

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

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Writ demands investigation against political leadership

Kathmandu: Advocate Pawan Kumar Khadka filed a writ petition at the apex court demanding thorough investigation from the CIAA (Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority) against the then home ministers and home secretary for their involvement in Sudan scam. The writ petition demands corruption case being filed at the

special court against the three successive home ministers, Krishna Prasad Sitaula, Bam Dev Gautam and Bhim Rawal and home secretaries Umesh Mainali and Govidana Umes.

The CIAA decision to prove the political and administrative leadership sacrosanct is malevolent, reads the writ petition filed at the Supreme Court and adds, there is clear intent only to trap the police officials into the scam and to save the political leaders even if they were involved directly in the case. The political leadership that pokes its nose even while making transfers of police officials in lower hierarchy, it is unlikely that without their involvement the corruption could have taken place, analysts believe.

Monarchy Revival impossible: Pashupati Rana

Kathmandu: Childhood friend of Nepal's ex-king Gyanendra Shah, Pashupati Shumsher Rana-who chairs one of the parties of ex-Panchas, said while addressing a press meet in Kathmandu, June 27, 2011, that under no adverse political situation there lay the possibility of revival of monarchy in any form. "The political parties could fail in their mission to draft constitution and may not even bring positive conclusion to peace process but the birth of monarchy is impossible in any form not even in the form of a baby king", said Rana.

However, in the course of his speech Rana made a contradictory remark when he said "if present chaos and uncertainty is to continue I cannot exactly tell you what it will give birth to?" Let us presume Rana must have been indicating towards the worst. Foreign Military intervention?

Rana shares family ties with some of the main leaders of India's ruling Congress-I and main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party, and is taken as a close ally of the Indian establishment.

The inner wrangling in the Maoists Party is also bogging Rana's mind.

He told the attending media persons that, "Unless internal fight between Maoists leaders is solved amicably, the peace process and constitution drafting is impossible. The country will head to a violent conflict."

Awaiting fierce rivalry



Kathmandu: One month plus of the extended three months has gone to the sewerage.

Analyzing the political approach and the trends of the political ruffians seated at the helm of state affairs, it is highly likely that the remaining sixty days will desecrate.

The entire thought appears guided by the design not to draft the constitution and keep the peace process in an indeterminate state

and finally push the country towards the approaching crag at the earliest and allow the country to be mercilessly ruled by foreign military men. Guess which armed force will be airlifted to Nepal?

The rush of some key RAW officials last month and their inner design to dissolve the Constituent Assembly must not have been without any substantial reason. Add to this the secret trip made by one Indian national, Nihar Naik, to Kathmandu and his one to one talks with several key Nepali personalities does tell that India will not settle for less than the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly.

The Indian regime now has concluded that the raison d'être of the Nepal CA body has ceased to exist and that the country must be thrown to the sympathy of a fresh election which, if maneuvered professionally through its declared local agents and salaried servants, in all likelihood bring down the Maoists from their current numerical strength to a level wherein the Maoists will not have such a greater say in Nepali politics to what they enjoy at the moment.

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Indepth-Analysis

The secret trip made by one Indian national, Nihar Naik, to Kathmandu and his one to one talks with several key Nepali personalities does tell that India will not settle for less than the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly.

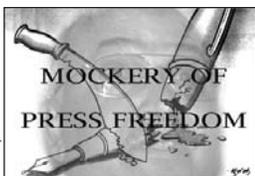
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The idea of having a fresh election is gaining strength. Beginning Kamal Thapa, who is also taken in Kathmandu's political spectrum as an undeclared man of the Southern neighbor, the fresh election demand is also being subscribed by some key politicians belonging to other parties, for example, the Nepali Congress and Madhesh based party leaders.

It could be a mere conjecture indeed but the timing of such a demand appear more than logical in that the current CA body, majority of the population including major party leaders too figure out that within the left two months, could draft neither the preface of the constitution nor the peace process be completed. In many more ways than one, the lay men too conclude that

K.P. Oli's Statement: Mockery of Press Freedom

Kathmandu: What said the so-called United Marxist Leninist influential leader K.P. Sharma Oli, Saturday June 25, 2011, over the case of thrashing of a media person by one of his cadres will perhaps go a long way in determining the intent of Nepali political leadership of their commitment to the notion of free media?



Oli repeatedly thanked the Chairman of UML-affiliated Youth Organization, Mahesh Basnet, for providing safe haven to Parsuram Basnet-who had ordered thrashing a media person, Khilanth Dhakal, in Biratnagar. Basnet is the chief of Biratnagar wing of the UML Youth outfit.

Oli was making a lecture at an interaction program organized by Mandan Bhandari Intellectual Forum in Lalitpur.

"I would like to thank Mahesh Basnet because he has been rebuking Maoists' atrocities- he has done what our top leaders have failed to do so

Continued on page 6

China asks Nepal to be sensitive to Chinese concern

Kathmandu: The newly appointed Chinese envoy to Nepal, Yang Houlan, today asked the shaky government of Nepal to remain extra sensitive towards the concern of his country and ensure that Nepal's soil should not be used by forces that are inimical to China.

This the ambassador conveyed in his one to one meet with Nepal's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs Mr. Krishna Bahadur Mahara. The meeting was held at the Ministry of Home Affairs which lasted for an hour.

The Chinese envoy said, Continued on page 6

Sudan Kingpin escapes: Rubel Nexus exposed

Kathmandu: The government was ordered by the CIAA (Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority) to be precise, 19 June 2011, to keep a close eye on Rubel Chaudhary- the Bangladeshi son-in-law of controversial Nepali Congress leader Sujata Koirala for his alleged involvement in VoIP call bypass scandal.

The Kantipur Daily had later revealed that the Bangladeshi national, Rubel, was residing right at the personal residence of his mother-in-law in Mandikhatar, Kathmandu.

It was also reported some time back that Rubel had installed one

of his VoIP Call bypass centers right at the personal residence of former foreign minister Sujata Koirala.

The security agencies preferred not to enter Sujata's posh bungalow under compelling reasons.

However, to the dismay, Rubel in a broad day light, June 26, 2011, took a flight to his homeland.

Rubel, according to sources at the TIA, had arrived at around 3:00 PM with three big suitcases.

The security personnel, both intelligence operatives and police officials stationed at the International Terminal had contacted the Ministry of Home

Affairs and Police Headquarters. But, the Home Ministry kept a mysterious silence. Thus the Bangladeshi criminal escaped to his home country.

"Both the Home Ministry and Police Headquarters allowed Rubel to escape", writes Rajdhani Daily.

This speaks very much of the tacit linkages that Rubel through Sujata has made inside the Nepali security agencies. Rubel's penetration must have been deep



inside the security machinery.

The Annapurna Post on the other hand quotes a high placed Police source as saying, "Home

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Upendra Yadav fears CA dissolution

Kathmandu: Chairperson of Madhesi Janadhikar Forum (MJF)-Nepal and Deputy Prime Minister Upendra Yadav said while addressing a program in Birgunj, June 26, 2011 that conspiracies have begun to dissolve the Constituent Assembly and impose presidential rule in the country.

Said Yadav, Chairman Bijay Kumar Gacchedhar of MJF-Loktantrik, Chairperson Mahanta Thakur of Tarai Madhesh Loktantrik Party, Nepali Congress General Secretary Krishna Prasad Sitaula and senior UML leader K.P. Sharma Oli are the main players who want the Constituent Assembly dissolved.

"If Constituent Assembly drafts the constitution, Federal

states, Republican order and one Madhesh will be guaranteed", he said and added, "Thus there is the conspiracy to foil these prospects."

In the meanwhile, a suspicious person allegedly with links to Indian intelligence agencies, Nihar Nayak, is meeting senior Nepali media men, intellectuals, influential political leaders and Madheshi leadership in dark chambers.

Nayak is supposed to have landed in Kathmandu, June 19, 2011.

"The information that Nayak is Continued on page 2



TUBORG

...Wherever you are.



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China may be teased from Nepalese soil

Nepal now has no famine of scholars who can thoroughly comprehend and explain the current global politics and its possible impact in South Asia, Nepal included.

We need not to invite foreign mad intellectuals or for the matter political scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru University to make lectures on the current regional politics and beyond. Nepal now has abundant political observers who could explain far more better the existing politics of this part of the world and its far reaching implications in global politics and vice versa.

One such razor-sharp brain just the other day penned one write up which is more about China's increasing friendly relations with the far flung countries and the nervousness that it has caused many established powers to devise a strategy in order to enclose China so that the emerging dragon remains limited and mired in its own internal matters for all time to come.

However, China claims the learned Nepali scholar, Basudev Mishra, much to the chagrin of its detractors in the world stage has already penetrated deep into the countries of Latin America and South America, Africa, and very freshly in South Asia through the effective use of the policy of "friendship with no strings attached". China has already bagged significant success which is what has been ailing the declared hecklers of the present day Chinese regime prompting them all to initiate a regular Television campaign, "The Chinese are coming" being telecast by the BBC, CNN, Al Jazeera and many more with the sole agenda of damaging the flourishing credentials of the current day Chinese leadership.

The grand Chinese presence in Venezuela, Peru, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Chili is what has kept in poor health the present day Obama administration. To recall, until some years back, the United States took these countries as its sole preserve. As per the Monroe doctrine, the US doesn't want any other country to be present in these countries. This doctrine is still valid. The fresh visit of Chinese Vice President Si Jin Ping to Brazil and the various agreements that China signed with the Brazilian government must have shaken the US administration. To recall, Brazil is a member of the BRIC organization with its members as Brazil, Russia, India, China and now South Africa.

It appears that for some countries in the globe, China has already become a matter of threat and thus the set of these annoyed countries are now hell bent on killing the increasing nexus between Russian federation and China. Efforts are being made to weaken this RF-China relation, claims the Nepali academic.

Back in our own part of the world, that is South Asia, the author opines in his article published in Naya Patrika daily dated 24 June, 2011, that concealed hard works are being undertaken by some countries to knock off balance China's under belly-Tibet with the kind assistance of the Indian regime in close collaboration with some far flung imperialist countries, which the author claims, remains no longer a secret.

The Nepali political observer of world standing, Mishra, also indicates that bids were already in the cylinder to corner China and that India will be told by her new masters scattered around the globe to take the lead role. No wonder then the recent visit, recalls the author, of the Indian Prime Minister to Vietnam and Japan.

Vietnam not so in the distant past used to be a China friendly country.

The forced split of Sudan and the current assault on Libya too could have been a grand strategy, opines the author, to disturb the Chinese presence in these countries wherein China is supposed to have its significant outlay in the petro sector.

By and large, the author Basudev Mishra hints that China is being pressed from all possible quarters. How the Chinese take his views is not of our concern. However, what is of concern to us all is that China is a trusted neighbor of this country and that any support from a politically stable China in our developmental sector would be highly appreciated.

Chinese assistance in the development and the construction of rope-way sector will be taken in high esteem as such a substantial means of communication will certainly enhance Nepal's controlled economy. The remote areas of Nepal where the economy either remains nil or at best is in a stagnant condition will greatly encourage the people in the high Himalayas to be a part of the Nepali economy by selling whatever they produce. The apples and other consumer items which they produce will get a grand market in Kathmandu and other cities.

Well, China understands better on how to twist the arms of those countries which have taken the oath of chasing Beijing, India included.

We are concerned for a better Nepal-China relation. The author also by implication means that Beijing could be teased right here from the Nepalese soil. The likelihood remains. And which force on earth can accomplish such naughty tasks is any body's guess.

NEPAL COMMUNIST PARTY: DIVISION AND EMERGENCE OF MAOIST LINE

Professor Surendra K.C
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The seeds of division within the NCP were planted during the founding of the party itself. Consequently, divisive tendencies appeared in the party within two years of its formation, a tendency that continued unabated over the years. The unexpected removal by the party politburo in 1952 of the then general secretary Pushpalal and the election of Manmohan Adhikari to the post formally inaugurated the misunderstanding, dissensions, and inner conflicts in the party. The main objective of the discarded Pushpalal became to oppose the injustice perpetrated upon him and to have him reinstated to the same post. This led to, as one of its outcome, the process of division in the party.

The ban imposed on the NCP five years previously was lifted in 1956 by the then Prime Minister Tanka Prasad Acharya. The party at the time issued a press release expressing its commitment to "accept constitutional monarchy and engage in the propagation of socialist ideology through peaceful means. (Press release of Nepal Communist Party on Baisakh 3, 2014 B.S.) The questions have been important for ideological causes for the divisions in the party.

In the year 1956, the then general secretary Manmohan Adhikari had to visit China to participate in the eighth general convention of the Chinese Communist Party. In the absence of Adhikari, Dr. Kesharjung Rayamajhi was made the acting general secretary of the party. As Adhikari incidentally had to extend his stay in China for medical reasons, Dr. Rayamajhi got himself established in the party's leadership, and the party general convention that followed elected him to the post of general secretary in 1957. Over time, Dr. Rayamajhi metamorphosed into a royal agent and destroyed the communist movement in the country. In the context, Rayamajhi welcomed the Royal action of December 15, 1960 as a "progressive step". (Bhim Rawal, Communist Movement in Nepal: Origin and development, Kathmandu, Pauravi Prakashan, 2047 B.S. P. 52.)

This betrayal by Rayamajhi became the cause of formal division in the NCP. The minority faction opposing Rayamajhi held the "third general convention" in Varanasi, India in 1962, thus formally beginning the process of division in the party, a process that continues even as of today as the fundamental characteristic of the party.

Following the "Banaras General Convention", the party was polarized into those supporting the convention and the Rayamajhi group that had been in the leadership of an undivided

communist party for over a considerable period of time. The NCP, from these two groups at the beginning, has undergone several divisions over the years. However, the minority faction could not prove the relevance of the aims and claims it had put forward for holding the Varanasi convention, and soon dissensions started in the group. Consequently, Pushpalal declared the formation of a separate communist party from Gorakhpur, India in 1968. (Nepal Communist Party Ko Tesro Sammelanko Aitihask Mahatwa. A report circulated by Comrade Pushpalal, Minister, Central Committee, NCP and passed by the third conference, Bhadra 2026 B.S. P. 20)

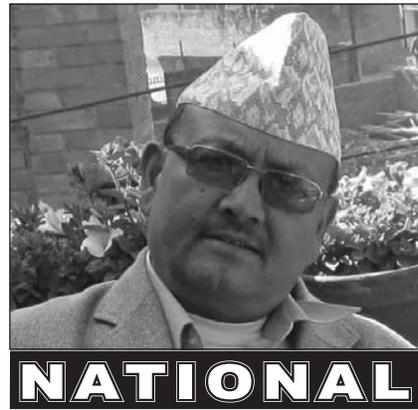
The almost non-existent political activities during the period 1962-1968 led to the Tulsilal-Pushpalal groups being without a center, and the district cadres belonging to these two groups started reorganizing themselves as separate party centers by themselves. In this context, the reorganized Jhapa movement of Jhapa district in 1968-1969 and the formation of the reorganized central nucleus in 1971 are of considerable significance.

At a time when the party formed after the (Varanasi) Banaras convention began to disintegrate with personal clashes between Tulsilal and Pushpalal, the then District Committee of the Eastern Kosi Regional Committee freed itself from the center and on its own initiative began to give calls for an armed struggle. At the time, the adjoining Naxalbari area of West Bengal, India was witnessing an intensified armed struggle centered around the party and the communist group of Jhapa was highly influenced by these activities across the border. The group, which had reorganized itself as Jhapa District Committee (NCP), carried out its first elimination action on May 16, 1971. (Talk with C.P. Mainali on Mangsir 9, 2048 B.S.)

In the history of the communist movement in Nepal, this politics of *personal assassination* is known as the Jhapa movement. Over time these communists from Jhapa went on to form the All Nepal Communist Revolutionary Coordination Committee (ML) in 1975 and ultimately the NCP (ML) in 1978. As of today, the NCP (ML) following its merger with the NCP (Marxist) has become the NCP-UML.

In 1971, after Manmohan Adhikari and Mohan Bikram Singh were released from prison following eight years in jail, they tried to unify all the communists in the country and to form a central party. A central nucleus was formed in the process on December 5, 1975. (Interview with M.B. Singh on Baisakh 28, 2050 B.S.)

As this attempt also did not unfortunately come to fruition,



Mohan Bikram Singh held a general convention of his faction in 1974 and formed the NCP Fourth Convention. (Interview with Manmohan Adhikari on Poush 13, 2048 B.S.)

On the other hand the Rayamajhi group proceeded ahead with the formally reorganized party by holding the third general convention of its faction in 1968. This party, over time, gradually made the transition into non-existence, undergoing in the process division time and again into the NCP (Manandhar) NCP (Berma), and Rayamajhi group. A faction that developed from the party, the NCP (Manandhar) has however, maintained its existence as the NCP-Democratic (1989) and the NCP-United (1994).

As far as the NCP (Maoist) is concerned, to trace their beginnings we have to go back to at least the NCP (Fourth Convention) of 1974 or even to the "Central Nucleus" of 1972. As mentioned previously, Manmohan Adhikari and others were released in 1971 following almost eight years in jail and, following their release, they tried to unify the scattered pieces of the party. The central nucleus was formed, in which, along with Manmohan Adhikari and Mohan Bikram Singh, Shambhuram Shrestha, Jayagovinda Shah, Nirmal Lama, Bharatmohan Adhikari, Ram Bahadur Hyam, Kamal Koirala, and Siddhilal Singh were primarily active. The effort of unity at the time, however, failed. As the comrades involved in the process created a ruckus by accusing each other for the fiasco, Mohan Bikram Singh, as mentioned previously, organized the fourth convention in Banaras and formed a separate group that came to be known as the "NCP-Fourth Convention".

However, this newly formed communist group was not itself exempt from the traditional disease of division and fragmentation. The general secretary of the group, Mohan Bikram Singh, was ousted in 1977 over a sex scandal and Nirmal Lama was nominated in his place. Lama was replaced in 1978 by Bhakta Bahadur Shrestha, who was arrested in 1981. As a consequence, the group appeared on the verge of division. The internal divisions within the party escalated and there appeared in the party two separate groups of Mohan Bikram and Nirmal Lama. When the central committee members supporting Nirmal Lama at the time tried to create a constitutional crisis by resigning, the Mohan Bikram group formed a national ad hoc committee and designated Mohan Baidya (Kiran) as the party's general secretary. A month and a half later, the Mohan Bikram group held a party conference at Gorakhpur in October 1978 and renamed the party as NCP (Masal). (NCP-Masal, Party Itihas Sambandhi Prastav (presented by the central office of the NCP (Masal) at the party's sixth general convention), 2050 B.S. p. 10).

Comrade Chitra Bahadur K.C. was elected as its general secretary, and the Nirmal Lama group was expelled from the party. The Lama group organized the leaders and cadres belonging to its group by forming for the time being a National Conference Organization Committee. A year later, it held the first national conference and formally established itself as the NCP (Fourth Convention). The NCP (Fourth Convention) formed in 1974, however, went through further fragmentation with the formation of the NCP (Masal). This, however, was not the end of the affair, and the disputes in the group were bound to escalate further over time. This began with the fifth general convention of the NCP (Masal) in October 1979. The convention held in Ayodhya, India, elected Comrade Mohan Baidya Kiran as party general secretary, which was not very palatable to senior leader Mohan Bikram Singh. Consequently, Mohan Bikram and others of his group left the party and formed a separate group of the NCP (Masal). (From the talk with Shyam Shrestha on Shrawan 3, 2058 B.S.)

Thus, the erstwhile NCP (Fourth Convention) was divided into the Fourth Convention, Masal, and the Masal. This was not the end of the affair, however, and Dr. Baburam Bhattarai, Shital Kumar, and others rebelled from the NCP (Masal) and formed a small group called "NCP Masal Rebel Group". Over time, however, all these groups reunited in 1991 to form the NCP (Unity Center). The NCP (Masal), NCP (Fourth Convention), Rebel Masal group, and the Proletarian Workers Organization Nepal were all united in the Unity center. (NCP Unity Center, Rajnaitik Dastawejharu (Document presented and passed by the national unity general convention in March, 2048 B.S. pp. 30-31)

The "Unity" of the NCP Unity Center did not last for long, and the factionalization within the party started soon afterwards. The former Masal and the rebel Masal group appeared on one side and the former Fourth Convention and the Proletarian Workers Organization Nepal on the other. The second group ultimately parted ways by calling itself the Unity Center while the former, through and underground conference held in Chitwan on May 30-June 4, 1994, announced the formation of the NCP (Maoist). The underground conference, participated by 215 representatives and observers from 60 districts, also elected a fifteen-member central committee. Prachanda was elected as the party general secretary. The NCP (Maoist) not only declared a people's war from Feb 13, 1996, but has also gone on to add a fundamental quality to the characteristic of the Nepali communist movement. (More)

Upendra...

seeking is regarding the possible impact of Constituent Assembly dissolution", said a Kathmandu intellectual who met the Indian national, on conditions of anonymity.

"His focus was also on increased Chinese activities in Nepal", said the intellectual adding, "There were questions related to the posting of high profile Chinese diplomat Yang Houalan as ambassador to Nepal."

Nayak who is in Kathmandu for over a week now, represents the New Delhi based IDSA (Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses), the intellectual informed.

Nayak was also involved in various campaigns in New Delhi to garner support for One Madhesh One Province in Nepal. New Delhi based Nepali media men claim.

The Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses is tentatively a New Delhi based "think tank" funded by the RAW agency, it is believed.

High placed sources claim that Nayak's visit may have been the second effort of the New Delhi regime for ensuring the sure shot demise of the Nepal Constituent Assembly.

To recall, around May third week last month, Alok Joshi, AB Mathur and H. Khare, high officials of the RAW agency, were in Kathmandu to preside over the death of the Nepal CA body but unfortunately they failed in their mission. The RAW functionaries had also met with the now sidelined King on May 27, 2011, over a lavish dinner at Nirmal Nivas. However, it is not yet known whether Mr. Nayak has met the sidelined King or not. By the way, CA Speaker is set to visit India.

गरिबी, अन्याय, अत्याचार, भ्रष्टाचार,
 अशिक्षा, जातीय भेदभाव हाम्रा शत्रु हुन्
 । यसका विरुद्ध सबै सचेत, सजग र
 क्रियाशील रहनुपर्दछ ।

नेपाल सरकार
 सूचना तथा सञ्चार मन्त्रालय
 सूचना विभाग



Thai Film festival begins, Nepal-Thailand enjoy cordial relations

It was a very simple ceremony. No big bang as it so happens at times in Kathmandu's diplomatic circuit while a Film festival is being organized by a country whose diplomatic representation is in Kathmandu, Nepal.

2011. The Thai Film festival thus kicked off in Kathmandu beginning Monday.

The festival will continue for almost a week wherein some internationally acclaimed Award winning films will be screened for

Mr. Maris Sangiampongsa put on record that Nepal-Thailand relations were cordial one and the cordiality will further increase with the events such as the one of the screening of Thai films.

The Thai Ambassador further opined that the weeklong film festival had been solely organized with an objective to let the Nepali population understand better the prevailing Thai culture, traditions, and societal life.

"Most of the films to be screened were award winning ones which portray not only the healthy part of the societal trends of the Thai society but also talked of the evils that side by side exist in our society", added Ambassador Sangiampongsa.

The Thai envoy attached great importance to the need for cultural exchange between the two

countries, which according to him, contributed much in enhancing people to people level ties and understanding the friendly countries better.

The Thai films to be screened in Kathmandu are, Samchuk-Once in a chance; 32 December Love Error; That Sounds Good and Muay Thai Chaia.

For the invited guests, the film Muay Thai Chaia was screened which was applauded by the Nepali viewers. It was a film of some boys who wished to become professional boxers and the friends finally fight with each other. The picturisation of the film was simply superb.

The DCM at the Thai Embassy Asi Mamanee greeted the invited guests.



SECOND IMPRESSION

N.P. UPADHYAYA

the beginning of the Thailand Film Festival was a modest one which perhaps provided some indications to the Thai psyche that they prefer no hullabaloo.

The job has to be done then that should be accomplished in a calm manner. And this is what exactly the diplomats of the Royal Thailand embassy, including the Thai Ambassador Mr. Maris Sangiampongsa, did Monday 27,

the cine goers of Kathmandu. Perhaps this is the second time that the Royal Thai Embassy in Kathmandu has organized such a film festival.

Welcoming the guests, that included some Heads of diplomatic missions based in Kathmandu and a few distinguished Nepali bankers together with prominent media men, the Thailand Ambassador

Memories of my Pakistan days

By Pushkar Man Singh Rajbhandari

In diplomacy, unspoken words are sometime more meaningful than spoken words; a simple gesture becomes more effective than the expression of thousand words. In the past fifty years of relation between Nepal and Pakistan there may have occurred several occasions when such expressed and unexpressed, explicit and implicit diplomacies have come to play to enrich the friendship to a height of mutual satisfaction. The bond is proven strong over the years and is time-tested.

I had two stints of diplomatic assignment in Pakistan - as a diplomat in Nepal Embassy from 1973 to 1978 and as an Ambassador from 2003-2006. On both the occasions I saw the effectiveness of quiet diplomacy, reflected in the form of mere token or simple gesture, in the consolidation of cordial ties at the people-to-people level relations. Relations between states become stable and everlasting only when they are well understood and well accepted by the common folks.

I recall the year of 1975 - the year of the coronation of late King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah. He was to be crowned as the king of Nepal amidst religious ritual and ceremonial fanfare. Preparations to celebrate the occasion in a befitting manner were underway in Nepal. During the period arrived a three-member Nepal Army delegation in Islamabad to select and buy a few horses from the Government of Pakistan for the ceremonial events. They were escorted to Mona - Pakistan Army's horse breeding, rearing and training farm in the North West Frontier Province. After a week's stay in Mona, they returned to Islamabad in frustration as they could not find there a single horse of their choice and specification. But they had liked a small white pony of Scottish breed which was unfortunately not in their procurement list.

One fine morning I took them for a joyride in my car at the outskirts of Rawalpindi. On our

way we came across about twenty Pakistani soldiers riding on beautiful, elegant, tall and trained horses. The horses belonged to the Presidential Palace and were brought out for their routine stroll. Our delegation was immensely impressed by the horses and asked me to approach Pakistan Government to make a deal. I was in a dilemma. How could I, being

VIEWPOINTS

a diplomat, ask the Government of Pakistan to sell the trained horses which belonged to the distinguished office of the highest seat of power? It was like then asking the Nepal Government to sell trained horses from the King's Cavalry of Narayanhiti Royal Palace. It would not only be undiplomatic, but foolish and a discourteous request too. The same evening at a diplomatic reception, the Director General of the South Asia Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Abdul Sattar, who became the Foreign Secretary and later, Foreign Minister of Pakistan, asked me about the progress made by our delegation on the selection of horses. It was right time for me to tell him the morning episode and to convey the proposal of our delegation. I also added from my side that since the coronation day was fast approaching we did not have sufficient time to look for horses in other country. After two days of our conversation he phoned me and said that we could buy those horses of the President's Cavalry. He also informed me that the Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was presenting the white pony which was liked by our delegation in the name of his coronation. I was happy on the deal and grateful for the gift of white pony from the Prime Minister. I was in the mean time a little astonished at the quick

deal and also for the grant of permission from the President's office for the sale of the horses from the President's office. Much later, Mr. Sattar told me that the deal was possible only because of Prime Minister Bhutto's special request to the President of Pakistan Fazal Elahi Chowdhary, who participated as a guest at the coronation.

The pony became center of attraction in Kathmandu on two counts - one, that King Birendra rode to the Kathmandu Ganesh Temple on it, wearing crown on his head and holding a sword in his hand, to get blessings from Lord Ganesh for the wellbeing of the country and countrymen. Second, the pony was a gift from friendly Pakistan.

The pony thus became a symbol of friendship between Nepal and Pakistan. It was a simple gesture of friendliness from Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to King Birendra. But the message contained therein, of goodwill and cordiality, went beyond description. The Crown Prince Dipendra had once told me that he learnt horse riding from that pony when he was a child.

Another pleasing incident was the time in 1998 when I overheard the conversation between two Pakistani soldiers at Torkhan border in Khyber Pass in the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan. The occasion was Crown Prince Dipendra Bir Bikram Shah's official visit to Pakistan. I was then working as the South Asia Division Chief at the Foreign Ministry of Nepal and had accompanied the Crown Prince Dipendra to his Pakistan visit as an entourage member. From Peshawar in Pakistan we were escorted by car to the Pakistan Military Checkpost at Torkhan border to view the scenic beauty of Khyber Pass through which several military expeditions from beyond Afghanistan had passed to conquer India. Many failed, some achieved success; prominent among them was the Moghul who conquered India and ruled for centuries.

A special post from where the scenic view of Khyber Pass was distinct was located at a hilltop.



One had to walk to reach the place. I was walking slowly. On both sides of the alley were standing the soldiers in attentive position, holding guns in their hands as a mark of welcome to the visiting guests. The soldiers eased themselves when the visitors had passed them. I suddenly overheard one soldier asking the other "Yeh kis mulk key shahzade hain? (Which country does the Crown Prince belong to?) The other soldier replied "Manisha Koirala ke" (Manisha Koirala's). The first was surprised "Oh, Nepal ke" (Oh Nepal's).

It was an amusing experience. The conversation of the soldiers was simple but it revealed a wealth of knowledge. Manisha Koirala was then a popular Bollywood film actress and had many Hindi box-office hit films to her credit. The soldiers at Torkhan knew that she is a Nepali and her country is Nepal. They came to know that Nepal and Pakistan are friends. Some time ago another film actor Shiva Shrestha, who played lead roles in a couple of Pakistani cine films, also made Nepal known to Pakistani cine goers. He is still remembered by his Pakistani fans by the name of Shiva. Similarly, Mehdi Hassan & Ghulam Ali are idols of music lovers of Nepal. These celebrities have cast their indelible imprint in the relation between Nepal and Pakistan. They have become the bridge of goodwill and cooperation and will be remembered at all times for their roles in enhancing the relations between the two states.

(The writer was Ambassador of Nepal to Pakistan from 2003 to 2006)

En Bref

Baidya-Bhattarai bid to topple Nepal Maoist Chairman Dahal begins

Kathmandu: Reports quote high placed sources in the Unified Maoists' Party camp and reveal that vice chairman duo Mohan Baidya Kiran and Babu Ram Bhattarai are planning to sack Pushpa Kamal Dahal from the post of the party chairman.

In the first phase, the plan is to force Dahal tender his resignation from the leader of Party's parliamentary delegation and appoint Bhattarai in the post. In the second phase, Baidya will replace Dahal as the party chairman - which shall be approved from the party general assembly.

Ram Karki- the politburo member close to Baburam camp tells the media that, "It is quite obvious that leaders (Baidya and Baburam) who have the same objective will not always fight with each other. Yes indeed they have come to terms over proportional representation of both the sides in government."

Of the total 234 Maoists' CA members, 75 are in favor of Baidya and 60 favor Bhattarai. If Bhattarai and Baidya panel unites, the panel led by the Chairman will be in minority. Thus Dahal could be easily ousted from the party's leader of Maoists parliamentary delegation, reports refer to the Baidya-Bhattarai panel as saying.

Yet Baidya and Bhattarai differ on various issues of strategic importance such as India as the prime enemy, revolt line, alliance with Nepal Congress and many more.

Prachanda must have frustrating time ahead.

Maoist's playing double, NC leaders suspect

Kathmandu: The Nepal Congress has suspected that the ongoing internal struggle in the Unified Maoists Party could be a ploy to divert attention from peace and constitutional processes.

The oldest Democratic Party made this assessment when the party's influential central committee members met Thursday June 23, 2011.

Nar Hari Acharya told media referring to participating CC members that it could be a grand design of Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', on the one hand, to make total commitment to Peace and Constitution and, on the other, ordering his party leaders to rebuke the commitment.

The NC has just begun assessing as to what the Maoists were? During the meeting, Nepal Congress leaders seriously expressed concerns that with 25 days already passed since signing of 5-Points Agreement, no efforts as such have been made so far to put the agreement into practice.

"The Maoists are trying to disregard the agreement", they also held.

The meeting held at party headquarters in Sanepa, Kathmandu was participated in by Vice Chairman Ram Chandra Poudel, senior leader Sher Bahadur Deuba, some party officials and influential central committee members.

Who else understands better the Nepal Maoists as the Indian authorities?

Fast track railway to link Kathmandu with Lumbini

Kathmandu: The Chinese government backed Beijing based Asia Pacific Exchange and Co-operation Foundation which pledged to provide US\$3 Billion for Lumbini Development Project will soon begin survey on the construction of a direct fast railway link between Kathmandu to Lumbini-the Mecca of followers of Buddhism the world over.

The survey for the construction of railway track will begin right from next month, it has been reported.

In the first phase of Project funded by the Chinese Foundation, an International Airport and a railway fast track will be constructed. The foundation has allocated some US\$1.5 Billion for the first phase of the project.

A local representative of the Foundation in Kathmandu tells Nayapatrika Daily, June 23, 2011, that Chinese experts will be soon landing in Kathmandu to kickoff the project.

China now means it.

According to the overall Project Plan prepared by the foundation, an international Airport, five star Hotels, convention centers, new highways, railway link between Kathmandu and Lumbini, Buddhist temples and a Buddhist University will also be constructed.

Tentatively it will take nine years to get the project completed. The allocated amount (US\$3 Billion) will be gradually increased until project gets successfully completed, also writes Naya Patrika Daily.

The Foundation will closely cooperate with the Ministries of Tourism, Physical Planning and Development and Communication during the project period.

Prachanda is the Vice Chairman of the Foundation.

MJF-L has now toddlers in party, Gacchedhar did what others failed

Kathmandu: To recall, it was Vice Chairman Babu Ram Bhattarai of Unified Maoists Party who had labeled the United Marxist Leninist as the party of eunuchs.

Chairman Bijaya Kumar Gacchedhar of Madhesi Janadhikari Forum-Loktantrik while addressing a program in Kakarvitta of Jhapa District, June 22, 2011, heavily criticized the three major parties, Maoist, Nepal Congress and UML.

He consumed much of the time of his speech in spitting venom against the so-called three big parties.

Gacchedhar claimed that UML is the party of eunuchs, Nepal Congress as the party of pathetic leaders and Maoists as the party of thugs.

He also held that the three parties are pushing the country towards the precipice.

"The failed political activities of the three parties will bring the country closer to being a failed state", he opined.

The MJF leader though did not reveal as to how much share he had in pushing the country to this pathetic state, as he claimed.

Gacchedhar is the single Tharu leader, who has ever remained in the government structure beginning 1990, save with some intervals.

After Gacchedhar's speech, the party had organized a function to greet new entrants in the party. Majority of the new comers were below 16 years. One five year old kid has also become his party member.

Party Chairman Gacchedhar shook hands and congratulated Prince Rajbanshi who is five years of age for joining the party, Rohit Sah of 10 years, Basudev Rajbanshi of 16 years too joined the party. In total some 150 people joined the party of which majority were minors.

Everest

Nepal needs to discourage immature and undiplomatic street politics

Prof. Dr. Ram Kumar Dahal
Department of Politics, T U

The development of consistency and change according to the need of the time and situation in foreign policy and in diplomatic practices and behavior is also essential. The effective system of monitoring and evaluation of the diplomatic agents, consulates and consulates general would also be helpful in this direction. In post 2006 Nepal, the growing interests and activities of foreign diplomats in Nepal has raised serious debates regarding Nepal's independent personality. It is personality in international arena. But the ruling elites have paid no attention to the activities of the foreign diplomats in Nepal and had not lodged any formal protest against their growing and seen and unseen hands in Nepal, which had further encouraged them to be more active in Nepal. The external factors/actors have taken advantage of the existing political instability, the growing conflict in different parts of the country in different names and of the weak political leadership. The charismatic and visionary leadership can play very significant role in asserting Nepal's independent international personality and identity in regional

and international politics. Nepal's participation in Peacekeeping diplomacy and the peacekeeping operations of the UN is one of the important aspects of its foreign policy in the contemporary world. As the peacekeeping operations of the UN is one of the vital areas where Nepal has achieved tremendous success in international relations, it has to be made more dynamic in future so that it can play more effective role in international politics in the days to come. It is also essential to give the impression to the world that the human rights situation in Nepal

Hagen, VS Naipaul, WRNs and those who love Nepal or who are emotionally attached with Nepal and the Nepalese in a number of ways and those Nepalese who have glorified Nepal's name and fame in one way or the other or have contributed to Nepal in various ways. The radical activities of immature street politics would decrease Nepal's credibility in diplomatic world and thus, have to be discouraged and replaced by diplomatic remedies. There is also the strong need to play effective role in the regional (SAARC, BIMSTEC, and in sub-regional diplomacy) and international forums (UN, and its specialized agencies, UNCTAD, World Bank, and ADB). Nepal has

navigational rivers in the past and their recommendations / suggestions have to be implemented into practice realizing the need of the time and situation. Nepal has to promote small state diplomacy in the present day world which is receiving increasing attention in diplomatic studies and international relations. Small states are particularly affected by developments which are determined beyond their borders such as climate change, water security and shifts in the global economy. Diplomacy is the main vehicle by which small states are able to ensure that their goals are addressed in the global arena. These factors mean that small states have strong incentives to support international cooperation. But with limited resources at their disposal, conducting effective diplomacy poses unique challenges for small states. 'Economic Diplomacy' for small and least developed countries like Nepal has become, among other things, important means to promote national economy, social justice and welfare economic instruments (e.g. foreign trade and aid, grant, loan, communication, industry etc). Economic diplomacy in post 1995 periods has become one of the inseparable aspects of

Nepalese foreign policy and diplomacy. Nepal in the present day globalized world has also to promote Informal diplomacy, Track I, II and III diplomacy in order to manage minor conflicts and promote peace because of the increasing role of the non state actors including civil society organizations, market systems/mechanisms. Nepal in the present day globalized world has also to promote Socio-Cultural Diplomacy, considered as one of the important aspects of modern informal diplomacy, to promote its socio-cultural interests. Cultural diplomacy, thus, "is not secondary to political diplomacy, but rather functions as an intrinsic aspect of it. Cultural diplomacy can therefore be seen as a vital foundation of all political activities. The cultural diplomacy can be used in all sectors including public, private and civil society sectors. The cultural diplomacy has been helpful in promoting and strengthening socio-cultural and religious relations among several nation-states and eventually promoting peace and stability, and promoting relations among several socio-cultural groups in different societies.

Conclusion:
In order to address the growing expectations and aspirations of the Nepalese people in present changed national, regional and global context of the 21st century, the Nepalese diplomacy has to be made more dynamic and assertive

in future. Nepal has to improve its bargaining, communicating and negotiating skills in its diplomacy to promote its national interests, objectives and goals in regional and international forums. The concept of economic diplomacy, cultural diplomacy and peace diplomacy (e.g. peace zone proposal) has to be effectively promoted in future to develop independent diplomatic personality in the regional and global politics. In course of maintaining practical relations with its immediate and distant neighbors, Nepal needs to discourage immature and undiplomatic street politics. Nepal further needs to make its peacekeeping diplomacy more vibrant to glorify Nepal's name and fame in global arena. In this direction, Nepal needs to maintain both consistency and promote timely changes in diplomatic practices according to the need of the changed time and situation. Nepal has also to define its national interests and goals of its diplomacy very clearly in the new changed time and situation. In order to develop the skills, efficiencies and capabilities of its diplomatic agents in the present day world, Nepal needs to promote training and research institutes that can contribute in this direction. In order to improve the quality of its diplomacy, Nepal has to determine the scientific and specialized criteria for the appointment of diplomats and other conditions relating to them.

DOSSIER

is improving (including in the Army). The Nepalese foreign policy diplomacy has also to address the current issues of Nepalese (legal or illegal) migrant workers working in foreign countries including in the Gulf countries and also improving the remittance governance Nepal has to develop the culture of respecting, honoring and acknowledging the contribution of those foreigners (e.g. Tony

to further promote North-South and South-South cooperation to advance its economic interests in global political economy. The diplomacy in order to its economic interests has to promote the proper surveys of Nepal's navigational rivers and use them for commercial purposes in future. The technical Team of National and International Experts have made several surveys of Nepal's

Are we civilized living in a polluted city: an issue of unplanned urbanization?

By Bhanu Bhakta Panthi
Environmentalist, Nepal

Rapid urbanization and influx of migrants has undergone environmental degradation within the Kathmandu valley, declared as one of the most polluted city in the world. Pile of wastes, scattered rubbish in and around the city makes it foul. Unfortunately, by-products from each household are dumped into the tributaries and main rivers systems of Kathmandu valley. These tributaries feed water into the sacred rivers; Bagmati, Bishnumati and many more. Whatever the wastes generated from every households, ultimate dumping sites are these rivers. Moreover, the major issue is with direct discharge of domestic sewerage pipes and toxic effluents

into rivers. These floods of waste and human discharge into rivers make it almost dead. That means 'lives in the water is dead and has no value over the urban environment' and raise a concern of people about sensible and responsible living in healthy environment.

While talking about the issues of river pollution, before entering into the Kathmandu valley they are pure. Bagmati and Bishnumati rise from Shivapuri hill and flows



down to Kathmandu. They become polluted after feed up with small tributaries of Hanumante khola, Dhobi khola, Tukucha khola, which are relatively high load of sewage. In historical time period, these rivers were used for pilgrimage by Hindus. They used to take 'jaal' and bathing to purify their soul. In today's time, it has become a source of

stinking smell spread into the city. Still, rate of migration and settlement are unplanned and high, and our practices of discharging sewage pipes directly into the rivers remain same without safety tanks since a safety tank is one of better option to control and protect to some extent. Shockingly, a migrant can buy a house of thousand millions but do not feel to have safety tank. This leads me to cite an environmental proverb, 'leave the world better than you found it,

takes no more than you need, try not to harm life or the environment, and make amends if you do.'

If we are deteriorating the environment, we need to pay for environmental cost. We are the polluters. Then we should pay cost to protect our environment. Why our policy makers do not

bring the action based on Polluter Pays Principle. Why the Kathmandu Metropolitan doesn't realize it and start immediate action plan to protect our holy rivers through implementation of strict rules and policy. In developed nations, even artificial rivers are built to make recreation sites and manage ecological, economical and environmental values but we are destructing natural rivers. How degrading situation we are in? Yet, we did not realize the meaning of water and its importance even we are facing scarcity of water day and night. This raises the question about the value of water and water for all.

It's almost too late to initiate positive actions and clearance of these dead rivers and start protecting our future. These dead rivers reflect our image in the world. These will reflect how much we are responsible toward our home earth and we are civilized in this 21st Century. We do not have time to think but to take action on the behalf of Government as well as public to respect environmental values and boost up economy of our country. The writer could be reached at Email: panthibrb@gmail.com

BLUNT US WARNING

The Nation, Pakistan

The two official voices that came out of Washington on Thursday, a day after President Obama used tough words for Islamabad while announcing a phased withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan, appeared unanimous in demonstrating that the strains in the Pak-US relationship were getting on the US policymakers' nerves. If Secretary of State Clinton warned of the suspension of military aid to Pakistan, in case it did not take certain concrete "steps" that she did not elaborate but, perhaps, had been specified to officials here by her and Senator John Kerry when they last visited Islamabad soon after the Abbottabad operation; Defence Secretary Gates was dismissive of Pakistan's role now that, he and most American officials claim, the militants in Afghanistan are on the back foot. Their views evidently reflected extreme anger, frustration as well as arrogance. Clinton's deposition before the Senate, however, clashed with Gates' in the sense that she thought Pakistan's role was important in routing the terrorist forces. Similarly, General Petraeus, the outgoing commander of US forces in Afghanistan and would-be CIA chief, declared that without Islamabad's help victory against the militants was not possible.

The growing estrangement should not come as a surprise to those Pakistanis who have an idea about how the US had been cold-shouldering Islamabad once it had served its purpose. Most of the local media and political analysts

cautioned the Pakistani leadership against taking the American overtures of abiding friendship too seriously. As the US is withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan and, at the same time, preparing India as a counterweight to China it is obvious that it would find excuses not to fulfil its commitments to Pakistan. But that provides us with a golden opportunity to end our association with the US in the war on terror that has brought so much misery upon us.

One would very much wish that in the face of this rebuff our leadership showed sense enough to rely on our own plentiful resources, discarding the crutches of American aid. In this venture we have sincere friends like China and several Muslim and other countries. Beijing, particularly, has always helped us in times of need and extended every type of assistance without attaching any strings. It is time our ruling classes listened to the voice of reason and watched Pakistan's national interests which we have criminally neglected in the past. If we keep repeating the mistakes of issuing visas to the operatives of those very spy agencies which have murdered our citizens and spread their intelligence network in the country to serve US interests in disregard of our interests, we would be making a grievous mistake. One hopes that the report that 67 CIA operatives have been issued visas recently turns out to be just a piece of disinformation intended by our enemies to create disaffection and dismay among the people of Pakistan!

UML and MJF CA members sold RED passport: Police claims

Nepal already appears to have become a land where one can easily get RED diplomatic passport.

Albeit in lieu of some money.

No wonder that two more illustrious Constituent Assembly members after thorough police investigation have been found involved in selling their Diplomatic Passports.

New Nepal is sure to take a formal shape now.

Distinguished Nepal CA members Ms. Gayatri Sah of Nepali Janata Dal and B.P. Yadav of Madhesi Janadhikar Forum-Nepal have already been serving suspension by the CA body, following the grand exposure of selling their diplomatic passports. Quick money matters.

The United Marxist Leninists CA member Naradnuni Rana and Madhesi Janadhikar Forum-Nepal CA member Shiv Pujan Rai Yadav had sold their passports in lieu of hefty amount, it has been reported.

The persons who had purchased the passports of the two CA members are currently in

Australia, it is reported quoting Australian Embassy in Kathmandu and Police Authorities.

The passport holders had landed in Australia on 11 December 2010.

The UML CA member Rana claims that he is still in possession of his diplomatic passport. He says, "Someone must have forged by signature and obtained the passport from Foreign Ministry."

Rana's first passport had expired, 17 September 2010, and Foreign Ministry record shows that he has already obtained a new one, further claim reports. However, Rana claims that he has not demanded the new passport from the ministry as yet.

However, forensic report suggests that both of the signatures of Mr. Rana have been matched, which is against what Rana has been claiming.

How the ruling UML takes up this case will be more than interesting.

Analysts remain askance as to why the men with forged diplomatic passports generally prefer to land in Australia. Must have been a charming country.

DATELINE KATHMANDU

Niraj Aryal

Welcome JAYANT PRASAD!

When did ex-Chinese Ambassador Qiu Guohang leave Nepal in the midst of his assignment and when the newly appointed ambassador Yang Houlan exactly landed in Kathmandu? The happening of both the events took place in the blink of an eye. Hard to remember when they did exactly happen? No media coverage.

But, it is not the same with the Indian diplomacy in Nepal? We have been listening of Shri Rakesh Sood's departure-taken

as one of the three successive most unpopular envoys from India (Shyam Saran and Shiv Shankar Mukherjee), for the last one year period, if not more than that.

Also talks that Sood would be recalled in the midst of his assignment for his Nepal follies but his Madame Sonia links proved to be enough to

defeat his South Block detractors, reports have it. It is reported that Sood will be appointed ambassador to France.

God bless France! Bad days for France begins. The fact is that when an Indian envoy leaves Nepal completing his/her stint it becomes a matter of big political happening in the country. And, they don't want to leave Nepal because during their stint here they assume the role of an undeclared Crown of Nepal. They continue to visit Nepal even after their retirement because their love for Nepal is limitless.

When Rakesh Sood leaves Nepal, take it for granted, it will not be anything similar to Ambassador Qiu Guohang's soft departure. There will be a big bang for sure. The Nepali political leadership will feel parentless until the next one arrives in town. A section of his friends may even weep jarringly. Pain of separation is always upsetting.

One thing is that the arrival of the new Chinese ambassador Yang Houlan has promptly done is that it has forced India to accelerate the process of replacing Sood by Jayant Prasad. After all, India and China are taken as competitors globally and they are expected to flex their muscles in Kathmandu in the days ahead.

Antiquity and Mouthai will be face to face in Kathmandu soon. The Annapurna post National Daily in Nepal writes, "The Indian Ministry of External Affairs has appointed Mr. Jayant Prasad who is currently serving as an additional secretary at the Diplomacy Division as India's Ambassador to Nepal."

The news has come at a time when it was being rumored in Kathmandu's political circuit that Jayant Prasad had himself told South Block administrators that since he was of no match to the newly appointed Chinese envoy and thus someone more capable be picked up for Kathmandu Mission.

India's Former Ambassador to Nepal K.V. Rajan tells Annapurna Post that Jayant is a "professional diplomat".

His appointment is appropriate, tells Rajan.

By extension, Rajan wants to tell that Sood's posting in Nepal was an inappropriate one.

By the way, Ambassador Rajan is more to be found in Kathmandu than in New Delhi.

To add, Nepali diplomats who know Jayant Prasad for long claim that he is a sober diplomat.

But if one were to recall the good old days of the beginning of the 1990s, his father, Ambassador Bimal Prasad had a habit of enjoying tea/coffee with then Nepal Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala each morning which he continued until his departure from Kathmandu.

Some even claimed that Bimal Prasad spent more time with Nepal PM than what he should have spent inside his own diplomatic mission. But yet he was a modest scholar.

The history, analysts hope, will not repeat.

difficult assignment ahead



Ratna Sansar Shrestha
Fellow Chartered Accountant and Attorney of Law
Senior Water Resource Analyst

Our opposition is only against colonization of Nepal's natural resources

UPPER KARNALI is called a "Jewel in the Crown." It is the biggest gift of Mother Nature to our country. And, this is an ideal site for 4,180MW storage project. By implementing it as multipurpose project, it will not only generate 4,180MW but also irrigate 1.5 million hectares during the dry

lands. Otherwise, it is all rocky and hard hills compared to soft hills of Nepal. But if you look at the Gangetic plains, there is very good fertile land, which, therefore, is called the granary of India. But it lacks water for irrigation during dry season. Nepal's rivers contribute about 40% of the water to Ganga River during the wet season. However, during dry season Nepal contributes about 70%. It is, thus, evident that water flowing from Nepal is very important to India. Again let us come back to our Upper Karnali discussion, if it is constructed as a multipurpose project and Nepal uses its waters for irrigation and other consumptive purposes, the Indians, falsely, perceive that the quantum of water flowing down to India will be reduced. Therefore,

the hydrocrats in Nepal will bend head under their collective heels to ensure it. But have we ever analyzed whether the project will benefit Nepal? Look closely, in this so-called grid there is India which is starved for power. There is Pakistan, which is also starving for power. There is Bangladesh without any prospect of hydropower. So there are only two countries perceived to have surplus power, Nepal and Bhutan. People present this as mutually beneficial, but it will primarily be used to export electricity to India from Nepal and Bhutan. When our power demand gets saturated we can use the grid to export electricity but not before that.

TGQ5: Let us change the topic now. The Indian media is ballooning recent report by a

TGQ1: We have been listening of the 83,000MW (megawatts) rhetoric for decades and decades. Neither can we manage enough financial resources to exploit enormous Hydro-Power potential that we have, nor do we allow foreigners more so, interested Southern neighbor, India, to invest here. Is there any logic behind opposition to the Indian investment in Hydro-Power Sector?

Mr. Shrestha: I think it has to be understood in its proper perspective. The opposition as such is not against Indian investment; neither is it against any particular country. Investment from within Nepal or without Nepal need not be opposed. Of course, in terms of benefitting from return on investment, domestic investment deserves priority, which is rather obvious and desirable. But, when investment from Nepal is inadequate for infrastructure building, then one should be open to foreign direct investment (FDI). As far as I am concerned, I have never opposed investment from any country whatsoever. Actually I was instrumental in bringing Norwegian investment in Khimti project, which now is much maligned though.

My opposition has been and will be against investments from any part of the world for projects that will export water and electricity to India while depriving people in Nepal from using water and electricity. This is an important distinction that people fail to make and some people with ulterior motive deliberately try to obfuscate. The opposition is only against the colonization of our natural resources. Nepal is suffering from energy crisis. And that too for suppressed growth; there is paucity of energy even to meet demand under suppressed growth scenario. Nepal not only should aim to achieve normal economic growth (a level higher than currently obtaining suppressed economic growth) but we should be working towards attaining accelerated economic growth.

Matter of fact is: Nepal is not even a developing country. It is rather an under-industrialized backward country. Therefore, many people are migrating overseas for lack of employment opportunity. And why is there lack of employment? Because, there is lack of industrialization. And, why don't we have industrialization? Because, we lack necessary power for the purpose. Therefore, what I am saying is that adequate power for our own country's industrialization should be prioritized in order to generate necessary employment opportunities such that conducive environment could be created for our youth to return to the motherland after stemming the outflow of the youth in search of employment.

Look at the current situation. We are undergoing severe load shedding even under suppressed economic growth scenario. Our industries are not operating at full capacity. And, new industries aren't coming up for lack of power. So our first target is to mitigate load shedding even under suppressed growth scenario. Second level is to make ample power available to meet the demand for normal growth and move on to accelerated economic

growth by generating power for internal consumption in ever increasing necessary quantum.

Let us take a look at numbers. Nepal Electricity Authority has projected peak demand for this year to be more than 9500MW which is based on suppressed growth rate. At this point in time, to meet the demand for normal growth we will need at least 2,000MW. I can give you some details in this respect. We have three industrial corridors (Morang-Sunsari, Bara-Parsa and Rupandehi-Nawalparasi). Each of these industrial corridors needs additional 200MW for the industries there to operate at full capacity and enable new factories to be set up. Altogether, we need additional 600MW just for these industrial corridors at this very point in time. And we always talk of Balance of Trade Deficit and Balance of Payment deficit, and the prime reason for this is our over dependence on imported fossil fuel. For example, look at cooking Gas (LPG). One study has concluded that we need at least 6400MW electricity to displace LPG consumed just in Kathmandu valley as of today. Therefore, just to attain normal growth level, Nepal need more than 2,000MW as of today itself. If we were to assume the energy demand growth rate to be 10% per year, then Nepal will need 3,000MW after 5 years in order to maintain normal growth. We should also be aware that the run of the river (ROR) type projects generate one-third of the installed capacity in the dry season. That implies to meet the demand projected by NEA after 5 years of 1,510 MW under suppressed growth scenario, the installed capacity will have to be 4,500 MW. Similarly, to meet future demand of 3,000MW after 5 years under normal growth scenario we will need to have installed capacity of 9,000MW. If Nepal is to aim to attain economic growth level commensurate to our immediate neighbors then we will need to achieve accelerated growth for which even 15,000 MW in 5 years time will not be adequate.

Let's now talk about Upper Karnali project. What we have been saying is that the electricity generated by this project should be used to meet Nepal's internal demand, instead of exporting it and condemning Nepal to continue to stay in dark and also under-industrialized. We are not opposing GMR for the sake of opposing only. I don't care whatever company comes and invests in Nepal. But, the point is Nepal needs that electricity as I explained earlier. We are not saying GMR should not be allowed to invest. On the other hand, what should be the interest of GMR? It should be nothing more than a fair return on their investment and security of the investment. We don't have any problem with that. But, if they insist on exporting power to India thus depriving Nepal from much needed power then I oppose that idea but not the investor. It is in this backdrop, not only GMR in Upper Karnali, I am in opposition to the modalities of several other projects, such as Arun-III, Tama Koshi-III, Likhu, Beldi, West Seti, lower Arun and other projects that are dedicated for export. And, let me further clarify: I am also not against export *per se*. But, I am against exporting power for ignoring the need of power for our own economic growth, even the

suppressed growth; forget accelerated growth, even normal growth.

My objection is against those foreign investors that come with hidden agenda. Nepal should intensively use its own power to attain accelerated growth and then whatever is left is for export. We can't store electricity right? So we must export the surplus. But the foolishness lies in keeping Nepal in dark and pushing the nation back to the medieval ages while exporting power. Let us look into these projects from financial perspectives. These projects will be exporting power to India at around NRs 2.00 per unit. And I am sure you are aware that in the name of mitigating load shedding currently we are importing electricity at NRs. 10.72 per unit. Don't you think this is sheer foolishness? I am against this foolishness as it is highly illogical. If this project and others are implemented as dedicated for export then in a very near future Nepal will have these "investors" exporting power at around Rs 2 and we will be importing the same power to meet our ever increasing power need at exorbitant rate. I simply cannot stand the prospect of such a scenario; most stupid thing to be doing. Let us have projects implemented, let us also invite foreign investment for the purpose but let us also keep the nation's priority first and foremost.

Do we have the funds needed to invest in our projects? If we have then where is it?

People always say that there is no money in Nepal. That is only partly true. Such statements come from visionless people. Let me once again stress that I am not against foreign investment but firmly believe that people in Nepal should be provided with the opportunity to invest in hydropower projects first and benefit there from. Let me try to give you one example of where the fund is. Nepal receives remittance to the tune of NRs. 300 Billion each year. Just 10% of it (Rs. 30 billion) is adequate to construct 300MW project. In ten years, we can easily construct 900MW just by using 10% of the remittance received each year. But, if we were to leverage the money, we can use this Rs. 30 billion as equity (one third) and borrow Rs. 60 billion (two-third). With Rs. 90 billion we can implement 900MW project. Thus from 10% of remittance received each year, we can construct 9,000MW in a decade. Who says Nepal doesn't have money? These people say so with their eyes firmly closed; failing to see possibilities right in front of their collective noses. One needs to remember that remittance that is flowing into Nepal now is being invested in unproductive sectors, for example real estate.

TGQ2: You have been quite often saying during your public interaction that Upper Karnali has the total capacity of over 4000MW. However, the GMR was initially granted the right to construct 300MW project. And now plans are to construct 900MW project. What is it all about?

Mr. Shrestha: Upper Karnali is called a "Jewel in the Crown." It is the biggest gift of Mother Nature to our country. If you look at the map you will notice that Karnali River flows from North to South. At a particular point it turns east and makes an about turn after 50 km just to come back to almost the same point and heads

south. Therefore, by constructing a tunnel of just 2 Kilometers at that point this project can be constructed cost effectively. You need to remember that longer the tunnel higher the cost. And, higher the cost of the project higher will be the generation cost. There is no other site comparable to this. And, this is an ideal site for 4,180MW storage project. By implementing it as multipurpose project, it will not only generate 4,180MW but also irrigate 1.5 million hectares during the dry season.

Of the total cultivable land in Nepal of 4 Million hectares, only 12% has access to irrigation and that too during the rainy season. Only, 0.5% has access to irrigation during dry season. But, if Upper Karnali is constructed as a storage project, it will generate regulated flow of 500 cubic meters per second of water which can irrigate 1.5 million hectares of land in the dry season. We can increase cropping



intensity, have multiple cropping (cash crop, off season fruits, vegetables etc.) by implementing it as storage project. The fate of far western and mid-western development region of the country could be dramatically and drastically changed by implementing it as such. Even farmers from those areas are going overseas, why? Simply for lack of employment. Currently, the region can plant only one crop a year, being dependent on rain. If the region has adequate water for irrigating their fertile land, as stated, they can harvest three or more crops per year. That will provide impetus to the Nepali diaspora to come back home.

The capacity of 4,180 MW was arrived at by Himalayan Power Consultants under a study commissioned by Nepal Electric Authority with financing of the World Bank. This project should be constructed as a multi-purpose storage type; which will afford us an opportunity to exploit multidimensional use of water. Unfortunately, it was given away as a 300MW project and these people are saying it can be optimized as a 900MW project. But Nepal will be deprived from the opportunity to irrigate the land and electricity needs. Just imagine the amount of royalty Nepal would get by exporting all 4180MW of electricity. We will receive 4 times less royalty by fixing the capacity at 900MW. This is a sheer idioxy.

TGQ3: It is also being talked that India is more interested in irrigating their lands from Nepali water by converting Nepal into a reservoir than investing in generating electricity? Also tell us something on India's River Linking project?

Mr. Shrestha: If you look at the map of India, it is broad in the northern Gangetic plains and it narrows down in the South. If you look at the topography and soil of the Deccan plateau, only the coastal areas have some fertile

the Indians and those Nepalese that are more faithful to Indian interests than Nepal's national interest don't want it to be constructed as storage project. As you have rightly pointed out, India is keen on exploiting Nepal's water, not electricity. People here talk about industrialization of India and say that they need our power to grow, which is totally untrue. Most of the Indians hide this fact. There are also very few honest people in India. The former water resource minister Saifuddin Soz had clearly stated, while talking to a BBC program, that Indian priority from Nepal is flood control and irrigation, electricity is just a byproduct. But, unfortunately people in Nepal, whom I call hydrocrats fail to understand this or they are more faithful to Indian interest in Nepal's water than their own motherland. They talk of potential electricity market in India and scheme to keep Nepal in dark and keep it always under-industrialized.

If you look at their River Linking project closely, they talk about linking rivers of whole India and also generating 34,000MW of power. But, out of which they plan to generate 32,000 MW from rivers within Nepal which suffices to show importance of water flowing in Nepal to India.

So they want to convert Nepal into a reservoir of water?

One example is the Koshi River. There was the news about 87 thousand Cusec water flowing down the river a few days back creating havoc. It is because of the Barrage there. The Barrage was constructed to control the natural flow of water to control flood in India and so as to irrigate land. Which land to irrigate? Of course India! By constructing the barrage, it has controlled flood in India, irrigated its lands while inundating our cultivable land and involuntarily displacing huge number of local inhabitants. That is their basic aim.

TGQ4: There are also discussions on constructing South Asian Grid of 100,000MW capacity? Considering that neighbors around perceive India as a bully neighbor. Is it possible?

Mr. Shrestha: Of course it is possible. Take it for granted that

so-called "prestigious" Foreign Policy Magazine which claims in its annual ranking that India's immediate neighbors, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka are in the list of "most failed states". Don't you think that since India shares its borders with all these independent nations and thus it has a role to play in the abnormal situation that these countries are undergoing currently?

Mr. Shrestha: The reason is quite simple. It is India's hegemonic attitude that is the prime cause of instability in the neighboring countries and its overriding ambition to colonize Nepal's natural resources. They do not want strong neighbors around them. Look at Nepal's problems, who is creating them? I don't know if you are aware or not, the Maoists, during insurgency, were, reportedly trained in Chakrata of Himanchal Pradesh by the Indian government. They did exactly the same in Bangladesh. They are doing the same thing in Pakistan. Who created LTTE in Sri Lanka? India has imperialistic ambitions.

Why don't they even think setting neighbors ablaze will burn them finally?

You remember that Indira Gandhi was killed by her own Sikh guard to avenge the death of Bhinderwale who was initially trained by the Indian Army. Rajeev Gandhi was killed by a Tamil who had links with LTTE, which was trained and armed by Indians themselves. So, people while in power do stupid things. They come up with grandiose plans, but they fail to see future ramifications of their decisions.

People always think that I am anti-India that is very far from the truth. I am pro-Nepal. The Kurtha set that I am wearing now is highly popular Indian dress and was purchased in New Delhi. I feel comfortable in it and I have several pairs of it. I own a Maruti Gypsy jeep and an Indian motorbike. Even my refrigerator is of Indian make. People often come to me seeking advice as to where should they source for their equipment etc. I always tell them if you can purchase in Nepal that's fine, else buy it from India as far as is possible without compromising quality. It is quite cost effective and spares and maintenance is less problematic.

Nepal Army proposal is nothing but a ploy to dissolve Maoist Militia

Netra Bikram Chand
Steering Committee Member, Nepal Maoists Party

Q1: What is happening inside your party's ongoing Central Committee meeting?

Chand: The CC meet has two objectives. First, we presume that since Nepal as a nation-state is currently undergoing through a period of sheer confusion and thus a clear policy needs to be developed to get the country rid of the confusion prevailing. Talks are there to be discussed on militia integration, of the constitution drafting and of course the issue of state restructuring.

Secondly, we have been discussing about the internal matters of the party as well. Of late, some issues have cropped up to the fore about our party which have made the general population serious. It is thus our bounden duty to dig the truth out for the sake of the avoiding people's concerns.

Q2: Your party is mired in internal rivalry. How will you then proceed with the issues of peace and draft of the constitution?

Chand: Well, so many things have already been decided by the party beginning from Chunwang, Palungtar, Kharipati and the CC. We have to take lessons from the past and write the new constitution accordingly. If done so, it will pose no harm to anybody. That will not even pose any sort of threat to the NC and the UML instead will in all likelihood benefit the entire nation. The talks that we are not in favour of peace and new constitution draft will be an erroneous conclusion. But the constitution must not be made an issue of just a formality. The constitution must be drafted which transforms the society and benefits the people.

Q3: On what issues or say points you beg to differ with others for example even with your party Chairman?

Chand: We wish that whatever has been agreed upon with the signing of the 12 point agreement on issues of peace and constitution to be drafted. I think the NC and the UML appear to have abandoned to what they

agreed in the past. We feel like that. The NC and the UML's reluctance in not agreeing on state restructuring procedure and for the formation of a national army and side by side the attitude of our own Party's Chairman Prachanda to go by their instructions has not been taken in good taste by us. We have taken those as faulty decisions. The people will finally reject those. The current discussion is centred on state restructuring, land reform, formation of a national army and also of awarding rights to the

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women folks and the dalits. We wish that these above mentioned issues be well incorporated in the constitution so that the rights were a guaranteed one. This is what I feel and wish also. I wish that our leaders do not yield to any sort of pressure which ignored the people's aspirations.

Q4: You and your friends halted the peace process which had taken a start. Why so?

Chand: The decisions that have already been made were done so without managing the country on how to get it out from the prevailing transitional state and also without finalising the details of the new constitution, to me, were done so in order to weaken the morale of the Maoists and the Militias. The lifting of the dual security system is not a wise decision. The decision in itself was a wrong one which saps the required procedure with which it should have been decided primarily. Any decision that appear to be a binding one and which looks to have been an imposing one doesn't do good ultimately. Such decision finally doesn't work. The leaders of the NC, the UML and our own party claim that the situation was not that favourable but on the other hand made such decisions in haste which are faulty ones. For example, the lifting of the dual security system.

Q5: Did you lift the dual

security system? **Chand:** No! I haven't yet. One needs to jump onto another decision when you manage the first. This is what I want to say. The analysis that there prevails great threat remains itself in a limbo or at best has been completely ignored. The decision in itself has become parentless. Without even providing suitable alternative to the dual security system and without convincing Mohan Baidya aka Kiran, the system was scrapped. This is what has pained me.

Q6: Your party is in government and more so your own party's person now is the

security system? **Chand:** The entire proposal which has come from the Nepal Army is a positive one and the rest all bogus. The proposal which talks of the formation of a directorate under the NA command is itself a matter of joke and distressing as well. Responsibilities (of the district development, forest department, land reform, industrial sector) should be shouldered by the Maoist militias but the command should remain with the Nepal Army? What a funny proposition? It was a puzzling proposal indeed. Look at the proposition which is nothing but a ploy to dissolve the Maoist Militia structure. Nothing

more than that it is. This is not acceptable. We have been discussing on these very issues. The entire 19,000 militia must be allowed to go through integration. Why they be not allowed? Provide logical answers. To which Maoist militia brothers should we tell them to pack for his or her homes?

Q7: What you say of the proposal that has come from the Nepal Army that the Maoists army will remain under the command of the NA through a directorate?

Chand: Those are not allegations but presented as corrective measures that need to be taken. The insertion of some words in those allegation sheets is not in itself the final decision. Well, it has just been tried to exhibit that look such allegations remain. If you look at those 18 point charges you could see that those points have been a compilation of the errors and mistakes made from the very beginning. It has just been

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Q8: Then how the peace process will proceed ahead?

Chand: Let's not make it an issue of tension. Problems come and go. Issues confronting will be sorted out. First the Nepali Congress and the UML must abide by the politics of consensus and coexistence. This should be the party's mentality primarily. We have done so in the past, if one were to recall. If it is a matter of coexistence then shouldn't they come to terms with the Maoists in building confidence on issues related with the organs of the state? Shouldn't it be so? Is it possible for the prevalence of the talked coexistence without the presence of the Maoists in state organs? Can we go together without coexistence? Should not the state structure of the bygone era need to undergo through a characteristic transformation? If done so then the Maoist militia will definitely come out with a substantial support. It could not be a desired solution to the current problems if we go on thinking on how to frustrate the combatants now residing in various cantonments and force them to go astray and finally force them to devastate their weapons. It can't provide a solution.

Q9: The 18 point allegations that you have labelled upon Chairman Prachanda appears to be more aggressive one. How then the party's internal disputes will come to an end?

Chand: Those are not allegations but presented as corrective measures that need to be taken. The insertion of some words in those allegation sheets is not in itself the final decision. Well, it has just been tried to exhibit that look such allegations remain. If you look at those 18 point charges you could see that those points have been a compilation of the errors and mistakes made from the very beginning. It has just been

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Q10: It is widely believed that you have remained instrumental in bringing the differing opinions against Chairman Prachanda?

Chand: I take Chairman Prachanda as a capable leader of the party of the old generation. When we have made a theory under his name-Prachanda Way-then let's not talk of other peripheral things. He is our ideal. We have just wished to tell him that not so many charges have been labelled against you for your ideals and thus we wish that he himself takes corrective measures and also have suggested him that if you need supplementary support then please accept it in a pleasing manner. At personal level, I still enjoy cordial relations with Chairman Prachanda. Initiation of internal struggle shouldn't mean that it is aimed at blocking everything.

Q11: It is talked that your group is making an equation with Dr. Bhattarai in order to corner Chairman Prachanda?

Chand: I am surprised to observe as to how the Maoists are being taken? Some feel that if he or she meets Dr. Bhattarai then his or her sanctity is gone forever. It is also talked the other way round. However, the fact is that our leaders are Maoists and the party

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Q12: You quite often talk for the need of the emergence of new leadership. Do you mean to say that the leadership now should go into the hands of new generation?

Chand: The central leadership has an important role to play in sorting out party internal disputes. I mean to say that the old leadership prevails in the party's position now. We have just been telling the leadership that if you need our support then we are ready to help you. I have not also told that there is a big gap between the old and the new leaders. If the leadership think so then they are in an illusion. I haven't said so. However, one shouldn't think that an individual can do everything or is capable enough and that the others were just redundant. One should abandon such considerations. We have not demanded that leadership be awarded to us. All that we have been saying is that let's have "intimate" relations with each other. A relation must be established. This is all what we wish in the party to prevail.

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Chand: I am surprised to observe as to how the Maoists are being taken? Some feel that if he or she meets Dr. Bhattarai then his or her sanctity is gone forever. It is also talked the other way round. However, the fact is that our leaders are Maoists and the party

Sudan...

Minister Mahara too was informed that Rubel was in the airport. He made no decisions." This is even more dangerous.

Inspector Hemant Pal stationed at the Airport says, "The CIAA had ordered us to keep a close eye on Rubel, we had no arrest orders."

Home Ministry spokesperson Sudhir Kumar Sah confirmed that police officials had informed him of Rubel's presence at the Airport but, he said, "We told them to instead ask the CIAA because it was the anti-graft commission that had provided orders to watch Rubel's movement."

"We told them if CIAA decides to arrest then arrest him let me be remain free", Sah told the media. Rubel's grand escape will not just affect the ongoing investigation on VGF call by the CIAA but will also hit the ongoing investigation on Sudan Scam hard.

Rubel and Nepali Congress general secretary Krishna Prasad Sitaula are taken as the kingpin of Rs. 280 Million scam.

With Home Minister Mahara's silence that allowed the Bangladesh criminal to escape, has made it clear that the Maoists leadership in some way or the other was also involved in the Sudan scam, claim sharp analysts.

It has already been reported that Late NC President Girija Prasad Koirala (rest in peace) had pocketed Rs. 50 Million, Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal of Unified Maoists Party had his share of Rs. 60 Million, Sujata Koirala had amassed Rs. 30 Million, the then home minister Krishna Prasad Sitaula had gulped Rs. 15 Million and home secretary Umesh mainali with Rs. 7.5 Million in the Sudan scam.

Sources claim that the political leadership had pressed the Police Administration to allow Rubel an easy escape.

Rubel's Sudan Nexus: Following Drishti Weekly disclosure last week that Nepal's

top politicians including late Nepali Congress President Girija Prasad Koirala were directly involved, reports revealed this week that it was Sujata Koirala's Bangladeshi son-in-law, Rubel Chaudhary who had a major role to play in the Sudan scam.

Nepali Congress men, more so the Koirala family, take don Rubel as undeclared Crown prince of Nepal.

The Kantipur Daily referred to an email dated December 13, 2007, sent by Director Michael Rider of the Assured Risk Limited to his local agent in Nepal, Sambhu Bharati wherein Rider tells Bharati to contact Rubel Chaudhary if there is any problem in the deal execution process.

The electronic mail sent by Rider was also carbon copied (CC) to the Nepal Police UN bureau in Kathmandu, which was made available to Kantipur, claims the report.

"I came in contact with Rubel Chaudhary through a personal aide of Sujata Koirala. The same person introduced me to Michael Rider. We met at Hotel Hyatt. Later, I was appointed local agent of the company (Assured Risk Limited)", Sambhu Bharati tells Kantipur adding "Rubel told me that he knew Rider while he was in the UK".

The relation between Koirala family and Michael Rider was such that the latter had attended the wedding ceremony of Sujata's daughter with the Bangladeshi national in Kathmandu. The wedding was held at Hotel Everest in Kathmandu and unconfirmed reports have it that the bills of the ceremony are still pending.

In reply to an email of Sambhu Bharati requesting Rider to manage training to the drivers of the APCs, an enraged Rider writes in the email, "I cannot manage additional expenditure. The amount will be slashed from your commission amount. If you have any problem contact Rubel. Do not write to me any further."

Bharati accepts that the communication indeed had taken place between him and Rider.

"After I received the email, I contacted Rubel Chaudhary. He sidestepped himself by claiming that it was an internal matter between me and Rider", Bharati adds. "Rider and Rubel are trying to entrap me" Bharati continues, "I have not even received my commission amount".

The Kantipur Report claims further quoting high placed police sources that, "The Assured Risk Limited was established by Rubel Chaudhary himself with the support of some of his friends in the UK."

Sitaula denies allegation, Sujata supports: Birds of same feather... Krishna Prasad Sitaula, who was Home Minister when the Sudan Corruption took place, has clarified his stance at the party central committee, Saturday June 25, 2011, wherein he "stated" that he was not at all involved in the case.

"Out of vendetta my involvement in the case is being propagated, I was not aware of the corruption when it took place exactly", said Sitaula.

While Sitaula was speaking, Sujata Koirala preferred to interrupt and make her views clear.

Obviously she defended Sitaula. Look what she says:

"Sitaula is not involved in the corruption. I am totally aware of this. Some of our members (party) without knowing the truth are making comments. It is not a personal matter. Entire Nepal Congress is being attacked", Sujata is quoted as saying by the media.

Writes Kantipur Daily, Sujata told during the meeting, "A defamation case should be filed against Kantipur Daily." Dirty game in the pipeline.

Sitaula spoke again, "As far as the question is why I did not stop the illegal process that was adopted, let me tell you that no complaints were made then. Unless a complaint is made, how I could have taken the action", questioned Sitaula. Sitaula began attacking

Kantipur, "I do not know why Kantipur is attacking me personally since May 28."

To recall, it was rumored in Kathmandu's political circuit few days ahead of the CA term expiry that Sitaula and his ilk were totally against extending the CA tenure. Sitaula's alleged close links with the Indian intelligence agencies and the physical presence of Indian intelligence operatives in Kathmandu then, suggested that Sitaula's sudden anti-CA posture was in the direction of the New Delhi masters.

RAW officials like Alok Joshi, AB Mathur and H. Khare were right here in Kathmandu to preside over the demise of the Nepal CA body with the tacit support of Sitaula, it was talked then.

Awaiting...

His detractors opine that a politically astute Dahal will hush-bush the matter by devising newer strategies and finally convincing his opponents that he will abide by their instructions henceforth.

In the act of cheat, deceit and double talk, claim insiders of the Maoists, Dahal has obtained a doctoral degree and thus he would silence his opponents even this time in a surprising manner.

Similarly, the UML is not also in a good shape as it should have been because it is the ruling party.

The Nepal-Oli combine have begun teasing Prime Minister Khanal forwarding this or that flimsy reasons and have begun demanding fresh terms of resignation of their own party Prime Minister.

Khanal will not resign, claim sources close to the Prime Minister. Incidentally, the Nepali-Oli campaign has taken a new start with New Delhi formally announcing that Jayanta Prasad Srivastava will soon be sent to take control over Nepal as India's Ambassador.

The Nehruvian doctrine still alive and kicking. The Nepal-Oli duo has reasons

to panic because this combine feels that the newly appointed Chinese Ambassador will influence the entire Nepali politics much ahead of the arrival of the Indian envoy. Nothing will be left for the Indian Ambassador to command in Nepali politics. It should have been this pain that may have encouraged Nepal-Oli duo to intensify their demand of PM Khanal. Khanal, by the way, has already met with the Chinese Ambassador, Yang Houlan, and the latter has on Monday, June 27, 2011, expressed his serious concerns over the possible instability in Tibet from the Nepali soil