

# CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 24 June, 2010 Thursday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
<b>News</b>					
1.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	3	Three Parties Agree to Focus on Constitution Writing	Chairman of the Constituent Assembly (CA) Subas Nembang has urged the top leaders of the major three parties to form a high level state restructuring commission for giving momentum to the constitution writing. He made the request during the joint meeting with UCPN (Maoist) Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal, Nepali Congress Parliamentary Party leader Ram Chandra Poudel and CPN-UML Chairman Jhalanath Khanal held on Wednesday morning. This is the first cross party dialogue on constitution drafting following the Constituent Assembly's term extension. "We discussed the preparation of calendar for constitution drafting and formation of high level state restructuring commission," said Nembang. During the two-hour long discussion, CA Chairman told leaders that the new schedule for statute drafting will move ahead once the state restructuring commission gets its shape. He stressed the preparation of the first draft of constitution can only move forward once there is an agreement among parties on the restructuring of state. "The parties are positive about forming the high level commission. They have said it is one of the components of the package deal that is currently under discussion among parties," stated Nembang.

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					<p>Annapurna Post: Parties Agree to Resume Constitution Writing, page 1</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: <a href="#">Nembang Calls for Stepping Up Statute Drive</a>, page 3</p> <p>The Himalayan Time: <a href="#">Nembang Rallies Support for Statute</a>, page 5</p> <p>Rajdhani: CA Chair Calls for Focusing on Constitution Writing, page 3</p> <p>Nepal Samacharpatra: Finally, the Big 3 are Ready, page 1</p> <p>The Rising Nepal: <a href="#">Top Leaders Make Pledge to CA Chief on Statute Drafting</a>, page 1</p>
2.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	3	<a href="#">Fringe Parties Put Pressure on Big 3</a>	<p>Fifteen fringe parties representing the Constituent Assembly (CA) on Wednesday warned the big three parties of protests if they failed to end the political deadlock soon. They accused the three parties—UCPN (Maoist), Nepali Congress and CPN-UML—of hindering the peace and constitution drafting processes. The meeting held at the parliamentary office of Madhesi Janadhikar Forum Loktantrik (MJF-L) in Singha Durbar concluded that the Big Three undermined the people's interests</p>

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					<p>for the sake of power. “Big parties shouldn’t put the country in the ‘dark’ in the name of a power struggle,” said Dr. Prakash Chandra Lohani, senior leader of Rastriya Janashakti Party.</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: <a href="#">Fringe Parties All Set for Agitation</a>, page 5</p> <p>Republica: <a href="#">Leaders Vow to Speed Up Statute Drafting</a>, page 1</p>
3.	Annapurna Post	English Daily	3	NC-UML Agree to Implement the 3-Point Agreement	<p>The ruling Nepali Congress and CPN-UML today decided to hold a three-party meeting within two days to immediately implement the May 28 three-point agreement, which, if implemented, could pave the way for the formation of a national consensus government. The parties have intensified bilateral parleys, as time for convening the budget session is running out. Emerging from a bilateral meeting held at the UML’s parliamentary party office, Singha Durbar, NC vice-president Ramchandra Paudel said they decided to call a meeting of the NC, UML and Unified CPN-Maoist within two days. He hoped that the meeting would agree on a calendar of operation for the peace process and pave the way for the next unity government. UML Secretary Bishnu Poudel, who attended the meeting, told media persons that PM’s resignation and the procedure for implementing the key issues of peace process would go</p>

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					simultaneously or in a package.
<b>Opinions, Editorials and Interviews</b>					
4.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	6	CA Members and Poor People	<p>Sharda Prasad Subedi writes:</p> <p>We the people of Nepal want the constitution to be written within the stipulated time and the doors opened for the changes. If they could not keep their promise, the CA members would prove to be a fraud for the people.</p>
5.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	7	The Maoist Constitution	<p>Prakash A. Raj writes:</p> <p>The most controversial part of the Maoist constitution is creation of 12 federal states out of which 10 have been formed on the basis of ethnicity. Two of the proposed states are partly on the basis of language and partly on ethnicity. The states based on ethnicity are named after groups that don't form a majority of the population in that state. What the Maoists have done is named a country with an 80 percent Hindu population as a secular state, and proposed states based on ethnicity where the ethnic groups don't make up a majority of the population. Although the CA committee had proposed formation of 14 federal states, the Maoist constitution has proposed only 12. The two federal states not included in the draft proposal are Sunkoshi and Narayani where non-ethnic groups (mainly Brahmins and Chhetris) would have made an overwhelming majority of the population.</p>
6.	Republica	English Daily	7	<a href="#">Prachanda's Ego Has Taken National Politics Hostage</a>	<p>Pradip Gyawali says:</p> <p>The reality is that we were for saving the CA at any cost. Some</p>

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				(Interview)	extremist forces – both leftist as well as rightist – were in favor of dissolving it and taking benefit of the situation of constitutional as well as political void. The Maoist party that treated the CA term extension as a bargaining chip to secure the prime minister’s resignation thought that the political void would be a good ground for them to launch a revolt. At the same time, some leaders who claim themselves to be democrats had an argument that the Maoist, as the largest party, would be the biggest loser in the absence of the CA. They believed that the constitution could be written even through a commission. This is true that we intervened to stop the politics from being divided into two extremes. As far as the case of choosing the word ‘resignation’ is concerned, it can be debated. But there was no alternative to save the CA. I worked with that conviction.
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