

CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 07 July, 2010 Wednesday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
News					
1.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	2	Constitution by Mid- April	<p>Three major political parties— UCPN (Maoist), Nepali Congress and CPN-UML—on Tuesday reached an agreement to prepare a statute drafting schedule so as to promulgate the constitution in the next nine months—by the second week of April 2011. CA Chairman Subas Nembang had called a meeting of the big three at the Constitutional Assembly (CA) building. The meeting decided to take the final decision regarding the schedule after consultations with all the parties represented in the CA. The meeting scheduled for Sunday is expected to make concrete decisions about the statute-drafting schedule. The political parties are working to prepare the schedule that aims to accomplish constitution writing within 9 months. The parties have failed to make any headway 39 days after CA term extension.</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: Big 3 Yea to go for Statute Labour Plan, page 3</p> <p>Annapurna Post: Constitution to Come Within Nine Months, page 1</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: Big III Ready with CA Calendar Draft,</p>

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2.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	4	Women Lawmakers Say High Time for Consensus	<p>Women lawmakers and leaders across party lines picketed Singha Durbar on Tuesday to pressure the political leadership to form a national consensus government and expedite the constitution-drafting process. Led by Inter Party Women Alliance (IPWA), the women leaders' group submitted a memorandum to Constituent Assembly Chairman Subas Nembang demanding that the parties forge consensus for peace and constitution. The rally led by lawmaker and IPWA Chair Neelam Khadka picketed the western gate of Singha Durbar for an hour obstructing the vehicular movement in the Singha Durbar area on Tuesday afternoon. The four-point memorandum submitted to the CA chair includes a demand of immediate</p>

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					formation of the national consensus government and assurance of peace and constitution in the country.
3.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	Parties Nowhere Near Unity Government	Hectic week-long parleys notwithstanding, the top three parties are on the verge of failing to meet the deadline given by President Ram Baran Yadav to form a consensus government by July 7 as they are yet to decide on initiating the process of integrating the Maoist combatants. With just a day left, it is likely they will try to buy time. The CPN-UML on Tuesday sought to consult other parties in this regard. The UCPN (Maoist), on the other hand, has lost hope of a consensus government as its parleys with the top and fringe parties over the last seven days failed. The Maoists are now intent on a majority government under their leadership. Nepali Congress (NC), after “pow-wows” with 11 of its ruling partners, made it clear that it will not support the Maoists unless the party moves ahead for integration of its combatants. NC is seeking the implementation of Point No. 1 of the May 28 agreement, which states that the parties “are committed to moving ahead with consensus and cooperation to take the peace process to a meaningful conclusion, to carry out all the remaining work related to the peace process, and to accomplish the historic responsibility of completing the task of writing the new constitution.”
4.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	President May Give Grace Period	The president’s office has said that there are possibilities of extending the deadline by a few more days if the parties seek it. According to President Ram Baran Yadav’s Press Advisor Rajendra Dahal, normally he would adopt the constitutional provision under Article 38 (2) of the Interim Constitution since Article 38 (1) has already been used to call the parties to form a

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					government under consensus. “The Interim Constitution has two provisions on the formation of a government. The second is the normal choice when a government is not formed as per the first provision. However, if the parties seek an extension of the deadline for forming a government based on political consensus and if the president finds it convincing, he may oblige,” Dahal told the Post.
5.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	1	Oli Ousted from the Talks Team	<p>CPN-UML Chairman Jhala Nath Khanal took over the leadership of the party’s committee formed to hold talks with other parties and accelerate the peace process and constitution-drafting, replacing KP Oli. With this, rifts within the ruling party have reached a new height climatic point over formation of a national consensus government. “Khanal proposed me to quit the post and I accepted his proposal.” Oli said after Central Committee (CC) meeting held on Tuesday. Khanal said Oli has no other alternative than to abide by the decision of CC meeting.</p> <p>Republica: Khanal Replaces Oli in Talks Team, page 1</p> <p>Nagarik: Oli Ousted from the Talks Team, page 1</p>
6.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	4	Maoists Leaders Rue Lost Hopes	<p>The main opposition UCPN (Maoist) has concluded that a national consensus government under its leadership is almost impossible given the tough preconditions put forth by Nepali Congress on the integration of its combatants. Maoists have now initiated efforts to form a majority government under its leadership. However, forming a majority government under it isn’t a cake walk for the Maoists, it seems. “There has not been any progress till now and we have almost lost hopes of a national</p>

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					consensus government under our leadership”, Maoist secretary CP Gajurel told the Post on Tuesday. He, however, said his party will be able to form a majority government. However, Maoist Vice-Chairman Mohan Baidya said there are no possibilities of a Maoist-led government, be it consensus or majority. Though the deadline given by President Dr. Ram Baran Yadav to political parties to form a consensus government is expiring tomorrow, parties have not made any progress in this regard. The parties may demand more time from the president to form such a government.
7.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	1	UML-Led Government Once Again	The CPN-UML has decided to form national consensus government with party Chairman Jhalanath Khanal as prime minister. However, a section of party leaders led by Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal and KP Oli have been lobbying for the formation of Nepali Congress-led government. A UML source told The Himalayan Times that Oli and Nepal had opposed the formation of the next government under the Maoist leadership, claiming that the UCPN-M was yet to become a civilian party. “They want NC leader Ram Chandra Paudel as the new PM,” he revealed. Despite Oli and Nepal’s opposition, the central committee meeting held today took the decision to make efforts to form the government with Khanal as PM. “As the Nepali Congress had supported us while forming the present government we should help the NC now,” the source quoted the PM as saying. “KP Oli also expressed the same view to prevent UCPN-M from leading the next government,” he added.
8.	The Himalayan	English Daily	3	Defend Extension of CA Term: Apex	The Supreme Court on Tuesday summoned government authorities including President Dr Ram Baran Yadav’s Office to

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	Times			Court	defend the eighth amendment of the Interim Constitution on May 28 midnight. Justice Prem Sharma directed the authorities — the Office of the President, the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Constituent Assembly and the Legislature Parliament — to attend a hearing on July 16 to decide whether or not to issue an interim order as demanded by the petitioners. During today’s hearing, former Attorney General Sushil Panta, advocates Devendra Nepali and Balkrishna Neupane sought the apex court’s immediate stay order alleging that the authorities had violated the Constitution by endorsing the eighth amendment bill.
Opinions, Editorials and Interviews					
9.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	6	The Path of Madhesi Movement	Prabhu Shah (UCPN-M Central Member) writes: The correct path for the Madhesi Movement would be to adopt the direction of consensual system. We must draft a new constitution through the consensual system so as to preserve the achievements of the movement.
10.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	6	Here’s to the Future	Abhi Subedhi writes: Two political scientists and T.U. academics Krishna Khanal and Krishna Hachethu had given a rigorous workshop seminar for whole day under the rubric “open dialogue for constitution building” as part of their long odyssey of constitution dialogues and dialectics. Issues concerning the shape and representation of the Lumbini-Awadhi-Tharuwan Pradesh had floated in free discussions among the representatives who came from a wide

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					<p>spectrum of society, from political parties, social organisations, groups and genders. They had gathered in the hall of a nondescript local hotel, which looked like an underground chamber. They had started such discussions, Surendra Chaudhari told me, from Limbuwan Pradesh where my octogenarian brother Laya Prasad Subedi, a non-Limbu man who has spent the best part of his life working under the Sword of Damocles of dictatorial governments, chairs one faction of a Limbu political organisation. He had started his career from left politics but spent the greater part of his political life in the Nepali Congress.</p> <p>Some elitist discourses were very close to advocating the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly when the deadline for the CA was approaching on May 28. Meetings like the above and the ones that I attended earlier in the year with political scientists in Mustang and western Nepal has given power to my conviction that the Kathmandu metropolitan bogie-creating machinery and the creative thoughts of the people of the mofussil (meaning?) do not match. Khanal and Hachethu's rigorous discourses on each issue and people's strong participation and discussions that I saw there made my conviction stronger. People participated openly. These two academics linked the pragmatic issues of politics to political art and the image of grand and local histories. Sitting there, I wished Hari Roka were the other person in their team. I was impressed by these academics' combination of knowledge with the burning issues that the country is debating about.</p>
11.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	7	Transition, Consensus and	Dayal Bahadur Shahi (CPN-UML Cadre) had analyzed the five

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				Patience	alternatives for forming the new government: First Alternative: Prachanda; Second Alternative: Ram Chandra Poudel; Third Alternative: Sushil Koirala; Fourth: Jhalanath Khanal; Fifth: KP Oli.
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