

CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 17 July, 2010 Saturday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
News					
1.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	1	NC Proposes a Week to Determine Number of Combatants	<p>The Nepali Congress on Friday publicized its proposal to build political agreement among parties by projecting an action plan on the constitution drafting, peace process and formation of new government. The party's Central Working Committee meeting on Thursday had finalized the plan and decided to put forth to the political parties and other stakeholders for discussion. The NC has proposed to carry out the integration and rehabilitation of the Maoists' PLA fighters currently residing in the UN-monitored cantonments within four months in two phases. Under the first phase, it has proposed to bring the former fighters under the Army Integration Special Committee (AISC). The NC has proposed that the fighters should be looked after, controlled and directed as the AISC's operational manual and the decision on the number of fighters to be taken up in different security agencies should be decided within a week of the first phase. The NC plan proposes that the AISC should take given the authority to take final decision on the voluntary exit and rehabilitation of the fighters within week, and the ones opting for voluntarily exit, wishing integration or rehabilitation be moved to different camps from the cantonments where they are currently living.</p> <p>Republica: Congress Gives Maoists Plan for Detaching PLA, page 3 The Himalayan Times: NC Floats Peace Plan, Page 5 The Kathmandu Post: Now, NC Has a Proposal, page 1</p>

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					Kantipur: NC Proposes 4-Month Integration Plan, page 3
2.	Gorkhapatra	Vernacular Daily	3	People's Recommendations Important for Constitution Building	CA Members have expressed commitments for seriously considering the recommendations from the people for participatory constitution building. At an interaction program organized in the capital on Friday to share the recommendations collected from Dhaulagiri zone the CA members of the zone present at the program expressed commitment to make their efforts for incorporating the recommendations in the draft constitution.
3.	Republica	English Daily	1	Waiting for New PM? You May End Up Waiting Beyond July 21	If you are among those complaining that even five days before the election for the prime minister's post it's still uncertain who will be the new man, consider this: You may not know even on election day, July 21. Sounds puzzling? The logic is pretty straightforward-- the parties are still undecided who they should ally with to form a new government, so each of the major parties may go to the election with their own candidate, ensuring that there is no clear winner in a first round vote. "I'm almost certain the PM's election will go to the second round," said a senior NC leader. According to parliamentary regulations, in case there is no clear winner in the first round there should be a second round vote, but the parties cannot change their candidates, nor can a new candidate enter the fray. Uncertainty about the future prime minister emanates primarily from growing strains within the ruling coalition. The Nepali Congress has officially staked claim to government leadership and said the ruling alliance should remain intact. But UML, the second major party in the coalition, is divided over lending support to the NC.

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4.	Republica	English Daily	1&3	Madhes Parties Revive Front	<p>We welcome the decision of the four Madhes-based political parties – Madhesi People’s Rights Forum, Madhesi People’s Rights Forum (Democratic), Tarai Madhes Democratic Party and Sadbhawana Party – to revive the United Democratic Madhesi Front (UDMF), which had unfortunately split even before the Constituent Assembly (CA) election. The coming together of the four parties who together command 82 seats in the CA is significant for two reasons: One, by virtue of being the fourth biggest force in the CA, they can now play kingmaker in the formation of a new government that is likely to happen next week and, two, it once again gives them the leverage to aggressively pitch for Madhesi issues, something that had been pushed to the back burner following their break up. While the regrouping of these four key Madhesi parties has once again strengthened them, it would be in their best interests to use this collective strength constructively. It would make no sense to their voters if they use this force just to lay hands on plum ministries rather than advancing the cause of their constituencies. There were great expectations from the Madhesi people following the success of the Madhes Movement. While that movement resulted in the election of Madhesi leaders as the first president and vice-president of the country, it did not positively affect the everyday lives of the people living in the plains.</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: Madhesi Parties Resurrect Alliance, page 1</p>
5.	The Himalayan	English Daily	1	CPN-UML Still Harping on Unity	<p>-UML leadership believes that national consensus government can still be forged on political ground though the deadline set by</p>

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	Times			Government	the President for the same has elapsed. The party's recently-held central committee meeting on July 6 and its parliamentary party meeting held before it underscored the need to form a unity government to conclude the peace process and to draft the new constitution. "Although we cannot form the unity government as required by Article 38 (a) of the interim constitution, a government with a two-thirds majority is still possible," said Bhim Acharya, chief whip of the UML's parliamentary party. He said a majority government, whether it would be led by Jhala Nath Khanal or somebody else, would be meaningless. He said the Unified CPN-Maoist, Nepali Congress, UML and Madhes-based parties must come together to form the government with a two-thirds majority
6.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	Maoists to Form New Equation	The main opposition UCPN (Maoist) has called a meeting of its Standing Committee on Saturday as the officer bearers' meeting on Friday failed to take a decision. The meeting concluded that the chance of forming a national consensus government as envisaged by the party is almost nil. The Maoists are yet to decide the party's stance on the formation of a majority government through the Legislature-Parliament slated for July 21. They are mulling forming a new equation to implement their agenda. The SC meeting is expected to take concrete decisions on the party's strategy and role while forming a majority government, candidacy in the prime minister's election, supporting other parties in the election and also about remaining in the opposition bench.
7.	The Kathmandu	English Daily	1	UN Rejects NA Plea to Okay	Nepal's participation in the United Nations (UN) peacekeeping missions has hit a new hurdle. The UN has rejected Nepal

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	Post			Peacekeeping Training Centre	Army's (NA) request to renew the recognition of its UN peacekeeping training centre at Paanchkhal in Kavre district. The UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) took the decision on the grounds of human rights violations, including in the Paanchkhal centre, an official at the UN Headquarters in New York told the Post. Paanchkhal centre is the only institution in Nepal authorised by the UN to impart pre-mission trainings to NA soldiers. Though it already had UN recognition, NA applied for a renewal of the centre as per new requirements outlined in the latest UN Peacekeeping Pre-Deployment Training (PDT) Standards, which ask each troop-contributing country "to receive a new official UN training recognition for their military and/or police PDT courses."
Opinions, Editorials and Interviews					
8.	Republica	English Daily	6	Statute Drafting: Ray of Hope (Editorial)	We strongly hope that this time the parties will not fail in meeting the deadlines that will be set in the revised calendar of operations. This can only happen if our parties realize that a lot is at stake including their reputations, which has already taken a severe beating by the way in which they have conducted themselves lately. The CA needs to be an independent body free from political maneuverings. We hope that the parties have learnt from their past mistakes and will keep the Assembly away from the clutches of political bickering. Finally, we also recommend the political parties to agree on the basic principles of the new constitution first thing when the CA resumes its work. This will ensure that when they sit down to actually write the statute, they

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					will not have to face unnecessary and unwanted hassles.
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