

CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 12 July, 2010 Monday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
News					
1.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	2	<u>Bar President to Fight for Judicial Independence</u>	Newly elected President of Supreme Court Bar Association, Krishna Prasad Sapkota, has vowed to fight to uphold judicial independence and keep it intact in the constitution to be drafted by the Constituent Assembly. “My efforts will be to establish the bar as a professional organization and to keep the professional integrity intact by fighting against corruption and irregularities,” advocate Sapkota said on Sunday. “The Supreme Court Bar Association will strongly lobby for inserting provisions that respect the independence of the judiciary,” Sapkota added. Stating that the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court Bar Association have already investigated corruption and irregularities in the judiciary, advocate Sapkota said he would work to implement the findings of the studies. “A joint effort of the judiciary and the bar is needed in this regard,” he added.
2.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	1	<u>NC-UML to Float a Separate Integration Proposal</u>	NC and UML are going to come up with a separate three-week army integration roadmap for national consensus. NC has said that it has formed a seven member team for coming up with a draft paper which will be the party’s official stand and roadmap on resolving all contentious issues related to the peace process and constitution writing. The party is preparing to announce the roadmap on Tuesday.
3.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	2	<u>Maoists Proposal Does Not Lead to Formation of Consensus Government</u>	The Nepali Congress (NC) on Sunday voiced strong reservations over the UCPN (Maoist)'s policy paper on integration and rehabilitation of Maoist combatants saying that the proposal is

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					<p>against the past pacts and understandings. During a NC Central Committee meeting convened today at the party headquarters in Sanepa on Sunday, majority of the leaders said that the proposal would not help build the base for consensus saying that the proposal has overlapped the past agreements. The NC, however, has decided to divulge their official stance on Tuesday. Likewise, the NC has handed over the responsibility to finalize the party's official stance on the issue to seven of its leaders.</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: Maoist Proposal Under NC Fire, page 6</p> <p>Annapurna Post: NC-UML Rejects Maoists Proposal, page 1</p> <p>Nagarik: Maoists Proposal Against the Peace Process: NC-UML, page 2</p> <p>The Rising Nepal: NC Rejects Maoist Proposal on Combatant Integration, pages 1&6</p>
4.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	President Unlikely to Oblige Again	<p>Time is running out for political parties to form a consensus government by Monday evening, the second grace period given by President Dr Ram Baran Yadav, and he seems in no mood to extend the deadline for the third time. The five-day grace period ends on Monday evening with chances of a consensus government very slim. "What I foresee is a natural and constitutional course after Monday if parties don't forge understanding," said Rajendra Dahal, the press advisor to the President. The President's office is preparing to dispatch another letter to the Legislative-Parliament asking it to form a majority</p>

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					government, most probably by Monday evening or Thursday evening. “The President’s Office will make a decision in this regard by Monday,” said Dahal. “Only an emergency can avert the move. Otherwise, it will take its natural course,” he said. The President personally still favors a consensus government and wants the process to happen, sources added. “If consensus cannot be reached pursuant to Clause (1), the Prime Minister shall be elected by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Legislature-Parliament,” Article 38 (2) of the Interim Constitution reads.
5.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	Unity Government Bid Coming a Cropper	The grace period of five days given by President Dr Ram Baran Yadav lapses on Monday, but chances of formation of a national consensus government are bleak. The parties made little progress in forging consensus during the 12-day deadline (first a week and then the five-day grace period) despite a barrage of bilateral and multilateral dialogues. The parties are likely to resume efforts to form a majority government from Monday. The UCPN (Maoist) went bust trying to garner the support of other parties to form a government under it. Nepali Congress (NC) and CPN-UML and Madhesi parties held consultations in a bid to forge consensus but failed.
6.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	1	Maoists Ready to be Flexible	Following protests from both the Nepali Congress and the CPN-UML on the action plan proposed by the Unified CPN-Maoist, Maoist Vice-Chairman Narayan Kaji Shrestha on Sunday said his party was ready to make necessary changes in the proposal if the parties were ready to form a national consensus government. Since the NC and UML leaders opposed the Maoist proposal, calling it vague, confusing and unable to take politics of

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					consensus ahead, Shrestha said his party could do a re-think on key contentious issues to appease the parties. Maoist leaders have also agreed to form a probe committee to investigate into the murder of UML local leader Chhabi Lal Karki, who was allegedly killed by Maoist local cadres at a hotel in Nishangkhe of Okhaldhunga on Thursday.
7.	Republica	English Daily	1&3	Consensus Elusive, Majority Government Likely	<p>Big three parties -- UCPN (Maoist), Nepali Congress and CPN-UML -- have failed to reach anywhere near agreement even as the deadline extended for five more days to forge national consensus is expiring Monday. With NC and UML strongly objecting to the Maoist proposal on peace process including the management of cantoned combatants, agreement among the three parties appears less likely though they have agreed to make last-ditch efforts for consensus even on Monday. The failure of the parties to arrive at consensus will necessitate President Dr Ram Baran Yadav to ask the parties to form majority government as per Article 38 (2) of the Interim Constitution on Tuesday. "This is the normal course should the parties failed to forge consensus even after the expiry of the deadline," said Rajendra Dahal, press advisor to President Dr Yadav. Party sources said Speaker Subas Nembang is set to call a meeting of Business Advisory Committee (BAC) to fix the date for an election for picking the prime minister once the president makes the call. The BAC is likely to set July 16 as date for picking a prime ministerial candidate.</p> <p>Nagarik: Majority Government Unlikely, page 2 Gorkhapatra: Slim Chance for Consensus Government, page 1</p>

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					Nayapatrika: Towards Majority Again, pages 1&2
8.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	3	Sarita Giri Expelled from NSP-A	<p>Nepal Sadbhavana Party (Anandidevi) on Sunday, suspended Sarita Giri's general membership and sacked her from the post of party president for a period of six years. A press statement bearing Anandidevi Singh's thumb imprint stated that Giri was involved in the race for ministership and had undermined the party's interest and image. Singh identified herself as the party's national chairperson, but Giri dismissed her claim, saying the action against her had no legal validity as she herself was the national chairperson. "It is informed that Giri has been expelled from the party's general membership for six years for seriously damaging democratic and Madhesi values and principles. Since the time she was elected CA member, she has been attempting to become minister and in the process, she has acted against the party's image," the statement said, adding that steps would be taken to strip Giri's Constituent Assembly membership.</p> <p>Republica: NSP-A Expels Giri, page 1 Nagarik: Sarita Giri Expelled from NSP-A, page 2 Nayapatrika: Giri Expelled from NSP-A, page 3</p>
9.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	1	Maoists Proposal on Integration Eludes 3-Party Agreement	<p>The meeting of the three major parties – UCPN-Maoist, Nepali Congress and CPN-UML - discussed the Maoist proposal for completing the peace process related issues including the integration and rehabilitation of the Maoist army ended inconclusively on Sunday as the NC and UML did not buy the Maoists' views on the matter. "The proposal is lopsided and even against past agreements on various issues. We term it as depressing as the Maoists have backtracked from some past</p>

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					pacts. We have been saying that the seized property should be returned immediately and the combatants should meet the criteria of the security forces for the purpose of integration. But the proposal states otherwise," NC leader Dr Ram Sharan Mahat said after the meeting at the Maoist parliamentary party office in Singh Durbar. Dr Mahat said that the proposal would not help forge consensus among the parties.
Opinions, Editorials and Interviews					
10.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	4	UNMIN Controversy (Editorial)	The tenure of UNMIN had been extended for the fourth consecutive time in the past, and each time when the issue of extending its term was debated, the UN Security Council showed optimism about the peace process in Nepal. It seems that the adjustment and integration process of the Maoist fighters will not be complete during the current tenure of UNMIN as well. It is in the best interest of Nepal's peace process to accomplish and complete it as soon as possible so that political stability and prosperity of the country could be cultivated. UNMIN and other stakeholders should work in a sincere and collective spirit to assure that it is taken forward to its logical conclusion.
11.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	7	No Maoist-Led Government at the Current Date (Interview)	CPN-UML Leader Pradip Gyawali says: "What I wanted to say was that the Maoists cannot lead the government at the current date as they are yet to renounce violence. But the country cannot be without a government too. Even if the Maoists express some firm commitments now, their implementation may take some time. A new environment might be created if the Maoists show through their action their commitment to renounce violence. In that scenario, we might be

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					<p>able to change government leadership. Until such an environment is created, the Maoists may join the new coalition government as a partner, not the leader.”</p> <p>“First of all, the peace process and the constitution are the main political agendas at this time. If the Maoists are able to come up with a clear roadmap and action plan on the peace process and constitution, with practical timelines, in that case government leadership can go to anyone. My second argument is that the situation might change if the Maoists are able to gain the confidence of other parties. As you said, the question of trust is primary in politics.”</p>
12.	Republica	English Daily	6	Wages of Proximity	<p>CK Lal Writes:</p> <p>It takes a while for the resentment of the oppressed against their real or perceived oppressors to dissipate. Madhesis will have to learn to cope with the challenges of shedding subject status and learn to be equal citizens of an independent and confident country. Whether it is in the name of Maoists or Madhesbadis, fanning the fire of discord between Pahadis and Madhesis in Tarai will not help the long-term interests of the ruling class in Kathmandu, the New Delhi establishment or the Indo-Nepal friendship. Leaders squabbling in Kathmandu must get their act together if the simmering discontent in Tarai is to be kept under check and found a safe outlet. Demonizing Maoists and Madhesis or deifying foreign friends of democracy are excuses, not positive initiatives of transforming a flailing state propped up by meddling envoys and self-important NGO executives.</p>

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13.	Republica	English Daily	7	Alternatives for Managing Maoist Combatants	<p>Kul Chandra Gautam writes:</p> <p>Integration of a limited number of Maoist combatants following the above norms and inclusive criteria would be helpful to make Nepal's security services more attractive for UN peacekeeping missions. For example, the UN is looking for more women soldiers and officers in its peacekeeping missions. Thus, by giving priority to integration of women combatants, the Maoist will truly help serve Nepal's national interest, not just their partisan interest. Nepal needs tens of thousands of teachers, health workers, forest guards, and technicians. We should therefore develop an attractive education, training and employment or self-employment packages for the vast majority of Maoist combatants who will not be integrated into security services. As a progressive civilian political party, UCPN (Maoist) should actively promote rehabilitation of their combatants into respectable, development-oriented civilian jobs instead of pushing for a dubious proposal for a new military or paramilitary force. Instead of trying to retain some kind of armed elements under their remote control under various guises, the Maoists would be much better off transforming themselves into a truly progressive civilian party. As such, they will also be more credible when they advocate for "democratization" of Nepal Army and other security services. The sooner the Maoist realize that remaining a party with arms is a huge liability for them, the better off they will be to contribute to their own vision of a New Nepal, where we can all live in peace and harmony devoting all our energies to build a prosperous future for our children and</p>
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