

CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 31 July, 2010 Saturday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
News					
1.	Republica	English Daily	3	NC Prepares Proposal to Rope in UDMF	<p>The Nepali Congress (NC) has prepared a 14-point written proposal in response to the demands raised by United Democratic Madhesi Front (UDMF). According to NC leader Dr Ram Sharan Mahat, the party has prepared a tentative draft of the proposal. The NC is planning to submit its proposal on Sunday after holding a detailed discussion in the party. “We have not stepped back from the commitment we made in the past,” said Dr Mahat. But some of the demands overstep established values. We need to hold a detailed discussion before arriving at any conclusion.” NC has not been able to hold detailed discussions over UDMF’s demands as most of the party leaders are currently in the districts for the party’s local level convention. Though NC is positive about all other demands raised by Madhes-based parties, the party has found the demands such as group entry of Madhesis into the national army, autonomous single Madhes state and withdrawal of the decision to form State Restructuring Commission vague.</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: Congress to Send Letter to SLMM (UDMF) on Sunday, page 3</p>
2.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	4	Get UML’s Support: Fringe Parties to the NC	<p>Fringe left parties on Friday met both the prime ministerial candidate — Unified CPN-Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal ‘Prachanda’ and Nepali Congress Vice President and parliamentary party leader Ram Chandra Paudel — with a piece of advice. The fringe left wings sought their withdrawal from the</p>

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					<p>candidacy in a bid to begin afresh to form a national consensus government. “We advised both Prachanda and Paudel to withdraw their candidacy and look for other options for a unity government,” said CPN-ML General Secretary CP Mainali after their meeting with NC leaders. Mainali doubted that the third run-off polls on August 2 would be able to elect one of them as the prime minister in the wake of the decisions the CPN-UML and Madhes-based parties have taken to refrain from voting. The NC leaders present in the meeting, however, said it was not possible to withdraw the candidacy.</p> <p>The NC leadership had held talks with the two fringe left parties — CPN-ML and CPN-United — seeking both the parties support in favor of Paudel. NC spokesperson Arjun Narsingh KC said they asked both the parties to vote in favor of his party’s candidate.</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: Fringe Left Plays Dutch Uncle, page 6 Republica: NC Courts Support of 3 Small Parties, page 2 The Kathmandu Post: Fringe Parties’ Stand, pages 1&3 The Rising Nepal: NC Seeks Support of Fringe Parties, page 1</p>
3.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	1&6	Prachanda Rules Out Maoist Policy Shift on Madhes	<p>UCPN-M Chairman Prachanda has said that his party would not make any unnecessary agreement with any political parties to form a new government. “We respect the sentiment of all communities-the Madhesi, the indigenous, the Dalit and the marginalized”, said Prachanda, “There have been various types of misinformation regarding our position. I Stress That we have been upholding our previous policies on all including the Madhesi and we are not making any unnecessary deals.”</p>

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4.	Janadisha	Vernacular Daily	1	Final Effort: Possibility of Majority for UCPN-M Increases	<p>Unified CPN-Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', one of the two candidates in the prime ministerial election scheduled for August 2, on Friday claimed that Nepal Workers and Peasants Party was affirmative about supporting him. "We have clarified that we are not going to accept unnecessary demands of the parties just for the sake of leading the government," said Prachanda, following a meeting with NWPP Chairman Narayan Man Bijukchhe at the latter's residence in Kamal Binayak, Bhaktapur. Bijukchhe said he told the Maoist leaders that his party would support them only if they opposed the United Democratic Madhesi Front's demand of autonomous Madhes province.</p> <p>Republica: Dahal Seeks NWPP Support, page 2 The Himalayan Times: Prachanda Pays Court to Bijukchhe for Support, page 2</p>
5.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	1	Madhesi Front to Vote for Prachanda:MJF	<p>Whip of the Madhesi Janaadhikar Forum parliamentary party Abhishek Pratap Shah has claimed that the United Democratic Madhesi Front will vote for Pushpa Kamal Dahal during the prime ministerial election scheduled for August 2. "We will form a majority government, which would eventually turn into a national consensus government," he claimed while addressing an interaction in Kathmandu. Shah claimed that Prachanda would become the PM of the majority government on August 2 as the front will unanimously vote for him. He also urged CPN-UML not to abstain from voting; as such a decision would only lead the nation towards uncertainty. Leader of another faction of the</p>

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6.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	1	Writ on Khanal Candidacy Quashed	<p>The Supreme Court on Friday quashed the writ petition challenging the CPN-UML July 21 decision to withdraw the candidacy of party Chairman Jhala Nath Khanal for the post of prime minister. A single bench of Justice Bala Ram KC quashed the writ stating that the court could not intervene into parliament’s ‘internal businesses’. “Parliament should select the prime minister on the basis of parliamentary practices, separation of power and harmonious construction and the case is not within the limitation of Judiciary manageable standard, as the case is a political one,” the bench observed. The bench also cited that the election of the prime minister is nothing but a nature of political process, which comes under the purview and authority of parliament, therefore the Supreme Court need not intervene.</p>

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7.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	4	Quit Call to Madhes Party Lawmakers	<p>Rajan Mukti-led Janatantrik Tarai Mukti Morcha (JTMM-R) has given lawmakers of Madhes-based parties 72 hours to resign. The underground outfit issues a statement on Friday asking the parliamentarians representing the regional parties to join the UNIFED Madhesh Liberation Movement. It has warned of retribution for non-compliance. The group has also restricted the lawmakers from supporting a government led by a non-Madhese leader.</p>
Opinions, Editorials and Interviews					
8.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	4	Translate Rhetoric into Action (Editorial)	<p>As the nation is in the process of creating new history, some reactionary and rightist elements are trying to sabotage the peace and political process. But the parties seem least bothered about this looming challenge. Constitution writing is the key part of the peace process, which must be completed in a little over ten months. If the parties do not bury their partisan differences and</p>

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					work together for the common cause of the country, the job of writing the constitution cannot be accomplished in the next ten months. Thus, unity and consensus among the political parties in the Constituent Assembly are a must to institutionalise the achievements of Jana Andolan II. Duality and double standard in our political circle are posing an obstruction in resolving the crisis. What is needed at present is political will of all the political parties to translate the commitments expressed in public into action
9.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	4	Away from Consensus	Pranav Bhattari writes: The political parties should refrain themselves from engaging in any give and take over any of the agenda to be decided in the constitution-making process. The reality is that the CA can challenge any agreement or decision made behind closed doors that directly trespasses on the CA's jurisdiction. With this course of politics, if no immediate correction is made, the political parties are moving far away from consensus and setting a bad political precedent just to quench their thirst for power. It will eventually imperil the peace process and constitution-drafting mission.
10.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	4	Meritocracy, Not Democracy in Nepal	Rajat Sharma writes: The country is in a shambles and its infrastructure run down. How can democracy be established under these circumstances, a

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					form of government which requires basic consensus over common values and which needs active and informed citizens for its functioning? To be sure, there will be offers of assistance from international donors which will demand the usual promises of good governance and a democratic, participatory government from the new rulers as a condition for their aid. Without stability, democracy has no chance as we have just seen in other countries.
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