

# CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 09 August, 2010 Monday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
<b>News</b>					
1.	Annapura Post	English Daily	3	Contentious Issues to be Decided Through Voting	<p>A meeting of three major parties - Unified CPN-Maoist, Nepali Congress and UML - on Sunday agreed to prepare questionnaires to resolve differences on the report of the Constituent Assembly Committee on Protection of National Interests through a vote in the CA. The parties have also agreed to settle differences on reports of the eight thematic committees through voting. The full house of the CA has yet to finalize the report of all eight thematic committees and send them to the Constitutional Committee as the parties are still at loggerheads on a number of issues to be incorporated in the statute. NC chief whip Laxman Prasad Ghimire said they are agreed to prepare a list of disputed issues of the Committee to Protect National Interests, which will be tabled at the CA for decision. Once the CA decides on the issues through voting, the report will be sent to the constitution-drafting committee. The committee report has proposed imparting compulsory military training to all Nepalis above 18 years. The CA full House has, however, passed the reports of three thematic committees unanimously. They include reports of the CA Committee on Natural Resources, Financial Rights and Revenue Sharing; Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Minorities and Marginalized Communities and the Committee for Determining the Structure of Constitutional Bodies.</p> <p>The Himalayan Times: <a href="#">Big Three to Resolve National Interest Issues Through Vote</a>, page 5</p>

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					The Kathmandu Post: <a href="#">CA to Vote to End Disputed Issues</a> , page 3 <b>This news is covered by all newspapers.</b>
2.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	3	CA Now Has 27 Parties	Following the split in the Sanghiya Loktantrik Rastriya Manch and CPN-ML the number of parties in the CA has now reached 27. The names of the new parties are Sanghiya Loktantrik Rastriya Party and CPN-ML Samajbadi.
3.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	1	<a href="#">NC Seeks UML Support to Form Government</a>	Nepali Congress today sought cooperation of the CPN-UML in forming a majority government under the former's leadership. NC has fielded party's vice-president and parliamentary party leader, Ramchandra Paudel, as a candidate for the PM's post and the election for the PM has already been held four times. But the parliament has not been able to elect the PM due to major parties' decision to stay neutral, reasoning that a majority government would not be able to conclude the peace process and draft new constitution on time. NC leaders said the UML leadership was positive towards their request. NC leaders told the UML leaders that there was no immediate possibility of forming a consensus government and asked the UML to cooperate with them to form a majority government.
4.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	1	<a href="#">Bhattarai's Meeting with Saran Creates Controversy</a>	UCPN (Maoist) Vice Chairman Babu Ram Bhattarai's separate meeting with Indian Prime minister's special envoy, Shyam Saran, has stirred a controversy inside the party. A source in the Maoist party said the establishment faction has been pressing the party to demand a clarification from Bhattarai in this matter. Saran had held a separate meeting with Bhattarai at Dwarika's Hotel on Thursday. Saran had met Bhattarai immediately after meeting Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal, Vice-Chairman Babu Ram Bhattarai and Mohan Baidya, Maoist leader Narayan Kaji

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					<p>Shrestha and party general secretary Ram Bahadur Thapa in a group at Dahal's residence at Nayabazar in Kathmandu. According to a Maoist leader, Dahal has expressed dissatisfaction at Bhattarai's meeting with Saran "without taking the consent of the party". "Top leaders of the party had collectively met Saran and we had clarified our views on the peace process, army integration and some vital issues related to the peace process. So there was no need for Bhattarai to hold a separate meeting with Saran," a leader said.</p> <p>The Kathmandu Post: <a href="#">BRB, Saran Meet Stirs Row</a>, page 3                  Republica: <a href="#">Dahal Too Met Saran Separately</a>, page 1</p>
5.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	3	CA Membership At Risk	<p>Lawmaker Sharma's CA membership is at risk following the decision of his former party, the Tarai Madhes Loktantrik Party (TMLP), to take action against him. Before the fourth round of prime ministerial election on Friday, the TMLP had sent a letter to Sharma asking him to clarify why his CA membership should not be scrapped for defecting the party. Sharma, former Joint Secretary of TMLP was elected from Mohattari-4 in the CA elections. He joined the Maoist party in August 2009. Sharma said the TMLP's plan to scrap his CA membership a year after he entered the Maoist party was a ploy. However, TMLP Spokesman Sarvendra Nath Shukla said the decision has been delayed as the case related to the defection is pending in the Supreme Court.</p>
6.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	3	<a href="#">Narayankaji Attributes Impasse to Intervention</a>	<p>UCPN (Maoist) Vice Chairman, Narayan Kaji Shrestha, said on Sunday that the political parties have failed to form a government due to foreign intervention. Speaking at a</p>

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					programme organised by the Association of Nepalese Indigenous Journalists in the Capital, Shrestha said the political parties are gradually losing their power of taking decision on vital issues of the country on their own because of their tendency to rely more on foreign powers than on the strength of their own people. Shrestha said his party is soon calling the Indian Ambassador to inquire about the alleged death threat issued by an embassy official to its lawmaker Ram Kumar Sharma.
7.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	3	<a href="#">Lawmaker Sharma Seeks Government Security</a>	UCPN (Maoist) lawmaker, Ram Kumar Sharma, on Sunday requested Speaker Subas Nembang to direct the government to arrange for his security. The Maoist lawmaker met the Speaker and submitted an application demanding that the government take action against an Indian Embassy consular officer who allegedly threatened him on Friday. Sharma's decision comes a day after the UCPN (Maoist) decided to seek an explanation from the Indian Embassy on the incident. Republica: <a href="#">Lawmaker Sharma Demands Security</a> , page 1
8.	The Rising Nepal	English Daily	1	<a href="#">Unity Must for Peace and Constitution</a>	Chairman of the constituent assembly, Subash Chandra Nembang, said if all people from diverse caste, culture and religion from mountain to Tarai in the country are united, no foreign force can shake Nepali people. Speaking at a programme organized by the Association of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities Journalists here to exchange greetings on its 12th Establishment Day, Chairman Nembang said, "One should fasten the lace of his purse before accusing others of theft," and added, "Unity is the panacea of all difficulties whether that is foreign interference or others. Therefore, once we are united, all problems will be solved, peace process concluded and

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					constitution drafted on time."
9.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	1	<a href="#">NC General Convention Postponed</a>	Nepali Congress has decided to postpone its upcoming 12th General Convention, previously scheduled for August 26-30 to September 17-21. A Central Working Committee (CWC) meeting held on Sunday afternoon took the decision to this effect. According to NC General Secretary, Bimalendra Nidhi, the party has decided to defer the date of the convention since there has not been enough preparation for the convention. "We have been unable to focus on the convention because of the prime ministerial elections that are going on," he added. As per the constitutional provision, a national political party should hold its general convention every five years. The NC will complete the five-year deadline for national convention on Aug 30.
10.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	3	<a href="#">Indigenous People Up the Ante</a> (Special Feature)	Breaking away from the tradition of marking the International Indigenous Peoples Day with ritualistic cultural parades, Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), an umbrella body of indigenous peoples, has decided to use the occasion this year to put pressure on the politicians. NEFIN has unveiled a month-long agitation programme to press for the rights of indigenous people in the new constitution. The protests include a nationwide torch rally on Aug. 14 and blockade of all the entry points to the Capital the following day. "We have now realized that unless we exert pressure on the political leadership and the government to promulgate the constitution on time with the guarantee of the rights of the indigenous people, marking indigenous people's day is meaningless," said Raj Kumar Lekhi, chairperson of NEFIN. "Therefore, we decided to stage protests instead of holding a cultural parade."

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Opinions, Editorials and Interviews					
11.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	8	<a href="#">Do Act</a> (Editorial)	<p>On Saturday, Speaker and Constituent Assembly Chairman, Subas Nembang, urged the political parties to give the country a new prime minister on that day. But will the world's youngest republic be able to get a new executive head that day? That's the question sitting on the topmost layer of the public psyche. As things stand today, it looks rather improbable and it is likely that the parliamentary election is again going to prove a futile exercise because the Communist Party of Nepal-UML and constituents of the United Madhesi Democratic Front have effectively been abstaining from the voting. UML and UDMF know their participation is critical to government formation, but neither has been acting responsibly and accountably. Whatever may be the reasons, these parties' decision to 'stay neutral' has held the country hostage, without a duly elected government in place for more than six weeks. If Nepal does not have a government, to put it bluntly, it's because of the UML decision to stay neutral. The Madhes-based parties, even as they are just beginning to take shape in Nepal's political landscape, are no less to blame for the deadlock. The UML and UDMF must internalize the fact that electing a new prime minister is not just about making somebody the prime minister or not, it is linked with the ongoing peace process and the constitution-writing, both to be done by April 13.</p>
12.	Annapurna Post	Vernacular Daily	6	Collage of Crisis	<p>Gobinda Bartaman writes:</p> <p>The whole nation should suffer if the constitution is not written within stipulated time. People do not want such a situation to</p>

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					arise. Thus, the parties must come to a consensus and end the current political deadlock and concentrate on constitution writing.
13.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	6	<a href="#">Look Who's Here</a>	<p>Shyam KC writes:</p> <p>The not-so-diplomatic move by India on the eve of the fourth round of voting should be taken rather seriously by our political leaders who should be able to decide for themselves what the people and the country want, and at the same time, protect the interests of our two big neighbours as far as possible, but not at the cost of our own national interests. Our leaders would do well to take to heart the lessons of the Saran visit and the fourth round of prime ministerial poll and act accordingly in the best interest of the nation and the people, and not in the interest of one party or the other.</p>
14.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	7	<a href="#">No Alternative to National Unity Government</a> (Interview)	<p>Dr. Baburam Bhattarai says:</p> <p>“Our party's view is that there is no alternative to a national unity government led by our party. Without such a government, we cannot have peace and constitution, which will be the major agenda of the coming government. For that we should be open to all options. This has been decided. But we have not discussed what will be these options. Maybe the concrete forms of various options will come out during discussions with other parties. But during these four rounds of elections, the impression your party has given is you remain firm on Chairman Dahal being the prime minister as the head of the majority government.”</p>