

# CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 27 July, 2010 Tuesday



| SN          | Newspaper/<br>Online | Type                | Page | Title   | Synopsis   |
|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------|---|--|
| <b>News</b> |                      |                     |      |   |  |
| 1.          | Republica            | English<br>Daily    | 1&3  | <a href="#">PM Race Shouldn't<br/>Impact CA Agenda</a>  | <p>Heads of Constituent Assembly (CA) committees and a constitutional expert have seriously objected to the growing trend of dealing with critical issues directly related to constitution making as bargaining chips in the course of government formation. They urged party leaders not to encroach on the CA's jurisdiction by reaching any agreement among the political parties on issues that fall under the purview of the assembly. They said the prime minister's post should not be bargained over with provisions to be incorporated in the new constitution nor should there be any connection between government formation and the statute-drafting process. The Madhes-based political parties, which have become a key factor in the formation of the new government especially after the third largest party CPN-UML decided to stand neutral, have set some conditions for supporting government formation.</p> <p>The Rising Nepal: CA Chairman Meets with President, page 1</p> |
| 2.          | Kantipur             | Vernacular<br>Daily | 2    | <a href="#">President Asks<br/>Parties to End Chaos</a> | <p>Speaker Subas Nembang on Monday told President Dr. Ram Baran Yadav no formal request has been made by any party for amendment to the Parliament Rules of Procedures-2008. The amendment would end the stalemate in the election of a new prime minister. The Speaker said so in connection with concerns voiced by the president over the proposal floated by some leaders for the amendment to the regulation to elect a new prime minister. On Sunday, Maoist Vice-Chairman Baburam Bhattarai</p>   |

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|    |           |                  |   |  | rallied for the agenda of amendment floated by CPN-UML Chairman Jhala Nath Khanal. The leaders have been saying that the two contestants for the post of prime minister—Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal and Nepali Congress leader Ram Chandra Poudel—should withdraw so that a national consensus government can be formed. During the meeting held at Shital Niwas on Monday, the president expressed worry over two aborted attempts to elect a new prime minister.  |
| 3. | Nagarik   | Vernacular Daily | 1 | <a href="#">Agreement If Dahal Withdraws Candidacy</a> | CPN-UML Leader KP Sharma Oli has advised the UCPN-M President Prachanda to withdraw his candidacy for the consensus. Talking to Nagarik daily he said that withdrawal of the UCPN-M's candidacy is the only alternative left for the formation of the new government.  |
| 4. | Republica | English Daily    | 3 | <a href="#">Rift Widens in UCPN-M</a>                  | Intra-party rift has further widened in the UCPN (Maoist) with Vice Chairman Dr Baburam Bhattarai pushing for an end to the ongoing process of electing a new prime minister with a simple majority in the legislature-parliament. Bhattarai has stated that the country would be better off reverting to the consensus system as forming a majority-based government would not lead to the conclusion of the peace process and constitution-drafting. "If the parliament fails to elect a new prime minister even for the third time on August 2, this process should be ended; the country cannot be held hostage to the parties' indecision forever. On top of that, any majority-based government, no matter who leads it, cannot conclude the peace process and constitution-drafting," said Maoist leader Top Bahadur Rayamajhi, who is regarded close to Bhattarai. |

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|    |                     |               |   |   | The Kathmandu Post: <a href="#">Maoist Can of Worms Opens</a> , page 1  |
| 5. | The Himalayan Times | English Daily | 1 | <a href="#">NC to Keep UML Alliance Intact</a>        | Informal meeting of the Nepali Congress office bearers and senior leaders today decided to keep the alliance with the CPN-UML intact. NC leaders said during the meeting held at the residence of Acting NC President Sushil Koirala that since no progress had been made on the first point of the May 28 deal, which seeks the UCPN-M to distance itself from their combatants, the Maoist-led government was not acceptable. They opined that the democratic alliance should remain intact until there was a concrete progress on the peace process. They were of the opinion that breaking the democratic alliance would jeopardize the peace process and the process to institutionalize democratic values.  |
| 6. | Republica           | English Daily | 2 | <a href="#">Talks With Madhes Parties Positive:NC</a> | Concluding that ongoing bilateral talks with various parties had yielded 'positive results', Nepali Congress (NC) has decided to expedite talks to garner support for its prime ministerial candidate Ram Chandra Poudel. A meeting of the NC office bearers at party's acting president Sushil Koirala's residence on Monday morning decided not to leave any stones unturned to help Poudel elected as prime minister during the third round of election slated for August 2. The meeting also concluded that the demands put forth by United Madhesi Democratic Front (UDMF) were positive. According to NC General Secretary Bimalendra Nidhi, the meeting reviewed the meetings held by the party's talk teams with various political parties including Madhesi parties and other small parties in the parliament to line up support for Poudel.<br>The Kathmandu Post: <a href="#">NC, Maoists Seek UDMF Demand</a> |

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|  |                    |               |   |                                     | <a href="#">Revision</a> , page 3<br>Kantipur: Effort to Take Madhesi Front Under Consensus, page 1   |
| <b>Opinions, Editorials and Interviews</b> |                    |               |   |                                     |   |
| 7.   | The Kathmandu Post | English Daily | 7 | <a href="#">A Day in Dadeldhura</a> | <p>Although Dadeldhura was not at the epicenter of the conflict, every district and VDC was affected with youth being drafted into the war and people threatened by both the Maoists and the security forces as they were caught in between. Although a Comprehensive Peace Accord was signed in 2006 between the Maoists and Government and CA elections were held in 2008, real democracy and freedom of expression take much longer to establish the trust necessary to ensure firm roots. Yet the young facilitators are well-trained, soft-spoken and concentrated. They gently coax and encourage the villagers to express their thoughts on the new constitution and their lives out here in the village. The facilitators, both men and women, note that this outreach initiative is supported by the UN, international donors, the government, the CA, local NGOs and some of their community leaders are here among them. Slowly, voices begin to speak and expressions heard.</p> <p><b>[Please be informed that the second part will be published tomorrow]</b></p> |
| 8.   | The Kathmandu Post | English Daily | 7 | Clearing the Air                    | <p>Karen Landgrin writes:</p> <p>It is for the parties to decide whether they want to retain all, some or none of the technical elements proposed to date, and to</p>   |

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|    |           |               |   |   |   |
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|    |           |               |   |   | consider whether faster implementation is humanly and financially possible. The non-paper illustrates some of the choices that need to be made. The detailed planning, and the strengthening of capacity, cannot be wished away. The sooner this is done, the more confident all parties can be of bringing all the peace process to a successful conclusion.   |
| 9. | Republica | English Daily | 6 | <a href="#">A Vote for Moving Forward</a> | We can then say, without much exaggeration, that political disarray and economic decline in the country as we witness today is the direct consequence of a policy of exclusion – not by design but more of it reflecting the tolerance level of people who have been excluded. A Maoist-led government, backed by unflinching and unconditional support from a united Madhesi front, will basically mean an opportunity to unite a divided nation and a segregated society. In any situation, it would be hard to conceive of political stability and economic progress ushering in a nation so divided as Nepal, for the main reason that exclusionary policies tend to obstruct the full utilization of country’s human and physical resources and it imparts a sense of despondency among the segment of population feeling excluded. Finally, to the advantage of Maoists, Madhesi support will give credence to their claim that they would follow democratic norms. What this means is that Maoists’ alliance with Madhesi parties will force them to democratize, since Madhesi population, no matter how deprived they may be, cannot vote communists. A durable alliance then will require both sides to make difficult adjustments but in return for huge potential benefits – government stability under the alliance’s rule and an enabling environment that would foster prosperity. |

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| 10. | The Rising<br>Nepal | English<br>Daily | 4 | CA: Reflection on<br>the PM Election<br>Blues | Prem Khattry writes:<br>Until a few months ago, the civil society stages street protests<br>against the undue delay in the constitution making process. But<br>then this could not continue as a vigilant movement to warn the<br>selfish parties and their leaders about the possible danger of<br>conspiracy against democracy. |
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