

# CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 28 July, 2010 Wednesday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
<b>News</b>					
1.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	2	Poudel Seeks Khanal Support	<p>In another setback to Nepali Congress (NC), Parliamentary Party leader and prime ministerial candidate, Ram Chandra Poudel, on Tuesday CPN-UML Chairman, Jhala Nath Khanal rejected his request to vote for him in the third round of the prime ministerial fray slated for Aug 2. Hoping to get votes from the UML in the race, NC Vice-President Poudel reached Khanal's private residence early this morning. However, despite pressure from a faction of the UML led by KP Sharma Oli and Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal to support an NC-led government, Khanal rejected Poudel's proposal. Poudel urged Khanal to support NC and continue a democratic alliance. The Oli and Khanal-led faction is advocating continuing the democratic alliance. Contrary to its stand, Khanal remained firm on his bid to form a broader unity between left and democratic forces. "Poudel was told to withdraw his candidacy and start a fresh bid for a national consensus government," said a UML source.</p> <p>Kathmandu Post: <a href="#">Khanal Dashes NC Hopes</a>, page 3</p> <p>Annapurna Post: Congress Seeks UML and UDMF's Support,</p>

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					<p>page 3</p> <p>Republica: <a href="#">Poudel Woos UML</a>, page 1</p> <p>Rajdhani: NC Waiting for UML's Decision, page 1</p> <p>The Rising Nepal: Poudel Seeks Support From UML to Form NC-Led Government, page 1</p>
2.	Nagarik	Vernacular Daily	2	<a href="#">Preparation for Encroaching CA Rights to Become the PM</a>	Major parties are preparing to intervene in the rights of CA to become the prime minister. The parties have encroached on the power of the CA by discussing the issues like "Madhesh one province" proposed by the UDMF, and the formation of the State Restructuring Commission etc.
3.	Nagarik	Vernacular Daily	2	<a href="#">CA Members Divided Following the Split in the Party</a>	The Sanghiya Loktantrik Rastriya Manch that has two members in the CA has formally split. The disputes between Kumar Lingden and Laxman Tharu led to the split.
4.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	2	Writ Against the Withdrawal of the Candidacy	A writ has moved the Supreme Court (SC) against caretaker Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal's last-minute move to withdraw the candidacy of CPN-UML Chairman Jhala Nath Khanal in the July 21 prime ministerial election. The move, they said, was against the constitution and tantamount to inviting aberration in the established process of electing the prime minister. The apex court has given special priority to the case and scheduled a hearing on it on Wednesday. The writ

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5.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	5	Maoists to Send a Written Reply to the UDMF	<p>The Unified CPN-Maoist is preparing its opinion in writing regarding the issues raised by the United Democratic Madhesi Front. "We will let them (UMDF) know about our opinion in a day or two," said Maoist Vice Chairman Narayan Kaji Shrestha 'Prakash' on Tuesday. "We will hold talks with the Front after submitting our written opinion." In response to the Maoists, who are seeking support of the Madhes-based parties in the prime ministerial election, the Madhesi alliance had sought the Maoist opinion in writing. Shrestha made it clear that the party would not compromise on its basic ideals for the sake of government formation but added that there was sufficient room to forge alliance with the Front, as there were 'hardly any</p>

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					<p>differences in the spirit'. "We cannot accept the pluralism as demanded by the Front because it contradicts our fundamental ideal — dialectical materialism — but we are ready to make it a multiparty competition," said Shrestha. On formation of the State Restructuring Commission (SRC), UCPN-M has already claimed that there was no significance of SRC but the party has clarified that the party was ready to make a common opinion after holding discussions with the parties.</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: <a href="#">Maoists to Send Rethink Letter to UDMF</a>, page 3</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: <a href="#">Maoists to Reply UDMF in a Day or Two</a>, page 5</p>
6.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	1	Diplomatic Initiative	<p>Following the failure of the parties to give outlet to the current political crisis, diplomatic initiative has begun in Kathmandu. In this context, US Ambassador to Nepal, Scott H. DeLisi, met CPN-UML Chairman Jhala Nath Khanal at the latter's residence on Tuesday. During the meeting, the envoy expressed concern over the delay in formation of a new government and urged the political parties to form a government acceptable to all. In response, Khanal assured him that the political parties were trying to forge a common understanding to pick a prime minister on a consensus basis.</p>
7.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	8	Dissolve the CA: Thapa	<p>Rastriya Prajatantra Party-Nepal Chairman Kamal Thapa on Tuesday said the Constituent Assembly should be dissolved and the country should call for a fresh poll to resolve the protracted political deadlock. "Political leaders made a futile effort by</p>

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					<p>extending the CA term. CA members are mostly busy in dirty power games. A better option would be dissolving CA,” Thapa told reporters here in Simara. The RPP-N leader, who is a vocal proponent of monarchy in the country, was in Simara to inaugurate the party’s unit committee office. “The only solution to current political stalemate is dissolution of CA and fresh polls,” he said. “The parliament has failed to pick a new prime minister because the big parties are at loggerheads. Chances of electing a new prime minister on August 2 are slim.”</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: <a href="#">RPP-N Roots for Fresh Mandate</a>, page 6</p> <p>Nagarik: <a href="#">Let’s Take the Fresh Mandate says Thapa</a>, page 2</p>
8.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	1	<a href="#">Kham Dares Cops to Arrest Him</a>	<p>Kali Bahadur Kham, ‘most wanted criminal’ on Nepal Police list, has dared the law enforcement agency to bring him to justice. In a televised interview exclusively broadcast by News24 Channel today, he told police officials not to look for him. “Police may be well aware of my whereabouts as I am a central member of UCPN-Maoist and PLA commander of fifth division in Rolpa,” he said. “But, why do they keep on saying they are using all resources and legal tools to apprehend me? It shows how weak the police, especially a handful of officials, are. Maybe, this is the first time in its history that Nepal Police has mobilized as many as 300 personnel to track down an individual.” For the most part of the interview, Kham laughed off the existing criminal system and taunted the police. “The court and police should bring the perpetrators of Gaur, Dang</p>

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					and Nawalparasi carnage, where 44 Maoist cadres were killed, to justice if they really want me to face the charge. If they honestly fulfill these conditions, I will turn myself in. Otherwise, the police and the court should not bother to find me anymore,” Kham said.
<b>Opinions, Editorials and Interviews</b>					
9.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	6	<a href="#">Consensus for Constitution</a>	<p>Pramod Mishra writes:</p> <p>While the formation of a consensus government is a challenge for the parties, this is also a new opportunity for them to rectify their past lapses, as the UML under Khanal and the Madhesi parties seem determined to support no other but a consensus government. The Maoists and the Congress should follow their example and maintain a competitive high ground in the eyes of the Nepali people. Once the constitution is drafted based on consensual debate and negotiation, they can play politics the way they like within the bounds of the constitution.</p>
10.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	6	Democratic Recession and Prisoner of Indecisiveness	<p>Ramesh Nath Pandey writes:</p> <p>The situation where the Constituent Assembly has been the prisoner of the indecisiveness in electing the new prime minister is an indication of political upheaval.</p>
11.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	6	<a href="#">Crisis of State</a>	<p>Shobhakar Budhathoki writes:</p> <p>Increasing distrust and confrontation in politics have created a severe vacuum contributing to the dissolution of any possible culture of consensus or preparation of a joint problem-solving</p>

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					<p>approach. The ongoing crisis and political stalemate is an example arising from incompetent and failed leadership. National leadership does not grow from power-centered or partisan politics based on conspiracy theories. It can only evolve through the willingness to compromise, exhibiting openness and establishing precedents based on principles and values. Without visionary and national leadership, the political crisis will continue to rear its ugly head. Therefore, the present leadership from all political sectors must address the current political stalemate and stand up against all odds of partisan politics to engage in people-centered politics rather than self-centered focusing. As former US Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey said, “the essence of statesmanship is not a rigid adherence to the past, but a prudent and probing concern for the future.”</p>
12.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	7	<a href="#">A Day in Dadeldhura-II</a>	<p>Keith Leslie writes:</p> <p>Another distinguished gentleman, until I notice that his pants are stained with overuse, stands up. He has glasses, a greying beard and a quiet demeanor. “We have heard the commitments made in earlier constitutions. There are always good words to assuage the Dalits that the state will no longer discriminate against us. But this time, we want more specific actions in the new constitution. We want to be assured that Dalits will have their proportional representation in all the structures of the state. Will the drafters make this commitment when they write the constitution?” While these community members speak their minds, one of the facilitators is writing on the brown paper</p>

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					taped to the stucco wall of the shrine. He writes down the various recommendations that the villagers request. Each one noted in simple, but clear Nepali script for all to see. After four hours, when the Democracy Dialogue comes to a close, all the participants come up to sign the sheets with their signature or a thumb print for those who never learned to write. These documents will all be recorded, collated, put in binders and shared with the CA leaders.
13.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	8	Politics of Consensus (Editorial)	Power sharing will not necessary lead to consensus in the peace process and statute drafting process. Consensus, whether the Maoists and the NC share the government power or not, requires negotiations and dialogue through democratic processes. There are already institutional mechanisms in place to resolve peace process issues, institutions that give equal voice to all the stakeholders concerned. Major political agendas need to pass through the crucible of the CA which is the right place to settle differences and arrive at a consensus. So, it is hard to justify in terms of national interest, why power sharing is needed to move forward the peace process and the constitution writing process. Yet, the country cannot remain hostage to the whims of any political party. National interest must come before party interest. And it's here that the theory of consensus must give way to universal democratic norms.
14.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	8	<a href="#">Third Face of Coin</a>	Birendra Prasad Mishra writes:  Professor Had there been Mixed Member Proportional or Proportional Representation system accepted as the electoral system, the politics of consensus could have continued and the

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					CPN-Maoist would have won only 173 seats proportionally to its votes in the election. It would, then have been within the proportional representation in the House with hardly justified claim for sharing of power, allowing the new constitution to be easily adopted on time and facilitating justified completion of the peace process by now.
15.	Nagarik	Vernacular Daily	6	Outlet	<p>Bishnu Rijal writes:</p> <p>If the formation of the government is to be pushed as the precondition for taking peace process to a logical end and writing the constitution, open debates must be held on that as well.</p>
16.	Rajdhani	Vernacular Daily	6	Majority Government and Constitution of Consensus	<p>Narayan Prasad Bhattarai writes:</p> <p>The new constitution must be a common accepted document of people from Himal, Pahad and Tarai, people from all ethnic groups, cultures and languages. It's already late to seek consensus for this. Two years passed in differences. The parties are yet to be proactive and show willingness for consensus. It would be wise for the parties to shift their energy being spent for forming the majority government to the writing of the constitution. The need for the country is the new constitution.</p>