

CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 20 July, 2010 Tuesday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
News					
1.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	Prime Ministerial Race a Tight Affair	<p>While political parties are all set to file their nominations in the prime ministerial race by Tuesday, officials at the Parliament Secretariat are in a fix over the date for the poll run-up if none of the candidates secures a majority in the election scheduled for Wednesday. The contenders eyeing the country's top post should secure 300 votes from the existing 599 lawmakers. As of Monday evening, according to leaders involved in talks, the picture was still "unclear" as to who will lead a new government. Among the parties claiming the post, the Nepali Congress has nominated Ram Chandra Poudel as its candidate. The UCPN (Maoist), CPN-UML and Madhes-based parties are yet to name their candidates. The Parliament Secretariat has fixed the nomination filing time between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Tuesday and it will publish the final list of candidates by 5:30 pm. The House is scheduled to start voting at 11 a.m. on Wednesday.</p> <p>Annapurna Post: Candidacy for the Prime Minister today, Parties Still in Confusion, page 1</p> <p>The Rising Nepal: Top Three Parties Race for Power, page 1</p>
2.	Nagarik	Vernacular Daily	1	Dispute Over the Prime Ministerial Candidate in the UML	<p>A majority of Central Committee (CC) members of the CPN-UML at its CC meeting on Monday spoke against the party's chairman, Jhalanath Khanal, leading a new majority government. The nearly six-hour-long meeting was postponed for Tuesday</p>

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					<p>morning after failing to make any decision. They argued that the party cannot stake claim to leadership of a majority government right after forcing party senior leader Madhav Kumar Nepal to step down as Prime Minister while his government still commanded a clear majority in parliament. "The majority of the 100 CC members who spoke at the meeting stood against staking claim to leadership of a new majority government right after the resignation of a similar government headed by a senior leader of our party," Pradip Gyawali, chief of the party's publicity department, told reporters after the meeting. In the 116-member CC, only 86 members can vote in case the party chooses to take a decision by vote.</p> <p>Republica: UML CC Members Against Heading Majority Government, page 1 The Kathmandu Post: CPN-UML Fails to See Eye to Eye, page 1 The Himalayan Times: UML's Prediction Not Over Yet, page 1 Rajdhani: UML Undecided About its Candidate for the Prime Minister, pages 1&2 The Rising Nepal: UML Meet Inconclusive, page 1</p>
3.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	Congress Hits Berth Hurdle	<p>The Nepali Congress (NC), the first to field a candidate for the prime ministerial post, seems to have fallen behind in the race, what with a section of the Maoists deciding to support the UML for forming a government in the event they fail to form a government. In a new development in that line, NC Parliamentary Party leader Ram Chandra Poudel, who is the NC candidate for the plum post, complained on Monday that he could not meet UML chairman Jhala Nath Khanal despite</p>

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					repeated efforts. Poudel still has hopes that he will get the UML's full support.
4.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	Rift Rattles Maoists Party	<p>The UCPN-M has plunged into a dispute on the formation of a new government, mainly supporting CPN-UML Chairman Jhala Nath Khanal for the prime ministerial post. In a bid to settle the dispute, the Maoist party has called its politburo meeting on Tuesday. A faction led by Maoist Chairman Prachanda and Senior VP Mohan Vaidhya admitted that there is no possibility of Maoist-led government being formed and as such, the party should support Khanal in the Prime Minister's election slated for 21 July.</p> <p>Nagarik: Disputes in the Maoists Party Exploded, page 1</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: Maoist Leaders Air Conflicting Views, page 1</p>
5.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	3	Madhesi Parties Yet to Fixate on New Government	<p>Though Madhes-based parties have failed to clear a confusion over whom they should support in the prime ministerial election on July 21, co-chair of the Madhesi Janaadhikar Forum (MJF) Jaya Prakash Prasad Gupta, on Monday said the United Democratic Madhesi Front (UDMF) is likely to propose a name for the top post. The Madhes parties, which have come together after they recently restored the United Democratic Madhesi Front, have decided to hold a joint meeting on Tuesday to take a call on the issue. According to some Madhesi leaders, they are likely to support whoever can have a two-thirds majority. Meanwhile, the Madhesi Janaadhikar Forum Loktantrik (MJF-L) on Monday decided to study the big three parties' proposals for</p>

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					the prime minister's post before supporting any of them.
6.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	3	Nembang-Piper Meet	Resident Representative of UNDP Robert Piper met with CA Chair Subash Nembang on Monday. During the meeting talks were held on constitution writing, peace process and contemporary politics.
7.	Republica	English Daily	1&3	18 Parties Urge Consensus Government	A meeting of 18 small parties on Monday asked the UCPN (Maoist), Nepali Congress and CPN-UML to form a consensus government. The meeting held at the CPN-ML's parliamentary party office concluded that a consensus government is a must to take the peace process to a logical end and promulgate new constitution on time. Talking to Republica, CPN-ML's Chairman CP Mainali said the meeting condemned the efforts made by big three parties to form a majority government. "It is unfortunate that big three parties have failed to arrive at an agreement to form a consensus government," he said. "We decided to ask them to form a consensus government as there is still time for that."
Opinions, Editorials and Interviews					
8.	Nagarik	Vernacular Daily	6	Civilian's Security at the Stake	Shobhakar Budhathoki writes: If the new government wishes to create a conducive atmosphere for strengthening rule of law, taking peace process to a logical end, draft the constitution and take the fruits of development to the people, security of the civilians should be given top priority.
9.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	8	Once Again (Editorial)	The new calendar requires the Constitutional Committee to prepare its first draft of the constitution by mid-October, and the thematic committees of the CA are expected to send in their

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					reports by mid-September. This would leave ample time for several formalities like the discussion of the first draft of the new constitution in the House and the collection of the opinions of the public, among other things. It is high time we set our priorities and it is for the political parties to accord them to the constitution writing process with the massive participation of the people. The writing of the constitution is an entirely new experience for the country; however, this is no excuse for the delay in promulgating one. In the end, it is essential that all concerned agreed on certain fundamental issues taking into consideration the aspirations of the people and the historic achievements of the People's Movement.
10.	Republica	English Daily	7	UNMIN in Controversy	Prakash A Raj writes: The issue of UNMIN's term extension will be raised again in September 2010 when its current mandate expires. It seems pointless to continue its extension under the current mandate.
11.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	4	New Routine for Constitution	The failure of the political parties to work in concert to write the new constitution has stretched the time line by a year, which is not essentially good from a democratic point of view. This has prolonged the transitional phase of national politics. After almost a month and a half since the term of the Constituent Assembly was extended, the political parties have worked out a fresh time table for writing the new constitution. The parties have seemingly woken up to the need to accomplish the task of paramount importance for the nation. Though the Constituent Assembly has already completed some of the ground work for writing the new constitution, some critical issues and gaps are yet

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					<p>to be addressed through mutual engagement and collaboration. These critical issues are related to restructuring of the state and modality of governance. These have led to yawning differences among the major parties. It is hoped that the parties will bury their hatchets and allow the CA to work according to the schedule to deliver the new constitution to the nation.</p>
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