

CCD Media Monitoring

Compiled on 12 August, 2010 Thursday



SN	Newspaper/ Online	Type	Page	Title	Synopsis
News					
1.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	2	Acharya Seeks Civil Society Intervention for Statute	Chairman of the Constitutional Committee of the CA, Nilambar Acharya, on Wednesday acknowledged pressure and intervention from civil society for the constitution writing process. Speaking at an interaction organized by Sancharika Samuha on Challenges to Implementation of the CA Calendar, Acharya said civil society's intervention has become necessary as political parties have been neglecting the task of constitution writing even after extending the CA's tenure by a year. Stating that power-centric politics had hampered constitution writing, he called for a separate procedure for constitution writing. He said constitutional issues need to be approved through consensus and a majoritarian system being adopted for government formation will not be helpful in constitution-making. Constitutional expert, Dr Bipin Adhikari, said political wrangling had disturbed constitution writing and expressed doubts whether the constitution would be promulgated even within the amended deadline. The Kathmandu Post: Acharya Rues Delay in Statute , page 3
2.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	6	Vice Chair of CA Shows Ray of Hope	Trust deficit among the political parties has stalled the constitution-drafting process for quite some months giving rise to fear that the country would miss yet another deadline for constitution promulgation, but Constituent Assembly Vice Chairperson, Purna Kumari Subedi, today said 70 per cent of work was already over. Subedi, who was in Dadelhdhura to inaugurate a local FM station, said people should not lose hope.

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					<p>“The constitution-drafting has reached the final stage,” she said. “Differences among the parties have created some obstacles, but the country will be able to accomplish the task of writing the statute within the extended deadline.” She added that Nepali people were capable enough to decide for themselves and CA members elected by the people would be able to deliver a constitution. “There is no room for any foreign agencies to meddle into Nepal’s internal affairs, nor will it be acceptable.” The CA vice chair admitted that there was growing mistrust among the parties.</p>
3.	Republica	English Daily	3	Workshop on Federalism	<p>A three-day workshop began in Hetauda with a view to informing the wider public about the state restructuring proposed by the CA Committee on State Restructuring and Sharing of State Powers. Professor Krishna Khanal inaugurated the workshop jointly organized by the Center for Constitutional Dialogue and Nepal Tamang Ghedung. Professor Khanal warned that the political parties will lose their credibility and people will start looking for alternatives if the new constitution is not written even within the extended deadline of the CA. Over 70 persons from 10 districts of the proposed Tamsaling province are taking part in the workshop.</p> <p>The Rising Nepal: Workshop on Federalism Begins in Hetauda, page 6</p>
4.	Rajdhani	Vernacular Daily	1	Parliaments Hides 15 Million Rupees Embezzled by the CA Members	<p>The Legislature Parliament has hidden the embezzlement of 15 million rupees by the CA members. This was revealed after the parliament requested the auditor general for waving the settlements of 15 million rupees spent by the CA members and</p>

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					officials of the secretariat in the course of public opinion collection for the new constitution. Of the 112 million rupees spent for the public opinion collection, 15 million rupees was yet to be settled.
5.	Kantipur	Vernacular Daily	3	CA Member's Abduction Attempt	Sharada Nepali, a Constituent Assembly member of CPN- ML (Socialist), has claimed that a gang of miscreants had made an unsuccessful bid to abduct her Wednesday afternoon. CPN-ML (Socialist) is a splinter group that split from CP Mainali-led CPN- ML. She alleged that a group led by Laxman Hayu, an employee of CPN-ML, had perpetrated the abduction drama from Baneshwor Height. "While I was walking along the road, they dragged me into a cab," she alleged. "They forcibly took me to ministers' quarters in Pulchowk. I resisted and was able to set myself free after half-an-hour," claimed Nepali. Though the police have not made any arrests, they have provided security at her residence on the instruction of Ministry of Home Affairs on her request. Mainali discredited her claim and said it was a publicity stunt. Earlier, Nepali had survived an apparent suicide attempt.
6.	The Kathmandu Post	English Daily	1	UML Spoke in PM Poll Wheel	With the CPN-UML staking to stay neutral once again, the fifth round of prime ministerial election is unlikely to elect a new chief executive. The party's Central Committee (CC) on Wednesday unanimously endorsed a nine-point 'special proposal' — one of which is to stay neutral until consensus is forged — for the formation of a national unity government, a move pushed by party Chairman Jhala Nath Khanal. Of the party's 115 CC members, only 18 from the faction led by Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal and K.P. Oli voiced their

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					opposition to the chairman's position. The nine-point proposal has decided to abstain from voting even in the fifth round of the prime ministerial election arguing that a majority government will be incapable of completing the peace process.
7.	The Himalayan Times	English Daily	2	NEFIN to Enforce Chakkajam on Sunday	Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) today announced chakkajam (transportation strike) throughout the nation on August 15 to pressure members of the Constituent Assembly (CA) and political parties to formulate the constitution within the stipulated time. Dandu Sherpa, Treasurer, NEFIN said, "Representatives of political parties were focused on government formation and not on major duties assigned by the public. Therefore this protest was necessary to caution them to concentrate on the constitution making process, not dirty politics."
Opinions, Editorials and Interviews					
8.	Janadisha	Vernacular Daily	5	Shrepa Province and Preferential Rights	Phurbachirri Sherpa writes: Given the current pace of development, preferential rights to Sherpa community should be provided for 10-15 years. If all Sherpa communities are developed the need for the preferential rights would be automatically null and void.
9.	Republica	English Daily	7	Seized Properties and Political Misunderstanding	Shyam Prasad Mainali writes: If we are really committed to solving this grave problem facing the state, an intensive participation of the concerned stakeholders, signing parties and the government in the process of finalizing policies, agreement on enforceable legislation

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					regarding the land ownership ceiling and finalizing common programs to materialize land use policy are highly essential. Bearing in mind the peace process, all the responsible parties have to be serious in respecting the rule of law. Thus, all the seized lands of individuals should be returned unconditionally and land reform programs started as soon as possible. Then only, the country would move forward on the path of nation-building.
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