at each other apparently to pacify the general population that they were not to be blamed for the holdup in the draft of the constitution but some others in the political paraphernalia must be blamed. Holier than thou mindset.

Naturally the Maoists are the target from all the political corners, though the Maoists quickly deny such allegations and hasten to hurl the blame for the delay in the Charter draft to other parties. The process is still in progress.

The fact is that the three major parties must be held answerable for having cheated the nation for more than three years. The swindle is a real one.

Fluid politics is sure to take its toll. In which form the consequences approach the Nepali population remains in an capricious stage but what is for sure is that it will hit the country very hard in a couple of weeks.

Politics demands to be handled with care.

Nevertheless, Nepal's present day leaders know better on how to trick the people forwarding some juicy pretexts and the idea would be to extend the tenure of the already "dust-bin" CA body for some more time to come which would be made at the cost of the national exchequer.

The CA body will definitely see one more extension. It will be for this extension that the three warring parties will come together at the last minute as usual and the general population will have to guzzle yet another bitter pill.

The Almighty is the liberator. With the shortening days for the CA survival, the parties have not yet lost their negative stamina that they have developed over these recent years. Bids are in

the works to topple the Khanal led government with a new set up as assumingly agreed upon during the surreptitious meet held in between Khadga Prasad Oli and an all time shaky and flimsy Maoist Chairman Prachanda.

To add more zing to this meet, Dr. Bhattarai was also present during the said meet. As if this were not enough, the presumed India man, Krishna Prasad Sitaula—a NC leader elevated by late Girija Prasad Koirala (under instructions from above) who is now being backed by the NC President Sushil Koirala presented himself at the secret meet in a vivacious manner.

Madhav Nepal took active part in the meet which explains as to how the talks have proceeded.

For sharp brains, this meet does speak volumes unsaid. This meet also makes the intelligent brains to guess as to where the Nepali politics is being carried and which foreign force on earth has suddenly forced these Nepali leaders and for what purpose?

The day Maoist leader Krishna Bahadur Mahara was told

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Indepth-Analysis

to assume the post of Nepal's Home Minister, inner designs began to surface slightly as to where the politics would be heading in the days ahead.

To recall, Prachanda preferred Mahara for the Home Ministry going against the wishes of Mohan Baidya who had wished Dev Gurung leading the home ministry.

Much ahead of this pronouncement, the minister of

Peace and reconstruction, Barsa Man Pun Ananta was assured by the Maoists party that he would soon be transferred to the Home Ministry. But that did not happen. Barsa Man Pun thus decided to resign from his ministerial post.

Certainly, the Maoists party is in a mess. Several conflicting camps do exist inside the party. Otherwise Barsaman is taken as a Dahal man.

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UML will split if Khanal continues as PM

Kathmandu: Influential Nepali Congress leader Khum Bahadur Khadka has predicted that the government led by Jhal Nath Khanal will fall much ahead of May 28, 2011.

Grand prediction. "Either Prime Minister Khanal has to resign or the United Marxist Leninists will face a vertical split", he said talking to media persons in his home district of Dang, May 7, 2011.

So the UML is between frying pan and the fire.

The seven point secret deal reached between UML and Maoists' chairmen, according to Khadka, is a conspiracy to impose totalitarian communist regime in the country.

The conspiracy is also to marginalize the Nepali Congress Party, he also said.

At another plane, Khadka said that the precondition for extending CA tenure is to bring positive end to the ongoing peace process in the remaining 20 days for constitution drafting.

Interestingly, every Nepali Congress leader has been forwarding their own set of preconditions.

Khadka was also of the opinion that the onus of peace and constitutional process lay with the Maoists.

To recall, Khadka is the one who brought about a vertical split in the UML party long time back.

Thus his predictions can't be dismissed easily.

Oli-Dahal Secret Meeting: Will Khanal pack?

Kathmandu: Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal of Unified Maoists Party met with senior UML leaders K. P. Sharma Oli and Madhav Kumar Nepal, May 9, 2011.

represent extreme rightist faction in Nepali politics. More right than Kamal Thapa of Rastriya Prajatantra Party-Nepal, observe experts.

Chairman Dahal who was accompanied by his party deputy Babu Ram Bhattarai met with the UML duo somewhere in Baneshwor-Kathmandu.

The meeting was kept a guarded secret.

Some reports claim that the meeting was held at the personal



residence of a person called as Hari Upreti.

Upreti according to Rajdhani Daily is an active UML cadre who is involved in Timber business.

The secret meeting is significant because it has taken place when Prime Minister Jhal Nath Khanal is not in the country

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CA extension will not work, Giri demands roundtable conference

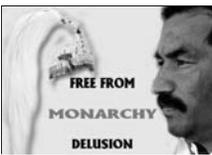
Kathmandu: "There is no need to extend the Constituent Assembly tenure. We can clearly see that even if we extend the tenure no progress is going to be made".

The Nepali Congress leader Pradip Giri made this remark while addressing a program in Chitwan district, May 9, 2011.

Instead, opined Giri, a committee comprising of few experts could be formed or as being advocated by Maoists we

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Kamal Thapa's Change of Heart: Distancing from Monarchy Revival



Kathmandu: "We are not in the movement to reinstate Gyanendra and Paras. We believe that Nepal needs monarchy to act as a referee for the sake of stable politics in the country", said Kamal Thapa of Rastriya Prajatantra Party-Nepal.

He made this remark talking to Sukrabar Weekly Magazine-sister publication of Nagarik Daily, Friday May 6, 2011.

Thapa also told the magazine that had Republican order not been declared, the country might

have plunged into another bloody conflict.

"We could accept the Republican order if its foundation is to be strong", he said.

Thapa's fresh utterance, observers claim, is an indication that he too wants to keep a distance from the notion of Monarchy revival? Could be? Or is it that the Nirmal Niwas dwellers do not take Thapa as a trustworthy political figure?

If so then it could be the frustration of Thapa.

Losing trusted friends one after another.

To recall, three political parties with Panchayati background, Rastriya Prajatantra Party led by Pashupati Shumsher Rana, Rastriya Janashakti Party led by Surya Bahadur Thapa and RPP-Nepal have already held several

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Dahal supports NA integration plan: Baidya wants National Security Policy first

Kathmandu: A separate force with the numerical strength of 15 to 25 thousand recruits comprising of Nepal Army, Police Force, Armed Police Force and Peoples' Liberation Army men has been proposed by Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal of Unified Maoists party.

Dahal also proposes the new formed unit to guard Nepal's frontiers.

Whereas Nepal Army through informal channels has forwarded similar proposal however, the command of the force has to remain with the Nepal Army, the senior vice chairman Mohan

Baidya Kiran of Unified Maoists Party opines that such a force should be allowed to be led by the People's Liberation Army.

Dahal also supports Baidya's point of view over the issue of command of the force.

However, security experts in Nepal claim that 25 thousand will be inadequate to guard frontier with India, considering that India has already deployed some 50 thousand Sheema Shashastra Bal-SSB (Border Security Force) along its "forced open border" with Nepal.

"In order to stop India's SSB from indiscriminately entering

into Nepali territories and to check activities of criminal gangs housed in India and traffickers in Nepal and above all to stop India from encroaching upon Nepali territories, the number suggested by Chairman Dahal is inadequate", add experts.

"The number should be much greater than 50 thousand because we also have to check Tibetan defectors crossing over to Nepal from Tibet", observe security experts of Nepal.

The Dahal proposal according to report reads, "Fifty percent men will comprise of PLA and the rest from three state led security

agencies."

Upon return of the Prime Minister from Istanbul, Dahal will present his proposal at a three party meeting including Nepali Congress and United Marxist Leninists, it is also reported.

In the mean time, while addressing a press meet in Pithauli of Nawalparasi Dahal said that the three parties will bring the preliminary draft of the constitution ahead of May 28, 2011.

Dahal also said that no country has ever drafted a

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Red Passport Scam: 6+1 CA members under scanner

Kathmandu: In response to the demand of Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA), the parliamentary secretariat May 8, 2011, issued a formal letter each to Nepal's parliamentarians Ram Sahaya Yadav, Rambha Devi, Karima Begum, Shiv Pujan Yadav, Salma Khatun Mikarani and Sanjaya Kumar Sah to surrender their diplomatic passports for investigation.

Reports had it that an unidentified person is already in Australia in the name of parliamentarian Shiva Pujan Rai Yadav.

All the parliamentarians who are suspected of misusing their



Red (Diplomatic) passports belong to Madhesi Janadhikar Forum led respectively by Upendra Yadav and Bijaya Kumar Gacchedhar.

The International Relation and Coordination division of the Parliamentary Secretariat has confirmed that the letters have been sent to their respective parties.

In the meantime, the special court

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TUBORG
...Wherever you are.

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DRUNKEN new Nepal

Nepal as a nation-state has opted to go in for a grand slide. The process is in progress. Reflections of the slide have begun coming to the fore which more often than not been entertaining the general population.

Though the slide was a foregone conclusion for some understandable reasons.

Morning shows the day, it has rightly been said by elders. Free entertainment continues. The audience is also increasing with each hilarious and at times ugly incidents which have become already the hallmark of new Republican system of governance. Some more thrilling and amusing events may be in the pipeline. "We the people" have been waiting to see the slither which is in essence taking a dangerous turn each day flushed with nation insulting news. Bear with it friends. As we have sown, so will we have to reap?

Is it that the seeds we selected were a rotten ones? Perhaps the fault lay with "we the people". Let's admit our faults honestly.

We invited some six hundred plus representatives of "we the people" to chart our destiny. Instead of writing the fate of the rejected and the oppressed ones, our own elevated men have begun cheating "we the people" under one pretext or the other. Thanks for free Nepali media that these hair-raising incidents with ugly notes were being made available for public consumption each morning without fail.

Some incidents compel one to laugh. Yet others forces one to chew our respective tongues. People those who listen to these sad happenings have no option other than to kick their heads onto the concrete walls. After all one can't remain in a state of continued anger and frustration and thus it demands resorting to some relief measures.

Let's come to the point.

Some Constituent Assembly members, as reported by the intelligent Nepali media, were found to have involved themselves in corrupt practices. Some were engaged in influencing the Home Ministry officials for the transfer of their preferred Police officials to some lucrative places as against hefty amounts. Some have landed in prison as well. Some were inhaling oxygen at the CIAA premises after the police cell.

ANULOM-BILOM clears the lungs, we have been told by Gram Dev Baba.

Yet more were found in selling their diplomatic passport to the ones who could flush them, read the Nepal CA members, with astronomical amount. The less smart ones who sold such passports have landed in Police custody and a deep investigation is in progress to locate others who too could have sold such diplomatic passports as against hefty amounts.

While writing this editorial, we have been informed that some six CA members have already been told by the Commission of Abuse of Authority, CIAA, to surrender their passports to the investigating authorities.

A fresh scam begins that may wrap some more high flying CA members from perhaps the NC and the UML camp as well. Later, let's presume, the Maoists will be dragged by the CIAA.

Justice too would demand that the CIAA initiate necessary actions to find out whether the NC, UML and the Maoists men too were not engaged in the same businesses? After all these parties too have some leaders who need quick money. Why not then to initiate similar investigations to approach to those who preferred to forsake their grand old poverty stricken lives.

Interesting developments have dominated the political scene to the extent that nobody now talks of politics but listens to the FM stations as to whether it had some more juicy news of the sort mentioned above. The slide is for real.

Frankly speaking, the Constituent Assembly body has already become a money spinning machine. It is this clear advantage that the CA members have been deliberately delaying the Constitution drafting process.

Quick money advantage and that too with such finesse? But for how long?

Prior to summing it up, one more hilarious incident right the other day that happened in Nepalgunj. A female CA member in a drunken state created a ugly scene which not only entertained the locals but it also provided the Nepali media with a golden opportunity to pounce upon her and her erratic acts that she may have committed during her drunken state.

But our attention has been drawn to this drunken lady's drunken statement wherein she mentions that her life was under serious threat posed by her own husband. Will the dollar/euro earning female NGO activists collect the courage to go deeper into what she has said?

Could be she was speaking correct. Will the countries pumping money to the high flying NGO/INGOs tell their men to find out the truth?

Let's presume they will not.

Thus the grand slide has begun forcing us all to hope that the most chaotic of it all may be in the pipeline. Drunken new Nepal.

When the Almighty wishes to penalize some then he first makes the man to go mad. This is what the famous Latin adage tells. The message lay here.

UNCTAD IV: Nepal as Chair of LDCs

By Madhukar SJB Rana
 Former Finance Minister

It is, by any account, a historic moment for Nepal and so let me start with a bit of history. In 1964, at UNCTAD, it was realized -- but not recognized -- that the South consisted of 'Less Developed among Developing Countries'

Transport and Transit Economist and Senior Project Manager in Laos and Afghanistan from 1978-82; and also as Senior Programme Manager for South Asia with UNDP in 2004. Further, the bygone royal regime did draw upon my

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(LDCs).

Why not recognized? Because it was believed that it would create a wedge in the G77's new-found unity at the UN General Assembly. You recall, we had entered the era of the North-South Dialogue where Equity was henceforth to be safeguarded by International Law under the UNCTAD formulated S&D Principle -- that there should be special and differential treatment for the poorest of the poor and disadvantaged countries. A principle much like what we call 'inclusion' today in the new development parlance.

(By the way, and as a diversion, let us underscore here that our politics of inclusion has hit the absurd whereby the majority Indo-Aryan community of Bahuns, Chetris and Dalits are being completely excluded! I always thought that -- notwithstanding Abraham Lincoln's definition of 'democracy' -- in 'have democracy' means "will of the majority, with rights of the minorities fully and adequately safeguarded". We are currently turning democracy on its head like Marx did to Hegelian thought)

Back to history from current absurdities: It was finally recognized, in 1971, when 25 countries were identified as LDCs thanks to the relentless efforts of UNCTAD at Geneva. Currently there are 48 as 3 have 'graduated'. As it bears on our topic -- the role of Nepal as Chair -- let me underscore that 2 South Asian nations were at the forefront of multilateral diplomacy for the cause of the LDCs -- Bangladesh for LDCs and Afghanistan for a new breed of LDCs -- the LLDCs or landlocked least developed countries.

As Afghanistan's role in the UN fell by the wayside with the endless revolutions and counter revolutions, and the Soviet occupation, this pride of place was taken by Nepal with its vision of **Nepal as a Zone of Peace backed by 116 nations (except India)**; its dynamic role towards the formation of SAARC; laudable contribution to the UN Peacekeeping Force; its record of internal peace and stability and constitutional changes backed by a national referendum in 1980. Not least, the place of the United Nations was enshrined in our Constitution then; and our contribution to the UN had been recognized by being voted as UN Security Council member -- not once, but twice!

And so in 1981 UNCTAD I took place with King Birendra inaugurating it with 51 countries participating as LDCs. In 1990 there was UNCTAD II and the Paris Declaration and Programme of Action followed by, in 2001, UNCTAD III and the Brussels Declaration and Programme of Action. And now, in 2011, there is going to be a UNCTAD IV and, most likely, the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action, as its final outcome, to chart out a new strategy for the community of nations for the next decade (2100-2021) following a review of the achievements of UNCTAD III (it must be admitted that the review will a poor showing with the POG the might just as well be called the POIG -- programme of inaction).

What, then, should our Role as Chair be? Frankly, it is a challenging question. Challenging for two fundamental reasons: Firstly, I have not seen any Position Paper on the subject. Nor I have been invited to contribute as in the past, since, I have had UNCTAD exposure and experience having served as Senior Regional

knowledge (as it did with others with UN exposure) having been invited to make Expert Presentation by the UNCTAD Board on Trade on LDCs Committee Meetings in the 2002 on the subject of LDC graduation from that status. Nepal had achieved a small historical moment when I had the honour to be invited by the UN Secretariat in New York, as recently as 2005, to appeal to the international community on behalf of the Asian LDCs: when aid by the DCS, led by Bush--Obama combine, was to be diverted to sub Sahara Africa as the new strategy for the UN in its quest for the Millennium Development Goals.

Secondly: it is a veritable challenge because I believe our current foreign policy is an 'unknown commodity' and of politics and economics are at the edge of a precipice as the peace process founders. Normally, it is said that foreign policy should be a reflection of a country's national policies and realities. Let's hope that this grammar of international relations is not followed at Istanbul!

We are a new Republic yes; but one without a Constitution yet; we have rejected the role of the United Nations in our peace process and the UN has, in turn, rejected us as the candidate for the Presidency of the UN General Assembly. One solid demand we should make, on behalf of all LDCs at Istanbul, is that the 48 current LDCs should have no permanent membership in the UN Security Council on a rotation basis. It should also demand full membership in all the meetings of G20 and G7 (here Switzerland could ideally represent the LLDCs).

The above scenario behoves us to be at our best in diplomatic terms and to execute our duty as Chair with finesse and deep commitment. The fact that Turkey is hosting the event speaks volumes for me. Clearly, Turkey aspires to be a proactive Euro-Asian global player that has been made geo-strategically more significant with the revolutions take place in West Asia and North Africa. It already has its sphere of influence in Central Asia and all of them are land locked states with common interests as Nepal's.

We should take this opportunity to deepen our bilateral political and economic relations with Turkey by calling for not just a role for BRICS in the new world order but BRICTS -- 'T' being for Turkey.

Even though this is a multilateral diplomacy forum we have to keep in mind that, be that it may, we got to incessantly promote our supreme national interest and project our image abroad as a nation that thinks and acts independently in its national interest. And also decides issues on merit in the larger interest of global peace, security and the rule of international law. Such should be the modus operandi to be pursued in the cumbersome process of multilateral diplomacy as Chief. Giving voice to all and seeking at all times to obtain results that are much more than the lowest common denominator -- as happens in the UN.

More specifically, I believe Nepal must at all times champion the cause of the LLDCs as well as be the Voice of the Mountain Peoples and Ecology in the global arena. We must, constantly, call for democracy, rule of law and equity in international relations and move forward to put into practice the UNCTAD S & D Treatment principle by pushing the multilateral organizations like WTO, IMF, WB to do so too. This

necessitates that we emphatically move to have UNCTAD strengthened as it is the true repository of intellectual capital to empower the developing and least developed nations with knowledge and ideas on alternative development models to those being espoused by the rich and powerful, and the multilateral financial institutions.

We should lead the LDCs to demand that UNCTAD be the monitoring agency for the progress with the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for 2011-2021. UNCTAD does a commendable job of evaluating progress (or lack of) but this does not suffice to give true value to the Programme of Action as strategized since it gets no pride of place competing with other strategies like UNDPs MDG, World Bank PRSP and Additional PRSPs and IMFs SAP, ASAPs and now HIPIC.

It is understandable why UNCTAD is disliked by the rich nations and IMF and WB. There was a time when the USA moved to close it down! But what is incomprehensible is the inability of the UNDP and UNCTAD to work in harmony to integrate human development with development of trade and commerce. This lack of synergy is to be seen in the absence of similar focus in the UNESCAP as a regional body. Yes, the UN cries out for reforms and Nepal should be championing this cause on behalf of LDCs (One may wonder if we can, really, when our Ambassadors to UN go begging for jobs as international bureaucrats).

Finally, let us not forget that development must be an internal matter and not left to the whims and fancies of international donors and their largesse: Which in any case is going to be difficult to depend on -- in the wake of the Japanese Tsunami; and US and EU chronic debt crises and the turmoil in West Asia.

We are a LDC because

(a) We have mal governance -- lacks fair competition in the market for goods and services and political power, accountability and transparency;

(b) Suffers geographic handicaps as a peripheral nation of the past imperial and colonial world order;

(c) Is endowed with weak institutions and their ineffective application of the rule of law;

(d) Is battered by population explosion;

(e) With economic structures that need to be radically transformed, and

(f) Is smitten with unhealthy bilateral aid dependency that has robbed national creativity and retarded the entrepreneurial spirit. I wish to underscore that we need to raise our voice loud and clear, at Istanbul, for total aid forgiveness to all LDCs. Better this than call for more aid since aid has made us a high cost economy and needs to be corrected (e.g. the highest per KWh for hydroelectricity even though our potential is more than \$5,000 MW) It is time the bilateral donors redressed their aid fault lines if LDCs are to be empowered, take



full ownership of their development strategies and move beyond their current fate as fragile, failing or fled states. Their states may have failed but their societies are embattling for their own independent identities found on their own civilizations.

We have to commit to graduate from a LDC which only is the case with 3/48 of the LDC nations! Graduation requires that, unlike the past, the National Planning Commission (NPC) incorporate the Programme of Action as an integral part of the country strategy to combine multilateral diplomacy and economic diplomacy holistically. Here the private sector must be given a lead role in economic diplomacy with specially care for the role of SMEs. It may be opportune to have PM Jhlanath Khanal to announce in Istanbul, after consultation with the UNCTAD Secretary-General that Nepal will create a High Level Integrated Planning and Monitoring Committee to incorporate the Istanbul POG into the planning process. This will also empower the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to act as the national catalyst for integrated multilateral and economic diplomacy.

As the geo political and geo economic gravity shifts to Asia Pacific making it the geo strategic fulcrum of the new global order, Nepal must do all in its powers to involve the other Asian powers like Australia, Iran and Saudi Arabia to invest in Asian public goods for the larger benefit of Asia Pacific region as a whole -- and in the SAARC region more specifically.

These Asian powers should commit, in turn, to seeing that all the 14 Asia Pacific LDCs graduate, by 2020, as middle income nations by investing in infrastructure development, transformation of their agriculture with help in R&D and, finally, by providing preferential trade access based on the sound S & D Treatment principles.

It was the great Asian statesman Lee Kwan Yew of Singapore, who foresaw the emergence of Asia to rediscover its lost pride and glory; and, what's more, he envisioned, I suspect, Nepal and Tibet as the fountain head of this emergent Asia. He may be right with the threats from global warming and climate change. Asian vulnerabilities will be felt in what happens to the Himalayan water towers as the globe tussles with food security, energy security, social security for the aged and unemployed and, most vitally, water security.

Perhaps, therefore, the Istanbul Programme of Action should have two components now: (a) Coping with LDCs vulnerabilities and modalities for it and (b) Concrete measures to graduate by 2020.

पत्रकार आचारसंहिताको पालना गरौं

पत्रकारितालाई मर्यादित र स्वस्थ राखौं ।



नेपाल सरकार
सूचना तथा सञ्चार मन्त्रालय
सूचना विभाग

Nepali media and judiciary

SECOND IMPRESSION

N.P. UPADHYAYA

Media has a tremendous role in building and educating the society. Media at best could well be taken as a tool that provides the pulse beat of the nation. It should speak the people's voice. The media should remain ever alert in disseminating news that informs the people. It must act like a bridge in between the ruling set up and the common denizens.

Nepali media too has come of its age. We are pleased to observe the grand positive leap the Nepali media has taken of late. Naturally, I for one, have reasons to rejoice because the time and situation wherein I joined this profession was simply different than what we have now. Total darkness. Total control. Fear of being penalized lurked every minute in those frightening days. Yet the pen did not stop and in this paper came to this state.

Finally, it was the democratic system which sharpened the pen. The result is a lot for all to see. I have learnt a lot from the new technologies that have sneaked into this domain quite for some time now. We are enjoying and trying to cope up with the burgeoning challenges that lay ahead of all of us.

Ready to face the challenges, come what may.

So I was talking what the Nepali media should do and what not.

I am puzzled a little bit these days whether our professional colleagues, seniors if any? and juniors may, were toeing the media ethics in both letter and spirit? Or else why the media of late have begun encouraging the honorable justices to make speeches that have definitely political overtones?

I was dumbfounded just last week when I heard the retired Honorable Chief Justice Ram Prasad Shrestha making tall claims that he accomplished this and that and like a political man he also served sermons to his juniors to toe the line what he adopted during his short tenure as CJ of Nepal.

Undoubtedly, Justice Shrestha did an excellent job for which he deserves deep appreciation from all. But care should also be taken while making appreciation efforts for all what he did so that he does not begin making tall claims glorifying his own personality as he is, sorry to say, has been doing in an unwarranted manner.

I beg your pardon Honorable Mr. Shrestha.

Don't make political statements. Keep quiet. Your profession demands praise from the common citizens but not from you yourself.

In the past, Justice Shrestha was

made an icon of Nepali judiciary. He is the one. But he did what he had to. He penalized the corrupt one which he had to. He performed his job in an excellent manner.

We are here to praise for all what you did Honorable Justice Mr. Shrestha. It doesn't look nice that you yourself begin talking high of yourself.

Take care. The fact is that the new Honorable CJ of Nepal too has begun making political statements though in an indirect manner. Perhaps he has already copied which he should have summarily ignored.

But then the fault lay with the media. We have, let's admit, encouraged non-partisan men to make lectures which were definitely loaded with political connotations.

Let politics be played by dirty politicians. We have high regard for the judiciary. We wish the Honorable Justices talk less and accomplish tasks more.

Refrain from making political sort of statements. The independence of judiciary will be the hardest hit if this trend continues for long.

We wish that the CJ and the rest of the honorable justices do not get lured by the publicity stunt, as the people have already taken those statements made in the recent past by Honorable Justices.

We count on you. We repose trust on you. We wish that you penalize all those corrupt who are yet to come to the open and brought to book.

Let deeds count but not the words. Self praise is no recommendation.

Take it easy. We do not wish to demean your Himalayan prestige and courage with which you have assured the citizens that you will chase the corrupts. What an encouraging assurance. Definitely it is the one for which we longed for.

With highest regards to you Honorable Chief Justice Khil Raj Regmi. Proximity with the media is not that bad but if it is an excessive one then that may boomerang. Don't get lured. A modest appeal.

The media too must not exceed its duties. We are bound by ethics.

En Bref

Sixth Israeli film festival ends

Kathmandu: Today, May 6, 2011, the ongoing sixth Israeli Film Festival in Nepal will conclude. Several award winning films were screened in Kathmandu beginning 4th May, 2011.

The films that the Kathmandu film lovers and critics enjoyed were, namely, Desperate Square, Day After day, James' Journey to Jerusalem, Ushpizin, Colombian Love and Late Marriage, among the many. The movies screened in Kathmandu during the sixth Israeli film festival, portrayed the day to day lives of the Israeli people which also provided the Nepali cine-goers a taste of prevailing Israeli culture and traditions.

The festival proved to be an opportunity for the Kathmandu residents to enjoy the Israeli cinema and understand and feel the colourful culture of Israel and the Jewish tradition.

Speaking at the inaugural day, May 4, 2011, the Charge de' Affaires and the Deputy Chief of the Israeli Mission in Nepal, Mr. **ADAM LEVENE**, said that the idea of screening the Israeli film was to let the Nepalese people understand the Israeli culture better.

"The films to be screened depict various aspects of Israeli society", said Levane.

Mr. Adam wished a very very happy mother's day for the Nepalese audience. The Nepalese Hindus and others as well celebrated Mother's day, May 4, 2011.

The film festival was inaugurated by Comedian Madan Krishna Shrestha.

As sounded by the Israeli diplomat on the occasion, an Israeli serial film will soon have some glimpses of Nepal.

The tele-serial may approach in Nepal for local viewers by the end of this year, informed Mr. Levene.

Great betrayal to Madhesi population

"...unfortunately, some who have been elevated to the leadership position on the basis of raising the Madhesi plight are themselves found to be involved in replacing the local languages spoken in Madhes by an alien language...there can't be a greater betrayal to the Madhesi population than this. There is the possibility that Maithili, Bhojpur, Awadhi, Tharu and other languages could be replaced by Hindi in the forthcoming national census. This compulsion of Madhesi leaders, who is compelling them to do this is difficult to understand," said Surya Nath Upadhyaya in Kantipur Daily, May 6, 2011.

Communists prevail in Post-Monarchy Nepal

Kathmandu: "The message from Nepal is that Communists continue to dominate with the fall of Feudal Monarchy. The liberals are also heading for extinction".

While the communist coalition government was providing itself a full shape, May 4, 2011, journalists who prefer to call themselves communists were gaining in strength in the election held to choose Leadership of Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ).

Especially, coalition between Maoist and UML affiliated media men defeated the Nepali Congress affiliated media persons in the election.

Mr. Shiva Gaunle-Koirala was elected chairman of the FNJ. Gaunle defeated Poshan K.C. of the democratic panel.

Congrats Shiva Gaunle.

Similarly, Ms. Yasdo Timilsena has been elected vice chairman of the FNJ.

First time in the five decades plus of the history of FNJ- umbrella organization, the communists have taken over. Congratulations to the elected ones!

From revolt to peace is a farce

Kathmandu: As long as Unified Maoist's words and deeds differ, said senior United Marxist Leninists leader Madhav Kumar Nepal, peace and constitutional processes will not end even in three decades.

Addressing an interaction program held in capital, Kathmandu Mr. Nepal blamed Maoist's double standard for the delay.

Mr. Nepal also said that change from revolt stance to peace and constitution line by the Unified Maoists party was just a myth.

Dr. Ram Saran Mahat of Nepali Congress speaking at the same program held that Maoists now need to clear their position vis-a-vis integration and rehabilitation of the Peoples' Liberation Army.

Sarita Giri of Nepal Sadvayana Party and Jitendra Dev of Madhesi Janadhikari Forum-Loktantrik also shared their views at the program.

Panchayat system too survived for three decades, to recall.

Political bankruptcy

Kathmandu: "We are economically poor. But, this poverty is not only limited to our economy, we have become poor politically as well. In fact, increasing political poverty and economic imbalance and chaos in the country are inherently inter-related with each other...the major challenge ahead of us is to get rid of this political poverty. To accomplish this, we should do away with the prevailing distrust in-between parties and between parties and people", said Vice Chairman Prakash Chandra Lohani, Ph.D. of Rastriya Jan Shakti Party, Kantipur Daily May 4, 2011.

Kathmandu where the people are using 10 liters water per day.

25. Mega Hydropower project should be in place at the earliest taking into account the national interest, but need to make multipurpose hydro projects only as like the hydro should provide electricity, irrigation and drinking water.

26. Nepal needs to conserve the natural, historical and cultural heritage sites and show the strongholds of beautiful nation worldwide.

27. Nepal needs to develop "Democratic Federal Republic" system very fast. Only the republic system may assist the democratic social welfare system and award justice.

28. Express Highways, Rail ways, Mega Airports, convention centers, mega markets may promote federal system. Federal system depends on fast transportation mobility.

29. Nepal need not to follow the system of big neighbors only because it does not match the geography and population volume

of Nepal but need to follow the small countries as like Korea, Switzerland, Austria, Singapore, Israel etc.

30. Nepal need to construct Second International Airport and four lane Express Highways to connect largest cities as like Airport to Kathmandu, Airport to Birganj, Airport to Chitwan, Chitwan to Pokhara, Chitwan to Lumbini.

31. Nepal need to seek the controlled eco tourism based mass tourism where annually 10 million tourists from China and India may visit Nepal if the needed infrastructure is constructed.

32. Nepal government needs to accept and nationalize the New Community Movement or Nepal Saemaul to make rich villages and sustainable green growth development in Nepal.

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What should we do in Nepal for our future generations? Let's learn from Korea

Nava Raj Panta, Korea

Korea was poor country than Nepal during 1950 and 1960s. The per capita income of Korea was USD 57 in 1953 and USD 79 in 1960 when the per capita income of Nepal was USD 70 in 1950 and USD 80 in 1960.

Once, Nepal had sent the rice aid to South Korea at 1959. Now GNI per capita income of Korea is more than USD 20,759 at 2010 and 12th major economy in the world which had held 2002 world cup and get OECD membership and held G20 meeting. It is economic miracle in Korea, but how? Every Nepalese should know about it. But Nepal is still standing at 12:00 noon. Last week, the 57,765 Nepalese youths EPS job seekers applied for Korean Language Test in Nepal. It may be largest applicant among the EPS permitted countries. But it is not a solution, so I am writing here something here. I had been in Korea since 1992, a long period of 20 years and visited 41 times. I had nationwide visit here seven times. When I came here, Koreans were not so rich people, now seems wealthy and healthy people. During this period, I visited Himalayan range to east west Terai several times. And I visited many parts of the world as like East Asian countries, South Asian countries, Middle East and South American countries. I feel, naturally, Nepal is very beautiful and best land for living in the world. But now, we need to think for that, why are we keeping poverty as like most poor nation of Asia? Who will remove this poverty? How? For these kinds of economic miracle in Nepal, we need to follow the Korean development system called Saemaul Undong or New Community Movement. China applied it in China and called Siningchong Undong or New Agricultural Village Movement. We are applying it in Nepal as per Nepali context called Naya Samuadhyak Abhiyan or Nepal Saemaul. Saemaul spirit included diligent, self-help, co-operation, Saemaul operated the projects of environment improvement, income augmentation and mental reform jointly. Saemaul implemented from grass root village under the combination of grass root villagers, dedicated Saemaul leaders and local government officers. There should

be project evaluation and observation system of pre report of feasibility study, midterm report and final report. The government should not provide the fund, but need to provide the technology and essential materials. The projects have to start from the easy work with co-operative networks and use the available local resources and that should be profitable to the villagers. First of all, the villages should be rich villages mentally and materially in the nation under the income multiply system and the city will be rich because of rich villages and the nation will get more tax and convert the rich nation. At the early 1970, the Korean government applied Saemaul in all parts of nation and the

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central government also focused the development of nuclear energy, cement, oil, steel for infrastructure development with a visionary plan. I would like to suggest the following points to make rich Nepal for our future generation.

1. First of all Nepal need to open the East-West Lowland Tarai Express highway of 1,000 km (up-grade) and East-West Green Mountain Tunnel Express highway of 1,000 km and inter link by more than 50 South-North Tunnel Express highways.

2. Express Highways should maintain at international standard of rules and regulations. There should not be any strikes at express highways. If should not be allowed to happen.

3. Present five development regions are possible for federal states. The federal states should be connected with Chinese and Indian border, the present river based border system is best scientific system in Nepal. The mountain zone will be rich strongholds in future. And open South border should be controlled by National army as per 'one Pillar one army system'.

Nepal should stand as a well equipped land security tightened country than the Chinese and Indian land security which may help to maintain the sustainable economic growth of China and India and that may reflect the automatic multiple economic growth in Nepal. Good

security may bring largest volume of foreign direct investment. Weak security may help to flee domestic investment to the neighbor country and may invite liquidation stage.

4. Five federal states may take scientific road tax in their territory and may finance for local development.

5. Express Highway road tax should be above the USD 10 for per 100 KM.

6. Nepal should extremely reduce import tax on vehicles as, for example, 10% only. And import of non air-conditioned vehicles should ban.

7. The Largest Five National Universities may be constructed at five federal states. All universities should operate science based modern education.

8. The national security system should be located with army base camp system at Tarai, Green Mountain and Himalayan land. So, largest national security army camps should set up at 15 locations of the nation. Nepal should ban anti neighbor country activities with strong laws.

9. Need to make new municipalities as per 20,000 voter population system.

10. The boundary of 3,915 Village Development Committees, 58 Municipalities, 75 Districts, 14 Provinces, 5 Federal States and 1 Nation should be based on geography and rivers, not on the basis of ethnicity and religion.

11. Nepal need to promote cooperatives or group based limited companies in the sectors of tourism, food, infra structure, airlines etc. The limited companies need to invite the people.

12. Taxation should be based on electronic device everywhere and make arrangements that people with low income to pay low tax and high income people will have to pay high tax.

13. The scientific land reform policy should adapt very fast. The over limitation land should be bought by the nation and distribute that land to landless people.

14. The nation should fix the agricultural land, residential land, industrial state land, environmental park land etc in the nation on the basis of water resources.

15. The nation should promote



English School nationwide. The national schools need to convert in English School and our future generation may lead modern tourism and global technology.

16. Compulsory Education should implement very strictly from elementary to college level and the parents who do not send their child to school, should put in jail.

17. All Nepalese should get electronic citizenship and the date of birth and name should be controlled by central government.

18. Nepal should ban the cement import from any country because of Nepal has capacity of cement export to all south Asian nations and need to set up largest cement plant and the cement companies should operate 24 hours.

19. Nepal needs to ban the migrant labor. Nepalese should make infra structure by their own diligent power. By this way Nepalese may begin loving their own motherland in a glaring manner.

20. All politicians should be nationalist and nationalist should know the economy and how to keep the money in the nation means politicians should learn economy based nationalism. The anti nationalists should be sent behind the bars.

21. Nepal need to promote organic farming of goat, buffalos, vegetables, fruits, herbs etc. and should not import it.

22. Nepal may adapt the compulsory biogas rule in low land villages to protect the ground water and mountain villages and tourism sectors too.

23. Nepal needs to start nationwide tree plantation for the campaign of Green Nepal Green Tourism.

24. Nepal needs to stop the vehicle import and migration in

Everest

The Himalayan River relations: WAR NOT A BIG DEAL

By Professor Upendra Gautam

DOSSIER REISSER

Rivers origin and flow Both the northern and southern basins of Himalayan Asia are fed by the rivers originating in the Himalaya, the abode of snow. The Himalayan Mountains are the source of life and livelihood for the people of South Asia and China. Whether it is Brahmaputra (Yarlung Zangbo Jiang), Mahakali-Karnali-Koshi-Gandaki, rivers of Indus System, or Yangtze (Chang Ji'ng), each of them is linked to the Himalaya Mountains on the extended Xizang (Tibet)-Qinghai Plateau, and flow south and northward. While Brahmaputra, joined by Ganga in Bangladesh, consists of China, the Republic of India (RoI) and Bangladesh in the basin, the Ganga, originating in the base of the Himalayas in the RoI, has Mahakali-Karnali-Gandaki-Koshi rivers flowing from Nepal as the major tributaries and includes Nepal, the RoI and Bangladesh on the waterway. Like Nepal, Bhutan river system is in a similar situation vis-à-vis the Brahmaputra waterway. The Indus System of Rivers shares its basin with China, the RoI and Pakistan. Yangtze has China in the basin.

On a country basis, Nepal with a third of the Himalayan mountain range including the eight highest peaks has a significant portion of the globally available 3 percent of the freshwater (remaining 97 percent being salt water) in the Himalayan glaciers.

From Nepal's point of view, the river basins/waterways in the south of the Himalaya, can be categorized into three distinctive geographic systems: i) Western, ii) Southern and iii) Eastern. The Western system consists of the Indus waters. The Southern one along with the Ganga has Mahakali-Karnali-Koshi-Gandaki, and the Eastern system includes Brahmaputra.

Given the natural endowment link that the rivers have with the Himalayan mountains and the consequent bond they have with the life and livelihood of the Chinese and South Asians, in-depth spatial knowledge and comprehensive seasonal as well as temporal understanding of the Himalayan mountains along with clear river basin boundary delineation should have long ago been a priority agenda to promote them as the headwater conservation center. Instead, rivers are often treated with sheer unilateral bias, without due cognizance to their spatial niche, seasonal character, recharging ability, and ecology.

Water insecurity

More than a data, logic or a prediction, increasing water scarcity and variability in the service areas of the Himalayan Rivers is a living reality, aggravating a sense of water insecurity. This reality in fact acquires much more dangerous dimension when power politics, further instigated by climate change phenomena, is played out for one's water security at the cost of others. The situation in the Ganga dependent areas of Rajasthan and Kushtia in Bangladesh visited in the 4th week of April last, for example, spoke critically of this insecurity.

Perhaps water is the only most essential natural element, which is inter-dependent in its dynamic existence and adapts integrally to a local ecological setting. Factual understanding of the nature and behavior of rivers, therefore, conditions equitable allocation, sustainable use and management of water in areas-whether upstream, mid stream or downstream-of a river. The basic issue of water insecurity needs to be revisited not only because areas of water stress and scarcity are increasing, but also because the international relations are increasingly being used for power politics; and peaceful co-existence is abandoned for colonialist intervention.

Geo-political approach Water insecurity in a Himalayan river basin/waterway is a techno-natural problem accentuated by the complexity of civilization-changes in land use pattern, growth of population, and disruption in self-correcting and healing indigenous knowledge and practices of inter-dependent water management system. This insecurity in the changed context therefore asks for a geo-political understanding and cooperation at the inter-national level for fair resource access. Understanding and cooperation can neither be imposed nor manipulated over a long period time. However, understanding and cooperation by coercion seems to be a tool at the hand of power politics and associated water dynamics insensitivities in the region. Partisan politics is usually exploited to serve a power game. Nepal's experience informs us that any understanding and cooperation on Himalayan river

water enforced by force and coercion would produce agreements in the paper but it would not be able to respect equality and mutually enhance confidence between the parties. A geo-political approach to river water does not mean agreeing to variable standard in international river relations. It, on the other hand, means unwavering recognition of an commitment to the principle of peaceful co-existence in international river relations. It is a pre-requisite for a mutually just relation. In partisan politics, principle of peaceful co-existence may be seen being only as virtual, but in these days it can not be more than real in international river relations, - irrespective of any riparian status, power status, degree of political stability or regime change alternative.

To be open towards this approach, the countries in the Himalayan river basin/waterway must be independent in their decision making-a condition that takes them out of any colonial mindsets and coercive power politics.

Goal The goal of geo-political approach to the Himalayan river system is to try to realize a harmonious society both at the national and international levels, with capability of sustaining essential source of life and livelihood security for our future generations.

Such an approach to the Himalayan rivers must be critically supported by i) appropriate local civilizational climate adaptation knowledge and management practices and ii) advances in river science and technology.

Operational instruments To realize this goal, and implement the geo-political approach to the Himalayan rivers, we need the following operational instruments: i) help neighbor policy based on peaceful co-existence, ii) independent national decision making and cooperative riparian diplomacy, iii) a climate-conscious cooperation mechanism of the countries on the Rivers whereby conservation in the Himalaya, feasible and appropriate water diversion and storage in the mid-Mountain with clear ownership of the resource and definite benefit sharing and



utilization mechanism at the point of the end-use are taken care of for the mutual benefit of the larger population on a defined river course.

A step forward can be establishment of a Himalayan commission on major rivers. This step may be initiated in the beginning at the people-to-people level. But there must also be a commission with a para-statal status constituted by the member-states from their competent agencies. Recognizing the principle of peaceful co-existence in river relations in the Himalayan region, these commissions, using their comparative advantage, will facilitate priority work of preparing and recommending operational procedures for determining value addition to water, cost and benefit sharing, multi-dimensional implications arising out of the natural flow modifying river schemes and associated solutions. Sustainable use and management of Himalayan river water is achievable if the principle of peaceful co-existence among all the river states works as the pre-requisite. Such a perspective may provide a solution to successfully build appropriate and feasible storages in Nepal to address the larger water insecurity in the region.

Bottom-line

To further a geo-political approach to the Himalaya Rivers, we have to collectively qualify and raise our ability to learn to co-exist peacefully and then enhance understanding for cooperation. There is a saying: Ivory does not grow on a jackal. Similar to it in Bangla may be Gorar Dim. This workshop as a temple of learning can help us better qualify and be more capable in mutually understanding and cooperating with one another on the Himalayan Rivers. George Bernard Shaw was more than correct when he said, "Peace is not only better than war, but infinitely more arduous." War on water is easier, and in no way a big deal.

DATELINE KATHMANDU

Niraj Aryal

DAHAL'S waning political acumen

Kathmandu: Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal of Unified Maoists Party who has of late become a matter of intense criticism from within his own party and outside for his hegemonic-flimsy behaviours has once again provided opportunity for his detractors to weigh his waning political acumen.

Reports have it that, Dahal had on Sunday May 8, 2011 met with Amresh Kumar Singh- who claims himself as a Nepali Congress leader yet is nowhere to be seen in NC meetings and Nepal's



DAHAL'S POLITICAL SLIDE CONTINUES

Ambassador to Denmark Bijaya Karna Karna and requested them both to convince the Nepali Congress leadership to extend the Constituent Assembly tenure, reports Annapurna Post Daily. Karna- former UML affiliated media man was sent for ambassadorial assignment to Denmark for having established close linkages with Chairman Dahal.

Similarly, Singh whose being a Nepali citizen itself is under scanner came to sudden limelight after the India forced and drafted 12-Points Agreement was signed by subservient political parties of Nepal in New Delhi, November 22, 2005.

Under pressure from some quarters in India, it was reported then, Singh was appointed a Nepali Congress parliamentarian by Gireja Prasad Koirala in the late King Gyanendra Shah resurrected parliament after Janandolan-II.

Dahal's political acumen got exposed as he met the two non political entities and requested them to convince the NC leaders, which he could have done himself, say experts.

Not only Dahal requested them to convince the NC for CA extension but he also sent a request for the NC party to accept group wise integration of PLA combatants in the integrated unit--- that according to his own proposal will comprise of some Nepal Army, Police, Armed Police and PLA men.

Dahal's proposal differ with a similar proposal forwarded by Nepal Army forwarded through informal channels wherein the Nepal Army wants to lead the Unified Command itself.

Dahal and his party men favour leadership of the combined unit to remain under the PLA command.

The Nepal Army that has also become a major political player, a silent one though, after the fall of monarchy is yet to formally accept or reject that if it had indeed forwarded the proposal. It prefers to remain quiet.

Interestingly, Singh and Karna who were both awarded with the Himalayan responsibility by Chairman Dahal rushed to meet Nepali Congress leaders and conveyed Dahal's message through various channels.

In reply, as was expected, NC leaders immediately refused the proposal for group integration, and also told the two messengers that unless Prime Minister Kharel resigned the CA extension proposal could not see light of the day.

Dahal's fresh political overtures itself testifies his waning political brain, concluded experts.

Implementation of SAARC Social Charter: Need of immediate intervention

Advocate Raj Kumar Sivakoti

Secretary General FOHRID, Human Rights and Democratic Forum

Considering the various types of problems being faced by the people in South Asia, SAARC Social Charter has been approved for the improvement of the lives of the people in this region. Effective implementation of the Charter can ensure the protection of the rights of the disadvantaged, marginalized and the vulnerable groups. The provisions of the Charter has tried to address the problems being faced by the poor and the vulnerable groups such as women, children and youth. The governments of this region have reiterated their commitments already made in the international conventions and covenants for the wellbeing of the people in this region. Significant portion of the population in this region remain in vulnerable conditions and they are marginalized from the mainstream state system and development processes. Despite their repeated commitments in the past, the SA governments have failed to guarantee the rights of the significant number of needy people. The problem here is that due to lack of awareness of their rights, the needy people are even unable to claim their own rights. The SAARC Social Charter has been approved for implementation in this region considering the same situation.

The SAARC Social Charter is the primary document for the governments of South Asia to address the existing problems of sustainable livelihood, social and political participation being faced by the people of this region. The Charter has addressed the principal goal of the SAARC which aims ... to promote the welfare of the people of South Asia, to improve their quality of life, to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development and to provide all individuals the opportunity to live in dignity and to realize their full potential." The document also accommodates human rights, humanity, welfare state, millennium development goals and so on. Therefore, it works as a roadmap for poverty alleviation, human security and governance, protection and promotion of human rights, health, education, human resource development and youth mobilization, promotion of the state of women, promotion of the rights and wellbeing of the child, promotion of stabilization for the South Asian governments. It has given high priority to the safety of the people from the vulnerability, security, peace and full democratic system. In this context, the current situation of its implementation in Nepal will be reviewed here. The review will concentrate to the

overall provisions of the SAARC Social Charter from three different perspectives to cover the intention of the Charter. Existing situation in Nepal in respect to human security and governance, poverty and human rights will be discussed in the following paragraphs. The concept of human security has come up basically as a counterpart to the concept of "national security". It comes into widespread use internationally beginning 1994 when the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) built its Human Development Report. According to the Commission on Human Security, human security means "protecting people from critical and pervasive threats and situations, building on their strengths and aspirations. It means creating political, social, environmental, economic, military and cultural systems that give people the building blocks of survival, dignity and livelihood." In Kofi Annan's view, human security "...in its broadest sense, embraces far more than the absence of violent conflict. It encompasses human rights, good governance, access to education and healthcare and ensuring that each individual has opportunities and choices to fulfill his or her potential. Every step in this direction is also a step towards reducing poverty, achieving economic growth and preventing conflict. Freedom from want,

freedom from fear, and the freedom of future generations to inherit a healthy natural environment-these are the interrelated building blocks of human-and therefore national-security. In fact, there is resemblance in the view of Kofi Annan and the spirit of the SAARC Social Charter as described in the Article II, Principles, Goals and Objectives. The Principles, Goals and Objectives of the Charter have given high priority to address the concept of human security. The issues of human security and governance are very significant to achieve success to overcome the problem of sustainable livelihood and social and political participation of the marginalized community and the vulnerable groups.

The most serious obstacles to human security are, "firstly, threats to the security of individuals and their communities, in particular to the most vulnerable sectors of society; secondly, conflicts, threats and different kinds of violence (inter-State conflicts, breakdown of States, human rights violations, terrorism, organized crime etc.); and thirdly, poverty and economic exclusion. There is no doubt that poverty stands out as one of the biggest obstacles to human security. Poverty is closely linked to other obstacles. These are situations of economic insecurity framed in the context of generalized extreme poverty. Two key elements in the fight toward eradicating poverty are the setting up of markets that operate adequately, and the creation

of institutions outside the market. A number of the reports suggest that the essential issues are a fair distribution of wealth and economic growth which will benefit people living in extreme poverty.

Nepalese context, obstacles to human security are unfavorable economic conditions, the social impact of economic crises, and natural disasters. Social policies which meet people's basic needs and guarantee minimum economic and social conditions are required if the people are to have security and the real security or some way of escaping from poverty. More than three quarters of the Nepalese population do not have social security protection or do not have a guaranteed job. Another aspect is the different obstacles that are rooted in gender. It is vitally important that everyone should have access to land tenure and / or ownership, access to credit, education and housing, particularly in the case of poor women. The equitable distribution of resources is perceived as crucial for guaranteeing the means of life. Moreover, social protection measures and security networks can contribute to establishing minimum social and economic conditions for the most vulnerable sectors of the population. The main obstacle to human security in Nepal is poverty, with 38% of the population, or 9



million Nepalese, living below the poverty line. The absence of the rule of law, impunity and the resultant pattern of gross human rights violations are other factors that pose a threat to human security.

Election to the Constituent Assembly (CA) was held in April 2008 to institutionalize achievements of the second Jana Andolan of 2006 which succeeded with the overwhelming solidarity of the political parties and the general people. Nepalese people emphasize the need for democratic conditions, good governance and political security as pre-requisites for human security. Human security is jeopardized by corruption, discrimination based on race, sex, ethnic origin, religion or political orientation, as well as political insecurity and the absence of democratic possibilities in Nepal.

(To be concluded)

No logic in claiming 7 point deal initiated Left polarization in Nepal

-Jhal Nath Khanal, Prime Minister, Nepal



TGQ1: How the government which took more than three months to take a formal shape will proceed ahead in the days to come? How you Mr. Khanal explain it?

PM Khanal: Well the need of the nation today is mainly that of forging a national consensus. The fact is that had consensus been available in all matters ever on differing ones then we would have been limited or say confined in a single party. But it is not so.

We need national consensus on matters that are not only vital but were basic ones as well. We need a national agreement for the draft of a new constitution and also for the peace process to bring it to its preferred end. I have been proceeding ahead with the inner message contained in the Magh 20-2067 (February 3, 2011) in forging a national agreement as per the changed political context since then. The situation has differed and thus it needs to be tackled in a changed manner. And fortunately, some positive successes have been made already in this direction.

TGQ2: Even if you talk of having political consensus among the parties but so far you have failed in garnering support from the main opposition party-the Nepali Congress and some other parties having representation in the parliament? What say you in this regard?

PM Khanal: After the Nepal Prime Minister election, held on February 3, 2011, the idea was to fortify the relation in between the two parties now in unity and later to make similar unity efforts with other parties in order to make this

government a national one. The efforts are in progress. We have been endeavoring in order to forge national consensus as promised. The nation as it stands today is not only undergoing through a transformation process in the social, economic, political field but is also proceeding ahead with the conflict conversion process. The management of the conflict and its conversion is definitely an arduous task. It takes a topsy-turvy path. It is because of this, there was some delay seen in the government taking a formal and full fledged shape.

TGQ3: It is said that even the ruling parties have developed some sort of suspicion over the seven point secret agreement that you and Prachanda signed? What is the fact?

PM Khanal: At times the country's leaders should take historical steps in a bold manner. One has to take innovative steps or make new moves. It is with this motivation, I, on behalf of the UML central committee and steering committee and on my own took a bold decision which resulted in the seven point deal with the Maoists. Such consummate decisions are taken only on important and atypical moments. There were certain natural procedures to bring the deal for the public consumption. Some disputes arose after the deal was signed. Some demanded even clarifications. A joint statement dated February 15, 2011, we have tried to clarify the contents of the said deal. We have already discussed the deal in the party's central committee and which has been approved as well. That's why

we should look forward now. This deal doesn't hit hard any of the functioning parties in the country. There is no logic in claiming that the deal has initiated some sort of Left polarization in the country. The February 15 statement makes it all clear. We are committed to bring under single umbrella all those parties who subscribe to the idea of institutionalizing the Republican system of government for peace and drafting of the new constitution. We are committed to this thought.

TGQ4: There is still the absence of a modality on how to settle the peace process in an amicable manner? What say you?

PM Khanal: Well there have been some problems how to take a viable way in order to settle the peace process. Needless to say, there exist internal rivalries in the major parties and also inside the smaller parties. One could see the reflection of the country's extreme transition inside the activities of the major parties. Yet, some positive indications have already been noticed which is as regards the sorting out of the problems confronting the nation of late. We hope soon that we can take a quantum jump in order to settle the peace process. We can accomplish convergence of similar ideas even on matters of the modalities and the standards soon. This is what I hope. If so then we can hope that peace process can take a great leap forward.

TGQ5: The Nepali Congress says that unless the seven point deal is not scrapped, the party will not sit in talks with you. What would be your comment in this regard?

PM Khanal: I have told the leaders of the Nepali Congress not to talk of the seven point deal. Just leave it aside. I told them let's have some new agreement and proceed in the days ahead. I have told them time and again that the seven point deal with the Maoists is not aimed against any of the parties. This is what I have been explaining to the NC leaders on a regular basis. The Jansatta weekly.

TGQ2: So how OLI-Nepal duo will proceed now? Will they remain as a mere spectator or act in a different manner?

Mr. Adhikari: Well, we don't have this or that group in the UML. Such prevalence even if it were has come to an end after the conclusion of the last general assembly. Now we are only the UMLites. But our party chairman

UML party can without difficulty dethrone Chairman Khanal

-Khagraj Adhikari

Alternative PB member, UML, Nepal

TGQ1: We have been told that the internal fight inside the UML party has already attained a new height. What could have been the prime reason for such a rivalry?

Mr. Adhikari: Primarily, the party leadership appeared lethargic in implementing the decisions made by the party's general assembly. Neither could we notice the required

honesty in this regard. What at best we all desire is that all the leaders of the party adhere to the party discipline and act accordingly. But, the seven point secret deal was mysteriously signed in a dark chamber going against the party's decisions and will. It was perceived and is being taken also that the UML has just been made a tool of the Maoists in assisting the former rebel's idea of State Capture. The deal was made to be in power, we felt it like that. The party later decided to award the Home Ministry to Mr. Bishnu Poudel which was soon approved by the polit bureau and CC of the party. But the Home Ministry was ultimately went to the fold of the Maoists with a view apparently to annihilate the UML from the Nepalese communist movement once and for all. The last general assembly adopted a line which had it that the UML will henceforth proceed ahead by sticking to both struggle and unity mode with the Nepali Congress and the Maoists. But what we see now is that the party suddenly has taken a line of struggle with the Nepali Congress and unity with the Maoists. The debates have cropped up since the very beginning of the completion of the general assembly. It has gone against the party's chartered and adopted decisions.

TGQ3: It has been long that the Oli-Nepal duo has been crying that they will unseat Chairman from the party and the Nepal PM post. But nothing of that sort has happened so far? Has their mathematic calculations failed? Why so then?

Mr. Adhikari: No! It is not a question of their arithmetic failure. The main thing is not to depart from the party's discipline and honesty. We will not allow the ejaculation of ideology, rule and the discipline of the party, departure from theory and practices aimed at undermining the people's democracy adopted by the Party. No compromise could be made against the party's chartered line of considerations.

TGQ4: How can the UML party depose the Chairman of the Party who has been an elected one? Can the party go to this extent? But how?

Mr. Adhikari: What is the use of such a Chairman who can't play his role in an effective manner?



who is also country's Prime Minister has accomplished most of the jobs in an arbitrary manner whether it be while expanding the cabinet or doing party's internal affairs. He did all these with the creation of groupism in the party. He is even encouraging such trends inside the party. Now no hanky-panky. A solid decision will be made by the party's Central Committee which is likely to be held by the next week of Jestha, 2068 corresponding to May 23-24, 2011. Everything will be settled at the CA meet.

TGQ5: But Mr. Bishnu Poudel is still holding the ministry of defense? He was talked to become the Home Minister. Why Mr. Poudel is silent then?

Mr. Adhikari: When the party's top leader himself ignores party's discipline then what to talk of the others? The corrections have got to begin right from the post of the party's Chairman. That's all.

The Kantipur daily dated May 8, 2011. Thanks.

Musharraf warns India of dire consequences in case of aggression

South Asian News Agency (SANA) - May 8, 2011: Former president Gen (ret'd) Pervez Musharraf accused India of backing insurgency in Pakistan through its Afghan consulates, adding that India should not have any misconception to carry out a US-like operation in Pakistan.

He said that if India tried to venture out, it would have to face severe retaliation from Pakistan. He said that being the former army chief, he believed that if India did resort to aggression, it would have to face the retaliation beyond its imagination.

In an interview with an Indian channel, Musharraf rejected to accept the reports that Osama would have been living in the compound in Abbottabad for five years.

He discarded the allegations that Pakistan had already known about Osama's presence in the compound, saying that President Obama also thanked Pakistan for the intelligence cooperation.

He said that numerous Al-Qaeda operatives had been captured in Pakistan when he was at the helm of affairs. If the US does not trust Pakistan, it will do no good to the alliance between the two countries, Musharraf added.

He said that Pakistan did not require any kind of help from India and if it wanted to help Pakistan, it should stop backing militants from its Afghan consulates.

He said that India was behind the insurgency in Balochistan as the weapons were not falling from sky for Baloch rebels rather India was providing them.

Meanwhile in an interview

with Washington National Radio, Musharraf said that secret agency



of Pakistan failed to search Osama, adding that Osama was hiding in a compound situated near to the Pakistan Military Academy Kakul.

He said that on the one hand the secret agencies are being involved in the hiding of Osama, adding that in my view this allegation is not right.

He said that it could be termed as the failure of the secret agencies, adding that I even could not imagine that Pakistani agencies were involved in the hiding of Osama in Abbottabad.

Pervez Musharraf said that president Obama thanked Pakistan for secret agencies for intelligence cooperation and on the other Pakistan is being involved in the hiding of Osama which is not right thing.

He said that if some elements of Pakistan were involved in the hiding of Osama then they should be prosecuted, adding that the news about the presence of Osama in Abbottabad from the last five years is no true.

He said that no resident of Abbottabad confirmed the news of Osama bin Laden living in their area.

Criticism of Pakistan intelligence is unfair

Since the death of Osama bin Laden, the US media has been asking how the world's most wanted man could live for years in a hideout in Pakistani. Friction between the US and Pakistan has focused on the role of the latter's intelligence sector, triggering a backlash from Islamabad, which has described the raid that killed Bin Laden as a violation of sovereignty by the US. Some in the Indian media went a step further, calling for attacks on anti-Indian terrorists in Pakistan.

Such critiques are not only unfair, but also dangerous.

Standing at the beachhead of the war on terror, the Pakistani government has taken risks beyond the imagination of the West in recent years. Pakistan has suffered huge losses from the war,

making it a victim of social disruption and numerous violent incidents as well as the assassination of Benazir Bhutto, who was one of the most outstanding leaders of the nation.

US media criticism indicates that it does not see Pakistan as a real ally that deserves respect, but only a performer of the US interest. In the eyes of many Americans, Pakistan is nothing but a country that has been bought and maneuvered by US dollars.

As to the reactions in India, the media seems to lack restraint. Indian society's geopolitical observations about this region are worrisome. Extremism in India may stunt its efforts to become a more responsible power in South Asia.

In an era of the Internet, the

West's arrogance toward Third World countries creates uneasiness in the political forum. Without restraint, the functions of the Western media have been exaggerated and have set a bad example for India, which boasts of being a fully opened nation in terms of media coverage. Hard-won compromises between India and other governments are often distorted.

Pakistan is one of the most complex countries of the Muslim world, with a mix of modern democracy and tribe-based autonomy. Being a populous country with nuclear weapons, Pakistan's stability is vital for the whole region. It would be ridiculous and wrong to force Pakistan to bend before external pressures: Respect rather than

oppression from the West is what would help the nation realize modernization.

China, a heart-felt friend to Pakistan, has also suffered from terrorism in recent years. Its frontier provinces are occasionally disturbed by extremists from within Pakistan. But this has not caused any deterioration in bilateral ties between the two countries. The mutual respect between China and Pakistan has surpassed the imagination of some Western countries.

In this way, China has set an example for the West on how to treat Pakistan as a sincere and cooperative partner.

Editorial Global Times, China

Delay in Nepal Charter draft is due to CA Speaker-Mr. Subash Chandra Nembang

Q1: How the peace process and the constitution drafting will proceed now? Mr. Baidya your exclusive comments please.

Baidya: First of all, we must have a "National Security Policy". Later, a modality either to integrate or rehabilitate the Maoists militias should be formalized and should come into existence. The Maoists militia could be either remain as a separate force or even if it is made to be a mixed one then a sure shot modality of this too must be formalized. Naturally when the Maoists militias have a separate force then the command will remain with them. This is only but natural. If we adopt a fifty-fifty integration model and make it a combined force then also the command of such a mixed force should go to the leadership of the Militias from our camp. The command must be with the Maoists militias.

The Maoists militias can be deployed along the border as border security force. The Modality should be such that it allows collective integration. As regards the constitution making process, we should honor all those agreed upon points wherein we have agreed in the discussions held at the level of the committees or say subcommittees. The issue of state restructuring should also be taken care of. We should chart a constitution which does away with the problems pertaining to the caste, ethnicity, regional, and gender issues as well concurrently

by attacking against the remnants of feudalism, imperialism and expansionism and a constitution that preserved our national independence and sovereignty. The constitution must also be a people friendly one which allows them all to live a secured and dignified life plus two meals a day. The Peace process and the constitution making must go hand in hand. What if the Integration is made but if that sans constitution? It will definitely have no meaning at all. Thus both the processes must go together.

Q2: Who is to be primarily blamed for not drafting the constitution even in the period of one year extension? What say you Mr. Baidya?

Baidya: Outside, we the Maoists are being blamed. However, the fact is that the primary blame for delaying the draft of the constitution or no draft of the constitution should go to the Speaker of the Constituent Assembly body-Mr. Subash Chandra Nembang. I don't see the Speaker making any substantial efforts aimed at making the constitution? I don't see any. He at best suspended the assembly one after another. As regards the question of state restructuring and federalism, neither the UML nor the Nepali Congress have a clear vision. I see both the parties were not having a clear vision on these two key issues.

Q3: What of the Prachanda tussle or say imbroglie?

Baidya: After all a revolt is a conditional one. If we don't have a positive peace associated with dignity then what is the meaning of such a peace? The Nepalese people fought for the prevalence of a visible and substantial political change. Nepalese people together with the People's Army fought a war for institutionalizing the political change for the better. What is the use of such a constitution which doesn't or fails to reflect the inner meaning and the message of such a political change? If there is any cheat while drafting the constitution and for peace then the people will summarily reject it. At best, all of the past movements have finally landed or say settled with an agreement. We don't want to wage war on a particular issue on a repeated basis. If the constitution fails to reflect the people's genuine aspirations then there remains the single option and that being embracing yet another movement. The expanded version of a movement is definitely the people's revolt. Even the UN has said that if the people were denied their fundamental rights then the people have the right to go in for a revolt. Can those who make tall claims of Lokatantra-Democracy and Human Rights possess the right to reject the notion of a revolt? If there is any deceit while charting the constitution and for the prevalence of peace then in that situation, revolt becomes compelling necessity. That's it.

Q4: You too talk of Peace and Constitution. Prachanda

Bishwanath Prasad Sah who was defeated by our own leader in the Constituent Assembly Election, I was surprised to see that Chairman did a good exercise to make Sah a minister."

A grand satire indeed. To recall, Sah formally associated with Nepal Communist Party Unity Centre had joined the Maoists party after the CA election along with party chairman Narayan Kaji Shrestha. Dahal and Shrestha are close chums.

At a program organized by Maoists Party affiliated Revolutionary Journalists' Organization in Janakpur, Gajurel made it clear that his party was also not in favour of extending the CA tenure unless consensus is reached between parties over various contentious issues of constitution drafting.

Gajurel also opined that if parties are not to forge consensus over issues such as state restructuring, in the form of governance and in the electoral processes, those should be sorted out through a majority decision.

Red Passport...

has granted additional 14 days to detain parliamentarians Ms. Gayatri Sah and Mr. B.P. Yadav for further investigation. Both Sah and Yadav were arrested on charge of selling their diplomatic passports.

While Sah is from Nepali Janata Dal, Yadav belongs to Madhesi Janadhihar Forum-Yadav.

Similarly, reports had on Tuesday that the Nepal Police have also begun investigation on a ruling United Marxist Leninists Constituent Assembly member for obtaining two diplomatic passports.

The Hanuman dhoka Metropolitan Police Office has asked the Parliamentary Secretariat to make the first passport of Mr. Narad Muni Rana available for carrying out detailed investigation.

Mr. Rana according to reports had obtained his first diplomatic

Mohan Baidya-KIRAN, Senior Vice Chairman, Nepal Maoist Party

also has begun speaking on those lines but you have written a note of dissent against his new line of thought. Is then Prachanda a liberal man and you an illiberal one? Your remarks please.

Baidya: The crux of the matter is that Chairman Prachanda too talks of Peace and Constitution. We too have the same opinion and been talking on those similar lines.

I fear as to whether the Chairman is favoring a real constitution and prevalence of peace or is just favoring a constitution and peace even if it were declared in a relative manner sans the substance? Does he talking of a constitution and peace only for the sake of a constitution and peace? I fear whether the sacrifices made by the martyrs will go in vain? Whether the grand contribution made by the Maoists militias will be ignored and insulted? I also fear whether the Constitution will ultimately be a people friendly or not? This is our anxiety and an issue of great concern.

Q5: Prachanda appears to have made some near and others far while selecting the candidates for being inducted in the cabinet? Is it that what is being disseminated? What say you Mr. Baidya?

Baidya: Well, let's not talk of as to who was near and who were kept at a distance.

The party should have sent the names of the candidates by making it an inclusive one and on a proportional basis. But it did not happen. The Interim constitution does talk about the 33 percent representation of the female folks while awarding seats and portfolios. However, the fact is that this provision too was summarily ignored by the party. We could not do as per the interim constitution provision as regards



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the female representation in the cabinet. This was a glaring weakness of the party. We should have sent those to the cabinet who in the past have had made substantial contribution in the overall peace process and also for the draft of the new constitution. Something has gone wrong definitely. Yet we have been talking inside the party as regards these matters.

Q6: What if things do not come your expected way?

Baidya: Let's not talk on those lines as of now. I do admit that we committed some mistakes during the cabinet expansion process. The weakness is already there for all to see.

Q7: Is it that the talks with Chairman Prachanda did not converge or say differed during the portfolio distribution process? Is that correct?

Baidya: It should have been accomplished in a dignified manner. Now we should move ahead by managing the weaknesses and correct the mistakes. Definitely we will do it.

Q8: So you must be happy with the Home Ministry going to the fold of your own party?

Baidya: Yes! The Ministry of Home Affairs had to come to our party's fold. We got it. This is the positive aspect.

Q9: How to tackle the constitutional crisis if the

constitution doesn't come out on the stipulated deadline of May 28, 2011? Your comments please.

Baidya: We have been doing our job in this regard in a serious manner. We will continue to move ahead and make our honest efforts. The process of constitution draft, as I see it, will not be possible. The onus now lay with the government on how to come out from the impending crisis. It is the government's turn to act in this regard. The parties now in government in consensus should make efforts on how to find out an outlet to this issue.

Q10: Well, it is talked that the seven point agreement does talk about post of the Nepal PM going to your party in an alternative manner? What is it about?

Baidya: Yes. Such alternative mechanisms at times happen complying with certain procedures. The talk of leading the government one by one is there in the seven point deal. But when? The agreement or say the deal remains silent. This is altogether a different matter. We can move ahead by keeping the debate open option by one in this regard. But talks are yet to be held in this regard.

Text courtesy: The Annapurna Post, dated May 7, 2011. Thanks.

Cluttered...

High placed sources claim that Mahara was made the country's Home Minister only after Prachanda returned from Singapore, March 16, 2011, wherein he is supposed to have met some top RAW officials.

With Nepal Prime Minister out from the country, his detractors appear to have converged and the climax could be his unseating from the current post.

Oli-Nepal duo has been doing honestly the jobs "assigned" to them. Should it then be taken as the second Singapore deal?

Making and breaking of governments consume much time in Nepal than what it should have been otherwise.

Nepal's destiny. Should the secret meet which took place the other day mean that Nepal PM Khanal's days are numbered in government?

Could be simply because it was Prachanda who elevated Khanal to present day grade and it would be him again to change his loyalty and ditch Khanal if that benefited him personally.

Prachanda definitely wants to be in the good book of the Indian regime. This too becomes pretty evident from his fresh hobnob with the leaders having proven India tilt.

By the way, Prachanda has already become a laughing stock inside his own party colleagues who take him now as a person whose power greed remains unparalleled. Changing political stances and playing one against the other has become his habit.

But only if that benefited him. Summing up, the secret meet must have a message. Dr. Bhattarai's presence together with Prachanda and this "intimate" duo's meet with the carriers of alien agenda means that a great political catapult is awaiting Nepali politics.

The traditional player has once again prevailed in the Nepalese politics. Other interested countries will continue to watch the emerging politics with a frustrated look. That's all.

Dahal supports...

constitution in two years time. We have already completed 80 percent of the constitutional process, prolonging the CA tenure by few months will be enough to complete the remaining tasks, he also said.

On the other hand, Senior Vice Chairman Mohan Baidya Kiran of Unified Maoists' Party has reiterated his stance for formulating new national security policy first, prior agreeing for modality of Peoples' Liberation Army integration.

The Central Committee member, Dilip Prajapati quotes the Maoists ideologue as saying, "We will not accept any of the modalities for integration without formulating a new national security policy."

However, the Dahal camp objects to the Baidya stance and blames him for unnecessarily hindering the integration process.

"We cannot draft the policy overnight...can we", asks the Maoists leader close to Chairman Dahal camp. Baidya opines that the Security Policy should be called "National Security Policy of Federal Republic of Nepal."

Baidya also opines that the command of the integrated unit should remain with the Peoples' Liberation Army. (Read Opinion in the last page)

On the other hand, secretary C.P. Gajurel-close to Baidya quarters had all praise for the Nepal Army.

He said, the Nepal Army has at least accepted the existence of Maoists' Army and forwarded their own version of modality for integration.

"We have no objection to the Nepal Army integration plan", he said and added, "The integrated division comprising of 15 to 25 thousand trained personnel should be deployed along the border to safeguard our border."

Open border draws attention now! Not bad.

Gajurel had no good words for his party chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal though.

"How could he appoint

passport (No: 019917) on August 5, 2008 and his second passport (No: 021244) on July 24, 2009.

However, Rana talking to one of the leading national dailies claims that he was totally unaware that a second diplomatic passport was issued by Ministry of Foreign Affairs for him. "I have not filled the form, submitted necessary documents and I have not received my second passport", said Rana.

"I am ready if the police wants to carry out investigation, I am not responsible for the crime I have not committed", he also says.

"The police are planning to compare signature and finger print of Mr. Rana on both the passports. If the test comes negative, then it will point figures at the officials of Ministry of Foreign Affairs", reveals reports.

In the mean time, Madhesi Janadhihar Forum CA members who were suspected of misusing their diplomatic passports have jointly launched a campaign against the Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA)-anti-graft body, for what they claimed "prejudiced and conspiratorial act against the Madhesi community".

On Monday, Sanjaya Kumar Shah and Ram Sahaya Yadav of Madhesi Janadhihar Forum-Nepal organized a joint press meet on Monday, and claimed that conspiracies are being hatched against the Madhesi leaders by aligning them of misusing the red passports."

Oli-Dahal...

and both Oli and Nepal have been publicly denying the unconditional extension of Constituent Assembly tenure. The CA tenure ends May 28, 2011.

Prior Oli and Nepal met with Chairman Dahal, the UML leaders had also held a secret meeting with General Secretary Krishna Prasad Sitaula of Nepal Congress at Oli residence in Balkot, Bhaktapur.

Talking to Nayapatika Daily Sitaula says, "There is no possibility

for the Nepali Congress to become a part of this government. The current government does not even belong to the two parties (Maoist and UML); it is instead a government that exclusively belongs to Dahal and Khanal."

In the meantime, Oli on Monday also demanded resignation of Prime Minister Jhal Nath Khanal for having failed to garner national consensus.

The government was formed some three months back to forge unity between parties yet no steps have been taken to that effect. Oli said while addressing a press meet in Kathmandu.

Khanal has now no logical reasons to continue occupying the seat of Prime Minister, said Oli and added we cannot continue to support Khanal just because he belongs to our party.

Time is already due to thank and bid adieu to this government, he said.

What has the prime minister done except ensuring that his personal photograph also now hangs in a wall in Singh durbar-like government secretariat, Oli asked. Khanal will also be taken to task for awarding Ministry of Home Affairs to the Unified Maoists Party, Oli replied when asked if the party will take action against the party chairman for ridiculing the party's decision. The party chairman is not different than a party cadre, no one has the right to break the party discipline, Oli opined.

Kamal Thapa's...

rounds of unity dialogues that saw no positive results as a result of Kamal Thapa's RPP refusing to budge from revival of Monarchy stance.

But, with Thapa signalling to accept Republican order, is it possible that the three parties once again unite?

The likelihood then remains. The RPP-Nepal is the single political party of Nepal with meagre popular support that is advocating

for a referendum to decide the fate of Monarchy. This is where the contradiction lies, claim observers.

The genuine followers of Monarchy take the republican order declaration as illegal and thus advocate for the revival of monarchy with honour and dignity.

Thapa has been demanding a referendum.

Thapa is using the notion of 'Monarchy revival' as a tool to achieve his political ambitions, nothing more than that, observers conclude.

Indian...

cut trees in this side of the no man's land. Under several flimsy pretexts they occupy Nepal lands and slowly push the border pillar towards Nepali territory...the process continues, Nagarik quotes a local as saying.

From Kothiyaghat to Bhagariya of Bardiya district, the India Border Force has already stripped some 300 meters width of Nepali territory.

Local Unified Maoists Party leader Tilak Sharma discloses that "not only they enter Nepali territory and harass our citizens they also push the border pillars inside Nepal each year."

Or every minute? Will the generous Indian establishment, as it claims, be kind enough to tell Nepali citizens as to how long they will take finally to enter Nepal government secretariat?

Border pillars inching towards Singh durbar. Push is in progress.

CA extension...

can call for a round table meeting to get the job done.

Another Nepali Congress leader Dr. Minendra Rijal speaking at the same program viewed that Constituent Assembly in the current form will fail to draft Constitution even in decades.

It will be totally wrong to presume that in the absence of CA body, the country will fall into a crisis, also said Rijal.

Nar Hari Acharya- Nepali Congress's first Republican leader was of the view that unless Maoists formally abandon their Revolt Stance the Constitution is impossible.