

CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 14 July, 2010 Wednesday



| SN | Newspaper/ Online | Type | Page | Title | Synopsis |
|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------|--|---|
| News | | | | | |
| 1. | Kantipur | Vernacular Daily | 1&3 | Parties Making Efforts for Majority Government | With the announcement of the date for Prime Minister's election in the Legislature-Parliament for 21 July, leaders of the major political parties have started laying the groundwork to secure the top post. Despite rhetoric to give priority to a consensus government, leaders of the UCPN (Maoist), Nepali Congress and CPN-UML have started consultations to garner support for a majority government. Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal and Vice Chairman Babu Ram Bhattarai, NC Parliamentary Party (PP) leader Ram Chandra Poudel, senior leader Sher Bahadur Deuba, UML Chief Jhala Nath Khanal and some leaders from the Madhes-based parties are likely to join the fray. However, the picture of the new power equation is still unclear. Maoist Chairman Dahal hopes to garner support of the UML, Madhesi Janaadhikar Forum and some fringe parties. "We have started consultations to form a majority government under our leadership. UML and some fringe parties have pledged to support us," said Maoist Secretary CP Gajurel at an interaction. He added the Maoists staked claim to the government in the capacity of the largest party. "Maoists would be larger party even if NC and UML are merged," added Gajurel. UML Chief Jhala Nath Khanal, however, seems in a dilemma regarding his candidacy for the top post. UML Secretary Yuba Raj Gyawali said Khanal's |

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| | | | | | <p>candidacy hinges on other parties' assurance of their support.</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: Race for PM Berth Starts, page 1</p> |
| 2. | Kantipur | Vernacular Daily | 3 | Big Three Condemned | <p>Seventeen fringe parties represented in the Constituent Assembly (CA) passed a condemnation proposal against the major three parties — Nepali Congress, CPN (UML) and UCPN (Maoist) — on Tuesday for their failure to form a consensus government and take the statute writing process ahead. In a meeting held at the Parliamentary Party Office of the Tarai Madhes Loktantrik Party (TMLP) in Singha Durbar, the fringe parties also said that though the process of forming a majority government has been headed, it must be on a basis of consensus. CPN-United Chairman Chandra Dev Joshi said. that a new government should be formed on the basis of a democratic system and be committed to democracy and secularism, No decision has been made yet over who should lead the government, he added. The fringe parties have also decided to pressure the major three parties to form a national consensus government.</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: Fringe Parties Flay Big Three, page 1</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: Fringe Parties for Consensus Government, page 3</p> <p>Annapurna Post: 17 Parties Pass Condemnation Proposal, page 1</p> |

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| 3. | The Kathmandu Post | English Daily | 4 | Push for Unity Government | <p>Political experts and analysts have collectively urged the parties to form a new government on the basis of consensus even though they have failed to meet the deadline set by President Dr. Ram Baran Yadav. “Since two majority governments formed in the past failed, we urge the parties to form a government based on consensus as soon as possible,” reads a statement issued by civil society leaders on Tuesday. The statement was signed by constitutional experts and civil society leaders including Daman Nath Dhungana, Padma Ratna Tuladhar, and Dr. Arjun Karki, Bishnu Shrestha, Pradip Pokhrel, Sindhu Nath Pyakurel, Netra Prasad Timsina, Rameshwor Upadhyaya, Sarmila Karki, Sobhakar Budhathoki, Charan Prasai and Shyam Shrestha.</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: Civil Society Wants Unity Government, page 3</p> |
| 4. | The Kathmandu Post | English Daily | 1 | Countdown to July 21 | <p>Chairman of the Constituent Assembly (CA) Subas Nembang on Tuesday fixed the date for the prime minister’s election in the Legislature-Parliament. According to a notice issued by the Legislature-Parliament Secretariat, the election will take place on July 21. The parties will have to file nomination on July 20 between 10 am to 5 pm, and the final list of candidates will be publicized the same day while election will take place on July 21 at 11 am. Earlier, in a session of the Business Advisory Committee (BAC) of the Legislature-Parliament, Nembang had consulted the chief whips of all the parties in the CA. He said that the parties had committed in the House to form a consensus government. “The parties need to form a consensus government to speed up constitution writing and</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>take the peace process to its conclusion,” said Chairman Nembang.</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: Parliament to Elect PM on July 21, page 1 Annapurna Pos: Election for the PM on 21 July, page 1 Republica: Parliament Vote on July 21 for New PM, page 1 Rajdhani: Election for the PM confirmed, page 1</p> |
| 5. | Republica | English Daily | 1 | What If None Gets Majority | <p>In case of failure by all the candidates to secure a majority vote, the Speaker will announce a date for another round of voting as per the regulations of parliament. Officials at the parliament secretariat believe that in such a situation the Speaker will obviously hold consultations with top political leaders before going for a meeting of the BAC to finally fix a new date for voting. New candidates will not be allowed to file candidacy in the second round voting. As per the regulations, only candidates who file their candidacy on May 20 will be eligible for the prime ministerial race. "If three candidates, for instance, file their candidacy on May 20, only those three candidates will remain in the contest no matter how many rounds of voting it takes to finalize matters," said the official.</p> |
| 6. | The Kathmandu Post | English Daily | 1 | Nembang Nixes Trip | <p>CA Chairman Subash Nembang will not attend the World Conference of Speakers of Parliament to be held in Geneva next week citing political situation in the country. Nembang, also the speaker, decided not to attend the conference owing to the scheduled Prime Minister's election and pending</p> |

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| | | | | | constitution drafting process. |
| 7. | The Kathmandu Post | English Daily | 1 | UN Backs UNMIN's Stand | <p>The United Nations on Tuesday claimed a non-paper submitted to political parties by its special political mission, United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), some days ago was prepared after consultation with the major parties in Nepal. In a daily press briefing at the UN headquarters in New York on Tuesday, Farhan Haq, Associate Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, claimed that UNMIN had prepared the non-paper after consultations with the political parties. A controversy was sparked following the publication of the UNMIN's non-paper by The Kathmandu Post and Kantipur. The government on Monday voiced serious objection to the non-paper stating that the action was beyond the jurisdiction of the UNMIN. The non-paper has proposed a hypothetical 60-week timeline for the integration and rehabilitation of cantoned Maoist combatants. "The issue dealt with in the non-paper containing the timeline, which is the issue I believe you're referring to, is based on consultations by UNMIN which has been consulting with the main parties in Nepal for some time, and those consultations have taken place with the full knowledge of the Government of Nepal," said Haq. The Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction sent a letter to UNMIN Chief Karin Landgren on Monday and said it was "deeply concerned" over news published in the Post and Kantipur on Friday on UNMIN's work plan for the integration and rehabilitation of the combatants.</p> <p>Kantipur: UNMIN within its Mandate, page 2</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: UN Defends Its Political Mission in</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>Nepal, page 5</p> <p>Republica: UN Defends UNMIN's Integration Plan, pages 1&3</p> <p>Rajdhani: UNMIN Proposal as per the mandate, page 1</p> <p>The Rising Nepal: New PM Election Slated for July 21, page 1</p> |
| 8. | Kantipur | Vernacular Daily | 2 | <p>Maoists Seek Integration Proposal</p> | <p>The UCPN (Maoist) on Tuesday urged the Nepali Congress and the CPN-UML to come up with a concrete action plan on integration and rehabilitation of Maoist combatants, constitution drafting process and formation of a national consensus government. The Maoist party a few days ago unveiled an action plan claiming it to be a basis of national consensus, which NC and UML snubbed saying it was against past agreements, mainly the Comprehensive Peace Accord. The main opposition party demanded the two ruling coalition partners clarify what could be bases of national consensus. "NC and UML rejected our action plan so they should come up with clear views as to how they want these issues addressed and what could be the basis of national consensus in their view," Maoist Vice Chairman Narayan Kaji Shrestha said, adding their proposal was sufficient to forge consensus if NC and UML agreed to it.</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: Maoists Seek Government Take on Integration, page 3</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: Maoists Want NC, UML Drafts, page 6</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>Annapurna Post: Urge for Integration Proposal, page 1</p> <p>Republica: Maoists Seek NC, UML's Views on Combatants' Integration, page 2</p> |
| 9. | thehimalayantimes.com | English Online | NA | <p>Federalism Won't Harm Nationality: JNU Guru</p> | <p>Federal states should be carved out after ensuring representation of all castes, tribes, religions, cultures and languages of the society, said Prof. TK Oommen of Jawaharlal Nehru University of India. Addressing a function organized by Tribhuvan University and Asian Research Centre on, "Plurality, Federalism and Country" on Tuesday, Prof. Oommen said that federal states will not affect national integrity and sovereignty. "Various tribes, linguistic groups and marginalised people will get equal opportunities and rights only in a plural society," he said. "Therefore, there is a need of a federal system."</p> |
| 10. | Nayapatrika | Vernacular Daily | 4 | Debates on Karnali Province | <p>Discussion has begun in Birendranagar of Surkhet on the proposed Karnali Province. The three day workshop organized by Centre for Constitutional Dialogue will discuss economic, political and cultural aspects of the Karnali province.</p> |
| Opinions, Editorials and Interviews | | | | | |
| 11. | Annapurna Post | Vernacular Daily | 6 | Majority Consensus (Editorial) | <p>The only aspiration of the Nepali people is sustainable peace along with the democratic constitution. Parties must not forget that the possibility of consensus does not end with the possibility of majority. People's concern is not about how the prime minister is elected but its consequences and the roles of the parties with regards to it.</p> |

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| 12. | Annapurna Post | Vernacular Daily | 7 | CA Tenure Extension: Appreciable or Debatable | <p>Dr. Lalan Chaudhari writes:</p> <p>The CA members make the fullest use of the remaining time to draft the constitution and accomplish the tasks remaining. They must express commitment to write the constitution with consensus. If this does not happen our country may also turn into a former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan or Somalia.</p> |
| 13. | Nagarik | Vernacular Daily | 6 | Size of Nepal Army | <p>Murari Sharma writes:</p> <p>The stance of the Maoists will not result in the decrease of the Nepal Army to 20,000 but rather it would increase to 120,000 which cannot be justified. It would not be in the interest of the nation to make army integration issue obstacle to the constitution writing.</p> |
| 14. | Budhabar | Vernacular Weekly | 6 | Consensus for Peace and Constitution | <p>Asta Laxmi Shakya writes:</p> <p>It is clear that all parties must come to a consensus for lasting peace and constitution. The CPN-UML, NC and UCPN-M must be united for the same. People's faith towards leaders for peace and constitution still exists.</p> |