

CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 18 July, 2010 Sunday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
News					
1.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	1	CA Calendar Today	After 102 days, the meeting of the Constituent Assembly to be held on Sunday will come up with a new calendar for the CA. Earlier, the three major political parties had agreed on the formulation of the CA work plan with a target date of 13 April 2011 as the date for the promulgation of new constitution. The also agreed to form the State Restructuring Commission by July 31.
2.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	3	Fundamental Rights Overlooked in CA Draft	Some important aspects regarding fundamental rights have been overlooked when preparing the concept paper of the Committee on Fundamental Rights and Directive Principle of the Constituent Assembly (CA). For example – in the provision related properties, the report refers to eminent domain and police power regarding property right. But apart from these two, there is third domain which is the ‘power to tax,’ that has not been mentioned herein," different legal experts commented on the report. The legal experts expressed their views on the Commentary Notes on Concept Paper and Preliminary Draft of the Fundamental Rights and Directive Principle Committee of the CA published by Nepal Law Society in collaboration with CA Secretariat and International IDEA. Since there have been excessive restrictions on many fundamental rights, they do not seem to internalize the provision of international human rights treaties to which Nepal is a party. Many fundamental rights can be restricted, but they cannot be suspended," the Commentary

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					Notes stated. "In various articles of the preliminary draft, the rights have been limited to citizens and, thus, individuals have been denied fundamental rights. Under the established international and comparative norms, civil and political rights should be conferred to individuals in general," the Commentary Notes which consisted experts' opinion, stated.
3.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	1	Poudel, NC's Official Candidate for the PM	<p>The Nepali Congress (NC) on Saturday unanimously selected Parliamentary Party leader Ram Chandra Poudel for the prime minister's post if the party gets to lead the new government. According to NC Vice-President Gopal Man Shrestha, Poudel was unanimously nominated as per a proposal put forward by the party's senior leader Sher Bahadur Deuba and General Secretary KB Gurung in the party's Central Working Committee meeting on Saturday. Deuba, Gurung and Poudel had been vying for the top post while they seemed to stick to their stance. However, it was a surprise for many when Deuba and Gurung themselves floated a proposal to support Poudel. Many inside and outside the party have appreciated the way the party handled one of the most contentious issues, while leaders ruled out any hidden give-and-take in Poudel's selection.</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: It's Poudel, Congress Says in Unison, page 1</p> <p>The Rising Nepal: NC Selects Poudel as PM Candidate, page 1</p> <p>Gorkhapatra: Poudel Unanimous Candidate of NC, pages 1&4</p> <p>Republica: NC Shows United Face, Picks Poudel for PM, pages 1 & 3</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: NC for Poudel as PM, Asks Maoist</p>

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					<p>Support, page 1 Nayapatrika: Ramchandra NC's Candidate, page 2 Rajdhani: Poudel Proposed as the Prime Minister, page 1</p>
4.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	1	<p>Maoists Keep All Options Open</p>	<p>The UCPN (Maoist) on Saturday adopted two tactics: first, it would attempt to form a majority government under its leadership, and second, if that is not possible it will support a government of the other parties that agree to implement its agenda, mainly the integration and rehabilitation of PLA combatants. For this, the Maoists' Standing Committee meeting decided to keep alternatives open within and outside the party for the leadership of the to-be-formed government through the Parliament on July 21. Now, the Maoists are ready to forward another candidate for the prime ministerial berth if other parties reject Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal's leadership. Chairman Dahal is under tremendous pressure within his party to keep options over the prime ministerial candidate open. However, the Maoists have not yet named alternatives to Dahal. Vice Chairman Baburam Bhattarai faction is reasoning that a Maoist party-led government is still in sight if the party keeps alternatives to Dahal in the fray.</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: UCPN (M) Keeps Government Options Open, page 1 Gorkhapatra: Maoists Keep All Options Open, pages 1 The Himalayan Times: Maoists Open to PM Option, pages 1&6</p>
5.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	1&6	<p>Madhes Based Parties for Consensus Government</p>	<p>Leaders of different Madhes-based political parties Saturday said that they were still in favour of a consensus government although the Legislature Parliament had started the procedures to choose</p>

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					the next Prime Minister on the majority basis on July 21. They, however, took the NC's decision to field Ram Chandra Paudel as the next Prime Minister positively. Speaking at the Reporters' Club Nepal, general secretary of Terai Madhes Loktantrik Party Mahendra Yadav said that it was positive news that the NC had unanimously proposed Poudel's name as the prime ministerial candidate. He said that no proposal had been made for the post of Prime Minister on behalf of Madhes based political parties.
6.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	NC Advice to Maoist Brass :Issue Based Alliance Vital	However, the main opposition, which has dug in its heels for Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal as the prime ministerial candidate remained silent in the meeting. "We sought their support for forming a national consensus government under our leadership." said NC Spokesman Arjun Narsingh KC after the meeting. "But they did not say anything." Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal, Vice-Chairman Mohan Baidya and Narayan Kaji Shrestha reached the NC's headquarters in Sanepa. NC has announced it will field its Parliamentary Party leader Ram Chandra Poudel in the race for the prime ministerial election. With the announcement of Poudel's candidacy, NC has intensified its formal and informal talks with the other parties. NC leaders are scheduled to hold talks with Madhes-based four parties and UML on Sunday morning.
7.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily y	1	Pressure Mounts on Khanal to Resume Stalled CC Meet	The majority of CPN-UML central committee members are all set to press party Chairman Jhalanath Khanal to resume the adjourned CC meet by Monday to come out with the party's official stance on the next government. The Legislature-Parliament is all set to elect a new prime minister on July 21. The UML's fifth central committee meeting was held on July 6 and

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					adjourned until further notice. “A majority of central committee members will press Khanal to resume the adjourned CC meet by Monday to take the party’s official position on the next coalition,” said UML CC member Krishna Gopal Shrestha, who is close to standing committee member K P Sharma Oli. Oli commands majority in the party’s CC while Khanal has control over the parliamentary party. Shrestha said Khanal was not in a mood to skip the CC meet until July 21. Party sources said Khanal was considering filing his nomination as candidate for prime minister on Tuesday “bypassing” the party’s decision-making body. Khanal is banking on Maoist
8.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	5	Fringe Parties Vie for Power	Against the backdrop of the failure of the big three parties to forge national consensus, 17 of the 22 fringe parties in the Constituent Assembly (CA) on Saturday claimed their leadership of the next consensus government. “Since the three big parties have failed to form a consensus government, we have decided to urge them to accept the leadership of the next government from other parties,” said Upendra Yadav, chairman of Madhesi Janaadhikar Forum Nepal, following the meeting. Yadav, who had chaired today’s 25th meeting of the 22 fringe parties, claimed that the three parties should now accept the alternative from outside the three parties. “The three parties cannot hold the nation hostage. They should either form a national consensus government or let other parties take the lead,” maintained Keshav Mainali, chairman of Chure Bhawar Rastriya Ekata Party. The meeting held at the parliamentary party office of MJF in Singha Durbar concluded that the nation should go for national consensus government, though the President had called

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					for a majority government. Another meeting is scheduled for Monday at 4 pm. The 26th session of the meeting will be held at the CPN–ML’s parliamentary party office.
9.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	4	NEFIN Plans Month-Long Stir	<p>Putting forth its eight-point demand, Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) on Saturday unveiled a month-long protest programme. Issuing a statement, NEFIN said the agitation will start on July 18 with the submission of memoranda to District Development Committees across the country followed by sit-ins, torch rallies and a nationwide strike on August 15. Their demands include state restructuring on bases of ethnicity, language and historical identity in consultation with indigenous experts, scrapping the decision of the major political parties to form State Restructuring Commission (SRC), annulling laws and acts that contradict the notion of secular state and writing Narayani, Sunkoshi and Jadan off the list of separate states proposed by the Constituent Assembly (CA).</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: NEFIN Questions SRC Relevance, page 2</p>
10.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	2	Lawyers Advocate Constitutional Court	<p>Lawyers on Saturday urged lawmakers to form constitutional court or constitutional bench after a series of consultations with legal experts. Chief Justice Ram Prasad Shrestha said the constitutional court is not necessary at the present time and could be formed later if needed. Chief Justice added that the constitutional court is not obligatory but the work of constitutional court could be carried out by any other court. Raju Prasad Chapagai, legal adviser of UN-Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights-Nepal (OHCHR-Nepal) said</p>

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					the need of local people should be drafted before imposing a model of constitutional court existing in other countries. Nepal can learn from the practice in other countries, said Chapagai.
Opinions, Editorials and Interviews					
11.	Republica	English Daily	6	Revival of Madhesi Front (Editorial)	We also hope that the front would not once again bring up the issue of 'One Madhes, One Prades'. We also urge them to reverse their decision not to support the formation of a State Restructuring Committee (SRC). Dividing the country into federal provinces is a sensitive issue and it should be best recommended by a commission that has the necessary technical expertise. There are deep divisions on the maps that have presently been forwarded to the SRC, hence it would do no harm if a committee is formed to look into the matter once again. The SRC after all is not an independent commission that will take the final decision. It will forward its map to the government, which will then submit it to the speaker. The speaker will then finally send it to SRC. It is a healthy and a democratic process and we do not see why the UDMF should oppose it.
12.	Republica	English Daily	7	Baburam Should be the Prime Minister	Mahabir Poudyal writes: All have betrayed people's hope. Now this hope hovers around Baburam. His premiership will cheer up the working class and poor people like taxi drivers and manual labors. Of course it will be very difficult for him to satisfy people's expectations by leading the hard-earned coalition, ie, if he does become our next prime minister. In the absolute majority of his own party his dream to see this country prosperous can materialize. But the ability of a man is tested in such a critical period. So he should

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					<p>be ready for the challenges ahead. If he succeeds he will revive falling hope of people for the politicians and will set examples for others to follow. If he fails, like many others have done before, he will disburden the people of loyalty and trust upon his scholarship and workmanship. He will then disburden people of continually nurturing (false) hope. People are counting on him. Either he should teach them to hope again or he should free them from this burden.</p>
13.	Annapurna Sabha	Vernacular Weekly	1-8	2067/12/30 (13 April 2011)	<p>This week's issue focuses on CA calendar. It includes different features, interviews and opinions on CA's activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obstacle at the first step on obstacles created at different points in the process of constitution writing. • Unemployed CA by Sanjeev Bagale • Dateline 13 April 2011 by Narendra Saud including the remaining tasks to accomplished • "The support from the donors would be increased", says Manohar Bhattarai Secretary General of the CA in his interview • Constitution will be promulgated by 13 Aprils say legal expert and CA member Ekraj Bhandari • Let's preserve the infrastructures by Krishna Man Pradhan • CA calendar in the midst of mistrust by Hom Prasad Lamsal • Comment on Report and Recommendations • Laxmi singing the constitutional tunes by Narendra Saud