

अब... रु. १ मै बचत खाता



नेपाल इन्भेस्टमेन्ट बैंक बढी भन्दा बढी
नागरिकहरुमा बैंकिङ्ग सेवाको पहिलो अनुभव
एवं बढी बचत गर्न सक्ने गणनाका लागि सगौरव
प्रस्तुत गर्दछ... **मात्र रु.१ मा**
“आफ्नै बचत खाता”



|| जीवनका पहिला पलहरु देखिनै बचतको बानी
सुरक्षित भविष्यको सगानी ||

नेपाल इन्भेस्टमेन्ट बैंक लि.
NEPAL INVESTMENT BANK LTD.
Truly a Nepali Bank

Branch:
Purandadak: 4445803
Sapat: 9153923
Naryapath: 5653921

Dunbar Marg, P.O.Box: 3412
Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 4223348, 4229271
Fax: 4223348, 4229271

New Road: 4269374
Ningsa: 8153927
Bhimsen: 8153919
Pulchowk: 8153923
Jankapur: 41527331

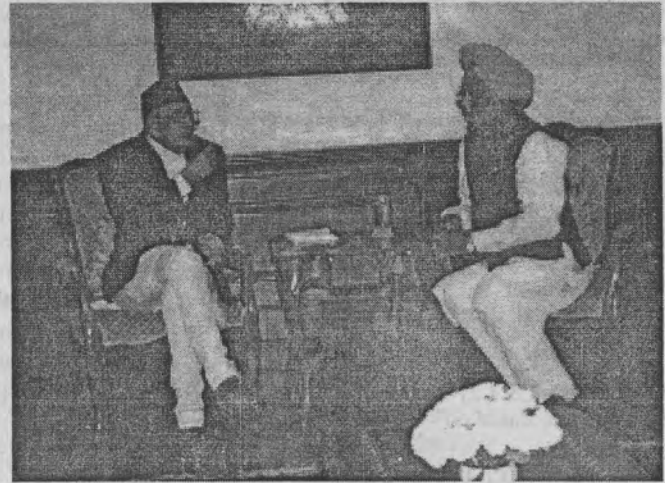
Thamel: 4218431
Tangra: 4218401
Bardagaj: 71549931
Nepalgunj: 81528532

Pulchowk: 5520446
Bardagaj: 5952097
Nepalgunj: 71526991



CONTENTS

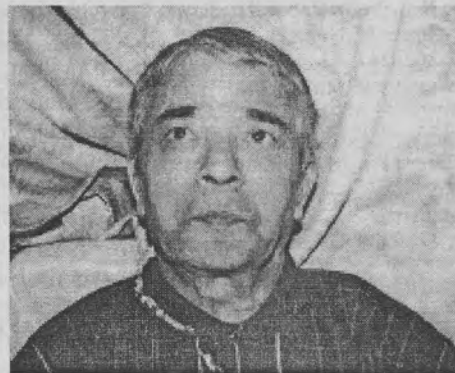
	Page
LETTERS	3
NEWS NOTES	4
BRIEFS	6
OPINION : Dr. Ananda Bahadur Thapa	7
NATIONAL: Final Tally	9
POLITICS: Beyond The Boundary	11
CHINA: Active And Alert	18
PRIVATE SCHOOLS: Anxiety In Education	19
HEALTH: Malaria Upsurge	20
REVIEW: Comrade Speaks	22
QUOTE UNQUOTE/TRANSITION	23
ART: Unique Paintings	24



COVER STORY: Right Issue, Wrong Time The debate on 1950 Indo-Nepal Treaty has come at a wrong time 12



PRACHANDA: Dancing With Donors Maoist chairman Prachanda holds parleys with donors and diplomats in a bid to assure them as his party eyes leadership position in the next government Page 10



INTERVIEW: Laxman Aryal Head of the committee that drafted the interim constitution speaks about flaws in the constitution and its possible implications Page 16

SPOTLIGHT

THE WEEKLY NATIONAL NEWSMAGAZINE

Vol. 27, No 33, May 02, 2008
Baisakh 20, 2065

Chief Editor And Publisher
Madhav Kumar Rimal

Editor
Sarita Rimal

Managing Editor
Keshab Poudel

Senior Reporter
Sanjaya Dhakal

Cover Design & Layout :
Hari Krishna Bastakoti

Layout
Jyoti Dangol (Singh)

Photographer
Sandesh Manandhar

Legal Advisor
Advocate Lok Bhakta Rana

Marketing
Navin Kumar Maharjan
Madan Raj Poudel

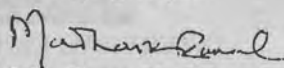
Editorial Office
GPO Box 7256, Maitidevi, Kathmandu
Tel (977-1) 4423127 Fax: (977-1) 4417845
Chief Editor's : 4435594,
E-mail : spot@mail.com.np
Internet : www.nepalnews.com/spotlight

Distribution : R.B. News Paper Traders
New Road, Kathmandu, Nepal
Ph : 4232784, 2020247, 4244679
E-mail : rbnewspaper@hotmail.com

Printers : Printers World Publishing House Pvt. Ltd.
Maitidevi, Kathmandu
Ph : 4423904, 4426520

C.D.O.Regd. No
151/039-40
Postal Regd. No
42/61/62
U.S. Library of Congress
Catalogue No. 91-905060

The run away lead taken by the Maoists in the historical elections to the constituent assembly has generated a situation wherein the country seems to be entangled in a more complicated political stalemate. Despite the fact that they emerged as the largest party, the rigid interim constitution is posing too many road blocs in the path of the Maoists dream of leading the government, even a coalition. In a democratic set up there should be no hesitation whatsoever in inviting the largest party to form the government. But the Seven Party Alliance that has been ruling the country after the April revolution of 2006 seems to be in a fix. Apart from other invisible reasons, the constitution the Maoist dominated to enact is now proving to be a serious bottleneck for the Maoists themselves to arrive at their cherished destination. Moreover, the continuous hectic drama that is being rehearsed in the Nepali capital by the powers that direct the destinies of the smaller, poorer and weaker nations has yet to come to its *denouement*. The humiliating defeats of the self-proclaimed titans of Nepali politics at the hands of young nondescripts have thrown the Nepali politics into total doldrums. The established leaderships are being challenged by the underdogs and the bigger political parties are in complete disarray. Even in the biggest party, the CPN-(Maoists), there seems to be a conspicuous absence of unanimity or consensus in the top leadership. The activities of the Y.C.L and other cadres have clearly exposed failure of the party high command to maintain discipline and control over the lower echelons. Even the soaring ambition of the Maoists supremo seems to be contributing to widen the gulf between him and his lieutenants. As such, Nepal's political firmament, at the moment, looks to be enveloped in the darkest clouds. But as long there is a silver lining there should be no cause for despair. And, indeed, Nepal's good neighbor and traditional friend, India, is that silver lining. Ever since her deliverance from the colonial yoke she has always played a dominant role in guiding the Nepali politicians and statesmen. As a matter of fact every section of Nepali society, whether the politicians, the statesmen, the bureaucrats, the media, the civil society or even the intelligentsia, has greatly benefited from the large hearted and liberal munificence of the Indian government and consequently, not only feel ingratiated but also indebted to safeguard her interests. If the millions of poor Nepalis have been left out and Nepal is still considered the poorest in the region and one of the poorest countries in the world, it must be because it is so ordained. The intimate family ties between the people of Nepal and India, the India-locked status of Nepal, the open international border and various other commonalities have knit both the countries into that kind of special relationship rarely found between two independent nations. The overwhelming influence exercised by India in Nepal's political and economic affairs have induced even the world powers to completely tow India's line in their relations with Nepal. The Indian envoy and even the smaller diplomats are held in such exceptionally high esteem by the Nepali politicians, statesmen, civil servants, business community and highly educated Nepalis that the Indian diplomats consider Nepal posting as a stroke of good fortune reserved only for the chosen persons. No body need go far to substantiate this. The Ambassador-designate of India, Rakesh Sood, has wasted no time in cementing the special relationship. His meeting the Acting Head of State and prime minister before his accreditation has proved beyond a ray of doubt that the formality of presenting credentials by the Indian envoys in Nepal has now become a redundancy that should be abolished, without any ado, so that the Indian envoys may start their good work immediately they step into Nepali soil. Since the Indian envoys have been rendering invaluable service to the Nepali statesmen in the form of wise counsels, Sood's enthusiasm is very well appreciated by the Nepali establishment. Since India has been helping Nepal solve her knotty political problems, the Nepalis are impatiently waiting for Sood to get into more hectic action so that the imbroglio facing Nepali politicians and statesmen is dissolved at the earliest paving the way for poor Nepalis to take big strides towards making a New Nepal. While welcoming Rakesh Sood as their new benefactor the poor Nepalis are breathlessly waiting for him to act to diffuse the political haze enveloping Nepal.


Madhav K. Rimal
Chief Editor & Publisher



No Clear Verdict

The cover story CA Poll: Fractured Mandate (April 25-May 1) revealed many important things regarding the present political state. With the announcement of final results, it has clearly indicated that people have not given clear mandate to any political party. Although CPN-Maoist emerged as the largest political party, it too does not have enough votes to form the government. According to the present mandate, it is inevitable to see another phase of political deadlock where no one can form government on their own.

Yogesh Rai
Via-email

Confusion Persists

I agree with your cover story that this is a fractured mandate. There is a confusion among the large number of people that Maoists have a mandate to rule the country including making the constitution. However, nobody has found time to read certain peculiar articles of this interim constitution, which was a bi-product of 12 point agreements. Unlike other constitutions, this constitution has made it clear that the government cannot be formed without securing either political consensus of seven party alliance or two third majority in the constituent assembly election. However, it is very strange to see even foreigners including Indian officials, intellectuals and other western diplomats based in Nepal meeting Maoist leader Prachanda as the leader of new government. Securing just 30 percent popular votes does not give Maoists a mandate to impose their rule. If that is democracy, I don't have anything to say.

Shreeram Bastakoti
Perth, Australia via- email

Unfounded Claim

Although they have secured just about 30 percent of popular votes, Maoist leaders don't mind claiming that people have voted their agenda and endorsed their 12 years long violent

insurgency. Actually, people have rejected their programs and proposals by giving less than 30 percent votes. However, I don't understand on what ground Maoists are claiming to form next government on their own. As a party advocating communist totalitarianism, Maoists have shown that they don't believe in multi-party competition and democratic process. It is also foolishness on the part of people like us to believe that Maoists will accept the multi-party competitive politics. Communists are communists, whatever school of thought they belong to.

Jashmina Limbu
Via-email

Totally Biased

Your cover story CA Poll: Fractured Mandate (April 25-May 1) is totally biased. I don't agree with you that it was a fractured mandate. Actually, voters gave a clear cut mandate to Maoists to rule Nepal and draft People's Constitution as it has secured highest votes establishing itself as the single largest party. At a time when capitalist and imperialist forces have been making every effort to discredit communists and Mao, Nepalese people have shown that they like this ideology. This also gives us pride as well as encouragement to wage a revolution to restore the rights of

oppressed farmers and workers. Indian communists have to learn the way to capture the power through the ballot. I would like to congratulate comrade Prachanda and his colleagues for making the historic change in Nepal.

Manoj Mishra
Patna Bihar
Via Email

Worried Lot

After reading the face to face with Chinese ambassador to Nepal Zheng Xianglin, it worries me about the future of Nepal. Backed and supported by foreign powers, near and far, so called Tibetan refugees are trying to make Nepal as a launching pad to destabilize China. Guided from Dharmashala, India, headquarters of exiled Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama, these so called Tibetan refugees are misusing their status and creating problems for Nepal. As Nepal and India have open border, it is easy for them to cross the border from south where Tibetans are given safe sanctuary. As Chinese ambassador mentioned in his interview, many Tibetans like us who love our motherland China are living under constant threat. We need protection from these so called refugees coming from their base in India. In the last one month, many new faces have already entered in the areas like Bouddha and Jawalakhel. I hope Nepal government will look after the security of genuine Tibetans who love their motherland China.

T. Lama
Bouddha via-email

Boring Politics

It was boring to read political stories in Spotlight for the last two months. The time has come now to shift the attention to other areas like economic development, social changes, education and other issues. With the completion of the election for the CA, the time has now come to launch economic development programs. Nepal has been facing many problems including unemployment, low quality of education, poverty and so on. Politics is just one of the problems and common people have nothing to do with it. As in the past, I hope Spotlight will cover all those issues ignored by mainstream newspapers.

Shwastika Sainju
Via-email



Everything Will Be Done As Per The Understanding, Says PM Koirala

Prime Minister and president of Nepali Congress (NC) Girija Prasad Koirala has said that everything, including the formation of next government, will be carried out as per the understanding. In a brief reply to queries by the journalists, Friday (Apr 25), regarding the formation of next government, PM Koirala said that he will move ahead as per the understanding. "The government will have to be formed on the basis of understanding," he said. The journalists had asked him the question at a tea reception organized by Prakash Man Singh. His comments have come at a time when Maoists are preparing to lead the next government. His comments have been interpreted as something that is not supportive of the Maoists' move. The comments gain significance since another senior Congress leader Sher Bahadur Deuba clearly indicated that Koirala should continue to lead the next government. Girijababu has been leading since the peace agreement and everyone should accept his leadership, Deuba said. Earlier in the afternoon another NC leader and finance minister Dr. Ram Sharan Mahat

had said that NC itself will lead the next government.

Compiled from reports Indian Maoists Refuse To Draw Lesson From Nepal

Dismissing the suggestions from mainstream Indian communist parties, a senior leader of the Communist Party of India (Maoist) has said his party would never follow the example of Maoists in Nepal and come into open politics. "We will never follow the example of Maoists in Nepal and fight elections," Associated Press quoted Srinivas, a central committee member of the

CPI (Maoist), as saying. Talking to reporters Wednesday (Apr 23) outside a court in southern India where he was on trial for his alleged role in the assassination of a former state government minister, Srinivas said, "We believe in capturing power through armed struggle." The Indian Maoists also known as Naxalites are waging armed struggle in states like Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh. Their relation with Nepali Maoists went sour after the latter joined the peace process two years back. The link between the two parties is believed to have broken since then. Commenting on the success of the CPN-Maoist in the April 10 constituent assembly elections, leaders of Indian mainstream communist parties had recently suggested the Naxalites to draw positive lessons from Nepal. *Nepalnews.com reports*

First CA Meeting Can't Abolish Monarchy, Says Yadav

Coordinator of the Madhesi Janaadhikar Forum Upendra Yadav has said the first meeting of the Constituent Assembly cannot abolish the monarchy. Speaking at a felicitation program organized for CA members by the Sunsari Chambers of Commerce and Industries (Apr 23), Yadav, who was

elected to the CA from Sunsari-5, said, "It is impossible for the first meeting of the CA to abolish the monarchy. Those who are saying that the first CA meeting will abolish the monarchy are fooling the people." Yadav claimed that the first meeting will be over just after the new members take the oath of office and observe silence for martyrs. It will have no time to deal with any political agenda, he said, claiming that the constituents of the seven-party alliance will try to divert the CA meeting towards technical aspects to keep the monarchy. "I even drew the attention of Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala on this, but he paid no heed." He claimed that the proposed federal state system is the outcome of the Madhes agitation. Asked about the possibility of the MJF joining the government, he said that the parties should come up with a Minimum Common Agenda (MCA) for this. "The MCA should realize the promises made in the past for the Madhesi cause. The issue of an alliance comes after that," he said. Yadav said the MJF had not yet received any proposal of power-sharing in the government. He said the MJF was against joining the government just for the sake of power-sharing. He threatened to launch an agitation if the government disregarded the demand for the declaration of Madhes as one Pradesh. *The Himalayan Times daily reports*

Caught With Free Tibet Banner, A Climber Is Forced To End Everest Climb

Authorities forced a Western climber caught with a "Free-Tibet" banner to end his climb of Mount Everest, about a week before a planned ascent by Chinese climbers carrying the Olympic torch, officials said on Wednesday. The climber, said to be an American, was caught with the banner in his bags at Everest's base camp, the Associated Press quoted mountaineering officials in Katmandu as saying. The officials did not want to be named because they are not authorized to speak to reporters. The climber is the first to be stopped by soldiers and policemen stationed on the Nepali side of the world's highest mountain to prevent anti-China protests during the



planned torch run to the summit. The climb, which is expected to start some time next week, will take place on the Chinese side of the mountain. But the government,

complying to pressure from Chinese government, has posted soldiers on the southern side and banned climbing near the summit between May 1-10 as a precaution. *Compiled from reports*

NC, UML Leaders Attribute Their Electoral Loss To Poor Security, Maoist 'Intimidation'

Nepali Congress and CPN-UML, the two major parties that suffered huge blow in the constituent assembly elections at the hands of the Maoists, have started assessing the causes behind their humiliating defeat. NC's central working committee (CWC) meeting began Thursday (Apr 24) with leaders presenting their views on the causes of the electoral loss. In the meeting held at Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala's official residence in Baluwatar, most of the CWC members blamed poor security during election time and "Maoist terror" for the party's defeat. NC assistant general secretary Arjun Narsingh K.C., who lost the election from Nuwakot-1, said that atmosphere of fear and forceful activities of the Maoists could be largely attributed to the election results going in favor of the Maoists. Likewise, other CWC members are also learnt to have blamed the government for failing to ensure security during the election. Some of them were also critical of the party leadership for not being able to mobilize cadres in an effective way. A source said that most of the central leaders suggested their top brass not to be a part of the next

government to be led by the Maoists. The CWC meeting will resume on April 29. Similarly, a meeting of the UML's central advisory committee also analyzed the loss faced by the party in the CA election. The committee members pointed out that apart from Maoist intimidation and the poor security arrangement the party leadership's failure to devise effective election strategies was also a cause for the poor performance in the polls. According to UML sources, the committee also suggested that the party's organizational structure be changed so that the party would be able to gradually regain its lost status. *Compiled from reports*

Malaria Risk High In Nepal

Around 75 percent of total population of Nepal run risk of catching malaria. According to Epidemiology and Disease Control Division, people living in Terai districts, particularly around border region, are in higher risk of malaria. The Division states that while 65 out of total 75 districts of Nepal are in risk of catching malaria; 12 of them run particularly higher risk. They include Jhapa, Ilam, Morang, Mahottari, Dhankuta, Sindhuli, Kavre, Nawalparasi, Bardiya, Dadeldhura, Kanchanpur and Kailali districts. From this year, Banke district, too, has been included under higher risk category, said G.D. Thakur, chief of the Division. Meanwhile, the government is preparing to distribute 2.2 million mosquito nets that are sprayed with insecticides within next five years. Malaria is caused by mosquito bites. *Compiled from reports*

Nepali Workers To Fly To South Korea From Mid-July

The Ministry of Labor and Transport Management has said that some 4000 Nepali workers will start flying to South Korea for jobs under the Employment Permission System (EPS) by mid-July this year. Ministry spokesperson Shyam Prasad Mainali said at a news conference on Sunday that 4000 applicants out of the total 6768 who passed the Korean language test recently will fly to South Korea in the first phase, after completing standard medical tests. He said the medical reports would be sent to Korean

authorities for approval. The medical check-ups would be carried out in government hospitals. Over 31,500 people had appeared in the language test held last month. Selected candidates will have to pay a total of 64 thousand rupees, which covers all the expenses including medical check-up, visa fee and air ticket. These workers will get a minimum monthly salary of USD 900. *Compiled from reports*

Six Cases Filed In CA Court

Accusing of election rigging, half a dozen cases have been filed in the Constituent Assembly (CA) court. The petitioners have demanded re-polling in a number of polling centers. "There are



half a dozen cases registered at the court," Nahakul Subedi, registrar of the court told Kantipur. Sharat Singh Bhandari, who won from Mahottari-6 as a candidate of Madhesi Janadhikar Forum (MJF), faces two cases against him. Other winning candidates who have faced cases at the court include Rambabu Prasad Yadav (MJF, Bara-1); Dr. Ram Sharan Mahat (Nepali Congress, Nuwakot-2); Sher Bahadur Deuba (NC, Dadeldhura); and Ramesh Rijal (NC, Parsa-1). The court has already summoned Dr. Mahat to discuss about case against him on May 7. The CA court is authorized to hear cases of election rigging and could even overturn the results if it finds enough evidence of rigging. The court is headed by Supreme Court judge Anup Raj Sharma and includes judges Tapa Bahadur Magar and Ram Kumar Prasad Shah as members. *Compiled from reports* ■



Tourists take part in Phewa festival in Pokhara

THE GOVERNMENT SPENDING TILL THE MID-APRIL of the current fiscal year has surged ahead by Rs 17 billion more than what it had collected as revenue. According to financial report by the Finance Ministry, the government spending in this period reached Rs 87.93 billion – up by 32.1 percent compared to the same period previous year. Although the revenue growth is higher than previous year, the government spending has outstripped it. The report says that the government collected Rs 70.85 billion as revenue during the period, which is up by 25.1 percent compared to the same period previous year. In fact, revenue has grown more than budget had expected. The budget had expected it to grow by 15 percent only.

THE ROYAL PALACE HAS ISSUED A STATEMENT refuting what it calls as malicious reports about the palace. Without clearly pointing to what news it considered 'malicious,' the Royal Palace Press Secretariat issued a statement, Sunday (Apr 20), stating, "The attention of the Secretariat has been drawn to the malicious reports appearing in sections of the national and international media in recent days against the royal palace." "This Secretariat strongly refutes these reports as totally fabricated and unfounded," the statement adds. The statement has come in the wake of reports in some media that the King could be considering going into exile in India.

A REPORT BROUGHT OUT BY AN ELECTION observation group has stated that security during election time remained inadequate and that the Maoists were involved in violent activities far more than any other party. Releasing its preliminary report on Sunday, Democracy and Election Alliance Nepal (DEAN) said that the pre-poll violence resulted mainly because of poor security arrangement. Though the election concluded in a peaceful manner, the election campaigning of the political parties was very limited due to security problems, DEAN said. 30 people had been murdered, 81 people abducted and 890 people injured in the different part of the country till the election date. The report also pointed out that majority of the complaints of irregularities on the election day were made by Nepali Congress and CPN-UML against the Maoists and Madheshi Janadhikar Forum. On the election day (April 10), four people had lost their lives, 112 people injured and eight others abducted in different districts. DEAN had deployed 9393 election observers on short-term

and long term basis. DEAN officials informed that the final report would be made public within a month.

THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS SET TO EXTEND a railway track from Lasha of Tibet to Khasha at Nepal-China border within next five years. A visiting delegation of Chinese communist party called on Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala Friday (Apr 25) morning and informed that China has included the railway line extension in its ongoing eleventh five-year plan. Nepal government had been urging China, time and again, to extend the railway system. During the meeting held at the Prime Minister's official residence at Baluwatar, the Chinese delegation

led by the Director General of Chinese Communist Party and PM Koirala also discussed the aftermath situation in Nepal after the historical Constituent Assembly (CA) elections and bilateral relations between the two countries, among other issues, said PM Koirala's foreign affairs advisor Aditya Baral. The four-member Chinese team, which arrived here in the capital four days ago, is due to fly back to China this afternoon.

THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) is rebuilding camps for some 10,000 Bhutanese refugees living in Goldhap camp in Jhapa district who were rendered homeless by an inferno early last month. The new camps that are expected to be completed in July, ahead of the monsoon rains, will have fire-proof thatched roofs and wider spacing between huts to minimize fire hazards, reports quoted UNHCR spokesperson Ron Redmond as telling reporters in Geneva on Tuesday. On March 1, fire sparked by an oil lamp destroyed the huts in Goldhap camp, leaving nearly 10,000 Bhutanese refugees without homes. Along with their homes, most of the refugee families in the camp had lost all their belongings including clothing and food grains.

THE SECOND EDITION OF CHINA TRADE FAIR 2008 kicked off here (on Apr 25) at International Convention Centre (ICC), New Baneswar with a view to promote bilateral trade, investment and business opportunities between China and Nepal. Krishna Bahadur Mahara, minister for information and communication, inaugurated the fair, which is being jointly organized by Nepal-China Executive Council (NCEC) and Chinese Embassy in Kathmandu with Nepal China Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCCI) as a co-organizer. The four-day long event will last till April 28. Mahara lauded the initiatives of the organizers that bring updates on Sino-Nepal bilateral trade, tourism and investment as well as promote other avenues of economic cooperation at private sector level. Stating the changed political context in Nepal, he further said Nepal would now strengthen its bilateral relations with its neighbors through economic diplomacy. "The bilateral relationship would be further strengthened with a new spirit and in the interest of benefiting peoples at greater extent," Mahara said. Zheng Xianglin, Chinese ambassador to Nepal, on the occasion, said that Sino-Nepal bilateral trade rose to \$400 million in 2007, and is growing every year. ■

NEPAL MUST EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION DEVELOPMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

•AB Thapa

We should not fail to understand that the development of mega water resources project can be a great challenge even for superpower countries like China. It can be said from the past experience that our country is yet to learn in depth the complexity of problems associated with the development of our mega water resources projects.

China's TGR vs Karnali Project

The proposed Karnali Chisapani Project is one of the largest in the world. In many ways it is comparable to the China's Three Gorges Project (TGP) which has been drawing since a long time the attention of the whole world because of the enormity of its size. The total storage volume of the Karnali Project reservoir is 39 billion cubic meters and similarly the total volume of the TGP is also about 39 billion cubic meters. After the full development the total installed capacity of the Karnali Project power station is expected to be about 16 million KW. The installed capacity of the TGP would be only slightly greater. It would be 18 million KW. Both these projects can provide enormously large irrigation, flood control and navigation benefits. It is interesting to know the views of the people of China and Nepal about their respective projects.

According to Lu Youmei, President of China Yangtze T G P Development Corporation, the Three Gorges Project has remained

as a dream for the China for more than 70 years. Implementation of the TGR is seen as the greatest challenge before the Chinese people and that country is seen to have spared nothing to fulfill the ambition of the Chinese people to harness the mighty Yangtze river even though it is taking such a long time.

Policy makers in Nepal are seen taking a completely different type of view about the Karnali Project, which is has been presented sarcastically in an article published sometimes back by the former Managing Director of NEA Mr. SB Pun. He has written "...When DPM, Ms Shailja Acharja, wrote to the Enron executive, HD Ramm, to defer their license application until a suitable environment (read downstream benefits) is created, all hell broke loose. Our Parliamentarians were so much educated with the virtues of private sector and foreign investment that even her own Congress Party wailed and

bemoaned that she had killed the goose that would have surely laid the golden eggs." In fact the description of Mr. Pun does not go far enough. When Ms. Shailja Acharja tried to justify her decision to defer the license in the parliament, the house virtually exploded with outrage. She was prevented from delivering her reply in the parliament.



Karnali Project Potential (Chisapani)

When the American multinational ENRON for the first time approached the government to grant permission to develop the Karnali Chisapani Project exclusively for power generation, a report was published in the WECS bulletin (September, 1997) that might have slightly helped to delay the decision to award the Karnali Project. At that time the Karnali Project escaped from falling into the clutches of multinationals.

The Karnali Project (Chisapani) has the potential to provide irrigation benefits to India that could be as much as two times greater than the power benefit if it is presumed that the hydropower station capacity would be limited to only about 3000 MW to generate electricity primarily to meet the demand for base load and the dry season flow of the Karnali river would be completely used in Nepal whereas the irrigation in India

would be entirely dependent on the regulated flow. If Nepal and India agree to follow the principle of sharing of downstream benefits as laid down in the Columbia River Treaty between the USA and Canada, Nepal could then have virtually free of cost the Karnali Power Project (scaled down). Nepal would have been able to earn annually a net revenue of about US\$2,000 million. *The economic potential of the Karnali Project would be lost forever if arrangements are not made to recover the irrigation and other downstream benefits well in advance.* A shortsighted decision would not only lead to the giving away of the Karnali water resources but it would also result to losing the future market for irrigation in India adjacent to Western Nepal that would be saturated with freely available regulated Karnali water flowing into India from Nepal.

Storage Dams Not Needed

Nepal does not need to build Karnali or West Seti storage dams to supply water for irrigation in Nepal. The natural flow of the Karnali river itself is more than sufficient to provide all the year round irrigation across the Western Terai. We have full right to draw water from the Karnali river for irrigation. The 1966 revised Kosi agreement which is the latest trans-boundary river agreement between Nepal and India serves as a precedent that has helped our right to draw water from any other trans-boundary river for irrigation in Nepal to be recognized by both the countries.

A Common Strategy

Nepal has embarked on a plan to launch three major storage dam projects in Western Nepal completely disregarding how the vast quantity of regulated water is going to be utilized for irrigation in India. The feasibility study report of the Karnali Project carried out under the aegis of the World Bank provides in depth information on downstream uses.

The Karnali, West Seti and Pancheshwor projects are in the same Karnali basin. There is already a network of unified irrigation canal system in Indian territory to draw regulated flow from these projects. The electricity generated by future power stations belonging to these projects would also have to be supplied more or less to the same region. Nepal should, therefore, conduct a combined study of all these three projects taking into account the demand for power and irrigation in India to develop a common strategy to determine the best sequencing of these projects from our perspective.

Flood Control

A document published by the United States Department of Energy under the heading HYDROPOWER FACTS, 1998 indicates that out of the total dams built in the USA the primary benefit of 15% is flood control. The primary benefit of only 2% and 11% are hydropower and irrigation respectively. The Karnali storage reservoir will have enormously large flood storage capacity estimated to be about 11 billion cubic meters. There is a need to carry out the study to determine the scale of flood control benefits in downstream regions from the storage of flood water in the Karnali Chisapani reservoir. The Karnali feasibility report could not cover the flood control benefit study due to lack of data. A short excerpt from the Karnali project feasibility study on flood control is presented hereinafter.

"The Chisapani project has a substantial storage volume above the normal full supply level (FSL) for the purpose of storing and reducing incoming flood peaks. These will be discharged over the ungated spillway, which has a crest elevation at the normal

FSL of 415 m. The resulting routing of floods will reduce the peak outflow of large flood peaks on the Karnali at Chisapani to about 20 - 25% of the peak flow. This will eliminate virtually all flood damages on the Karnali below the project site in Nepal, and flood damages will also be reduced further downstream in India, and even in Bangladesh. Benefits further downstream in India and in Bangladesh are very uncertain due to lack of data."

Inland Navigation

In the past the Karnali River was considered to be attractive for the development of navigation right from the Indo-Nepal border till the confluence of this river and the Ganges. The lower reach of this river was used in the past for navigation by steamers. The possibilities for further extension of the steamer services to the north had also been explored in the past. The Central Water and Power Commission of the

Govt. of India had carried out hydrographical survey of the Karnali River from the Bahramghat to the confluence of this river and the Ganges a distance of 446 km. This survey was done in the years 1943-53 to

explore the possibility of improvement and extension of navigation on this river by powered-crafts. These surveys revealed that there were only 5 shoals under 90 cm at low water between Burhaj and Bahramghat a distance of about 300 km. The minimum depth was 75 cm. These depths were available without any river conservancy works. All other conditions of navigable channel such as the width and current of flow etc. were also found to be very favourable. The low water stage in this river is only for a short duration. There is a great urgency to carry out detailed study of the Karnali river to develop modern inland waterway by applying various channel improvement technologies. Needless to say that the consent of India is necessary to develop the Karnali waterway linking Nepal with the Ganges. Thus any difference in opinion should be settled with India before we take the decision to implement the Karnali Dam Project at Chisapani.

In Conclusion

Nepalese people should never compromise broader national interest for the sake of a quick deal. The Karnali Dam project at Chisapani has been a dream of the Nepalese people for last 50 years. The advice of Mr. Paul D. Terrell Jr. of Bechtel Company of USA who worked as Chief Advisor Consultant of the Karnali Project is very close to the heart of every Nepali. Mr. Terrell has advised us "The present institutions should beware of giving away Nepali Children's rightful inheritance" It is perfectly clear that Nepal must exercise extreme caution in development of Karnali Dam project at Chisapani or our any other mega water resources projects. ■

Nepalese people should never compromise broader national interest for the sake of a quick deal. The Karnali Dam project at Chisapani has been a dream of the Nepalese people for last 50 years.



Workers of political parties: Anxious lot

CA ELECTION RESULTS

Final Tally

The final tally shows Maoists as the largest party, MJF is a surprise winner staking fourth position

By SANJAYA DHAKAL

After the Election Commission (EC) allocated seats under the Proportional Representation (PR) voting category, the final tally of the April 10 Constituent Assembly election has emerged.

Maoists have emerged as the single largest party – but feeling much short of even simple majority. Nepali Congress (NC) and Unified Marxist Leninist (UML) are in distant second and third positions.

In a surprising result, the newly floated Madhesi Janadhikar Forum (MJF), which had spearheaded the Madhes agitation, has come out strongly in its very first electoral exercise.

Likewise, two other Madhes-based parties, the Terai Madhes Loktantrik Party (TMLP) and Sadbhavana Party led

by Rajendra Mahato have also won considerable number of seats.

According to the EC, 54 parties had taken part in the election of the Constituent Assembly members under the Proportional Representation system.

On the basis of the proportion of the total valid votes, 25 different political parties (according to the formula for allotting the seats of the counting votes) have garnered seats. The commission has also issued directives to the political parties to submit the name lists of those candidates (within the closed lists) after having decided from their central committee meeting.

Out of 11146540 votes that had been cast under the PR, the number of valid votes was 10739078 and the number of

invalid votes was 407462. The polling percentage under the PR was over 63.

Under the PR category, Maoists have got 100 seats, Nepali Congress 73 seats and the UML 70 seats. Likewise, with 22 seats Madhesi Janadhikar Forum (MJF) has retained the fourth position in PR system also. Two other Terai-based parties - Terai Madhesh Loktantrik Party (TMLP) and Sadbhavana Party (SP) bagged 11 and five seats respectively. Similarly, CPN (Marxist Leninist) which failed to win a single constituency in first-past-the-post system also got eight PR seats.

Rastriya Prajatantra Party-Nepal, which advocated constitutional monarchy, claimed only four seats while Rastriya Prajatantra Party bagged eight seats and Rastriya Janashakti Party (RJP) led by former Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa got two seats. None of the three parties won seats in FPTP election. Two dozen small parties that could not win a single seat in FPTP election have benefited from the PR system.

As per the actual votes bagged by the parties, the Maoists had led the tally with 31,44,202 votes out of the total 1,07,39,088 votes cast. This is equal to 29.27 percent of vote share. NC and the UML, respectively, bagged 22,69,863 (21 percent) and 21,83,370 votes (20.33 percent).

The MJF and TMLP, respectively, pocketed 678,327 (6.31 percent) and 338,930 votes (3.15 percent). Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP) is in sixth position with 2 63,431 votes.

With the final tally now known, the parties will need to select the allocated number of candidates (under PR) by fulfilling the quota provisions and submit the same to the EC within this week. That will lay the ground for the formation of the new government, which would then nominate 26 remaining CA members. The total number of CA members in 601. ■

MAOIST POLICY

Dancing With Donors

Maoist chief Prachanda meets with donors and diplomats to assure about their economic and development policies

By SANJAYA DHAKAL

After holding a series of interactions and closed-door meetings with representatives of private sector business community, the comrades also met with representatives of donor organizations and diplomatic missions based in Kathmandu.

In a group discussion, facilitated by the United Nations, Maoist chairman Prachanda and his deputy Dr. Baburam Bhattarai held a crucial interaction with the western community on April 24 at UN House in Pulchowk.

Emerging from the interaction, Prachanda told reporters that he had very fruitful discussions on questions ranging from their economic to development policy and from education to health sectors including aspects of constitution-writing and peace process.

"There are many questions in the western countries regarding our party's position about multiparty politics, peace, economic development and so on. We tried to convince them that we are aware of the (realities) of the 21st century," Prachanda said.

In the joint meeting, which was also participated by US ambassador to Nepal, Prachanda said he answered to queries from them. "I believe we tried to put forth our views regarding durable peace and economic development."

Responding to queries from media, Prachanda said that the decision on whether or not to extend the UNMIN will be taken before the first meeting of Constituent Assembly after holding talks among political parties.

"We have positively evaluated the role played by the UNMIN. We will discuss about its tenure with other parties and make a decision on that," he said.

Regarding the army integration issue, he said the process will proceed along with constitution-making exercise through a special committee.

"A special committee has been proposed on this regard. I believe this issue will be tackled along with the constitution making process," he said.

He clarified that monarchy will be removed from the first meeting of CA. "There is question about retaining any form of monarchy. It will be removed from the first meeting of CA," he said.

Refuting media reports that he has received any invitation from Indian officials to visit India, he said, "I have not received any invitation. But I have had talks with Indian officials."

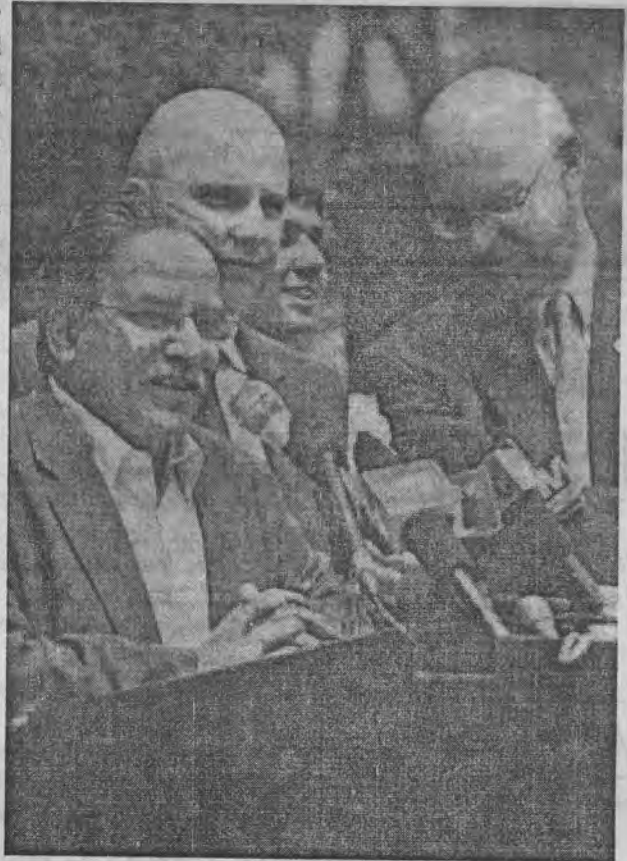
The reports of his invitation had come in the wake of Maoist winning the election to become the largest party. Meanwhile, Prachanda has said that in the light of Constituent Assembly (CA) election, a new dimension should be explored in relations with India. "Our old policy on 1950 Treaty is still valid. It should be revoked and other agreements should be reviewed," he said.

"We believe that in the changed context, positive and constructive efforts should be made to take Indo-Nepal

relations to new height," he said.

In a contradictory statement, Prachanda, however, said that his party had not yet renounced violence as a political policy. "Right now, I cannot renounce every kind of violence. We want to take the peace process to its logical conclusion and through this establish a model of peace and renounce reactionary violence," he said.

Earlier, in an interaction with traders,



Prachanda: Time to assure

Prachanda had reassured the industrialists that there will not be problems due to trade unions once the new government under his party's leadership is formed. He said the new government will create conducive atmosphere for national and foreign investments.

Prachanda also said that the future government would promote domestic investment and welcome foreign direct investment in the country. "Maoists give first priority to the domestic investors but our party heartily welcomes foreign investors in the country," Prachanda said. ■

POLITICS

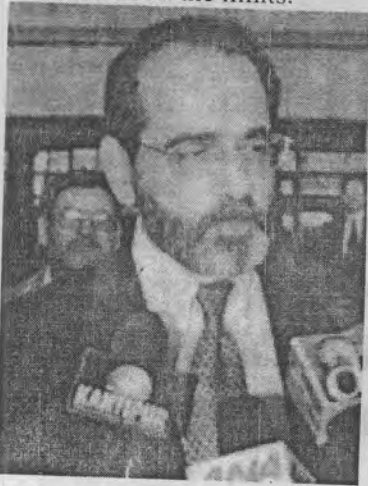
Beyond The Boundary

Nepal's national politics draws unparalleled international attention

By SUSHIL SHARMA

Diplomacy not politics will dictate Nepal's tumultuous journey ahead, wrote a prominent columnist.

Indeed, as constitutional complications abound in the post-poll Nepal, diplomacy has in some cases even exceeded the limits.



Sood: Hectic in meeting

It was largely diplomatic pressure, or persuasion, that came handy for the power-crazy prime minister Girija Prasad Koirala to change his mind on quitting the chair after the poll debacle.

Koirala has been busy receiving foreign diplomats and important calls from foreign capitals.

Taken aback by the strong showing of the Maoists at the hosting key international powers are busy chalking

out ways to block the red brigade's march to Singh Durbar, according to the source.

The US position is said to be "discourage" a Maoist government. Ambassador Nancy Powell has gone to Washington for further consultations on the new developments in Kathmandu.

A one-time ambassador to a key strategic ally, Pakistan, and a diplomat with the intelligence background, the American envoy's briefing in the State Department and the briefing she will get will certainly carry much more importance than is normally assumed.

Significantly, she has traveled to Washington via Delhi that has the highest stake in Nepal affairs. India has publicly expressed readiness to work with any government. But the influential neighbor's discomfort is no secret.

The urgency was well underscored by the hectic meetings the newly arrived ambassador Rakesh Sood got engaged in even before presenting his credentials.

Sood presented the credentials on Wednesday. By then, he had already made it to the prime minister's official residence at Baluwatar to see Koirala and to the party central office at Buddhnagar to visit the Maoist chief Prachanda.

Not far behind was the northern

neighbor. China sent a high level delegation of the international department of the ruling communist party. Without big publicity.



Powell: For consultation

The delegation met a cross section of the Nepalese leaders and the intelligentsia in Kathmandu and, even, the ordinary people on the outskirts of the capital valley.

The message was unmistakable, said a China watcher. 'We too are here. Don't count us out.'

The Europeans may have reconciled – some are even said to be happy – to the prospect of an ultra left-led government in one of the world's poorest countries.

Others have not. For obvious reasons. They have a lot more stakes in the geo-politically very strategic Nepal.

They have divergent interests. They collide more often than collude.

Nepal faces the fall-out – mostly negative. The political instability that has plagued the country since its emergence more than two centuries ago is a testimony.

As diplomacy looks set to overtake politics – one more time – in shaping the future of the much touted New Nepal, bigger challenges await the yam between the two boulders. ■

Debates On 1950 Treaty

Right Issue, Wrong Time

Although debating on Nepal-India Friendship Treaty of 1950 is a right issue, it is being raised at a wrong time. At a time when no political party has secured majority to form the majority government in the Constituent Assembly elections and when they require two-third majority to change such a treaty, why is CPN-Maoist - which needs other parties' support to form the government - is raising such a controversial and sensitive issue at this critical juncture is a matter of surprise. After all, whose interest does the amendment of 1950 treaty serves has not been explained

By KESHAB POUDEL

"We will scrap the 1950 Peace and Friendship Treaty between India and Nepal as it is an unequal treaty that is discriminatory against Nepal," thundered CPN-Maoist leader Pushpa Kamal Dahal aka Prachanda. "Our government wants to sign a new treaty with India on equal basis."

According to constitutional provision, revision or renegotiation of such treaty requires two third majority in the parliament and the Maoists just

have just a little over 30 percent or 220 members in 601 CA. Even before the formation of the government, Maoists have raised the issue of 1950 Treaty as a big issue surprising many.

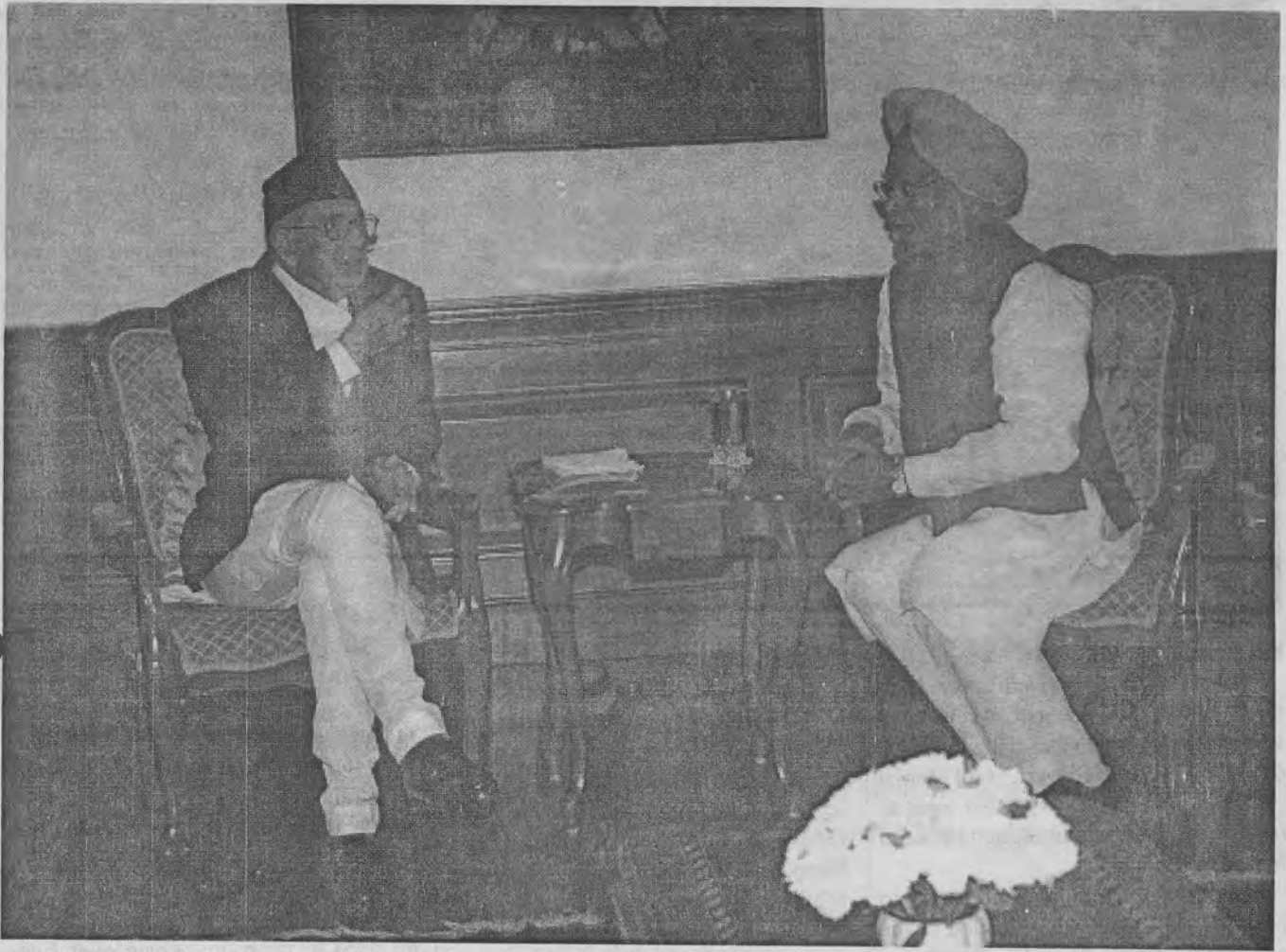
Nepal's priority, at present, should be to form a consensus government, write the new constitution and hold the election for the next elected government within two and a half years, say political analysts. The 1950 Treaty is of less priority now since it has not affected

Nepal's status.

At a time when Nepal is in a very difficult and vulnerable position, it is definite that other powerful party will take advantage in renegotiation. For any political party, they will have to form a coalition government including all heterogeneous ideas and amid such a divided house, there is no possibility for Nepal to compel its big neighbor to accept its term.

Instead of searching points of unity,

SPOTLIGHT / May 02, 2008



PM Koirala with Indian PM Dr. Singh: Matters of friendship *File photo*

Maoists are beginning their process from the point of disunity. The constitution is yet to be framed. For the Maoists, it is better to avoid such controversial issues at this juncture.

Maoist leader Prachanda might have good intention but the timing he chose is very wrong. If any agreement is signed at this juncture, it will be counterproductive to Nepal's interests. "Nepal may lose more than what Nepal lost in 1950," argued a foreign relations expert.

In whatever way the treaty was defined, after B.P. Koirala refuted Nehru's interpretation of the treaty in 1960, Nepal joined several international declarations and the treaty has not created any problem. At a time when Indians are trying to involve Nepal into their broader security apparatus, raising such issue in a situation when there is weak and unstable government may benefit other.

"Why do we need to raise the issue of 1950 treaty now? It has done nothing harmful to Nepal and Nepalis," said former minister and leader of RPP-Nepal Rabindra Nath Sharma. "We will lose many benefits and privileges guaranteed by the treaty if we amend it now."

The timing is wrong as Nepal's political situation is fragile and future government which is going to rely on other partners will be weak with no strength to bargain with India during the negotiation.

India's Response

India, which had always maintained support for status quo, has given spontaneous response to the call by Maoist leader Prachanda even before looking at his new government and its strength. Indian media, scholars and South Block officials' response were mysterious.

Asked about Maoist chief

Prachanda's call for abrogation of the India-Nepal Treaty of 1950, Indian Prime Minister's special envoy on Indo-US nuclear deal and former Ambassador to Nepal Shyam Saran said, "renegotiation of the pact was 'not an issue' as it was agreed to with the Nepalese government in 2001."

"We have no reservations if this item is put back on the bilateral agenda. One round of talks between foreign secretaries of the two countries had been held after the 2001 proposal," Saran told India Tonight program on CNBC. "India will not have any reservation if the new government, possibly led by the Maoists, presented agenda to annul the treaty to sign a fresh one."

According to Maoist leader Prachanda, they want to sign new treaty and scrap the 58-year-old Indo-Nepal Peace and Friendship Treaty reflecting new realities besides reviewing all other



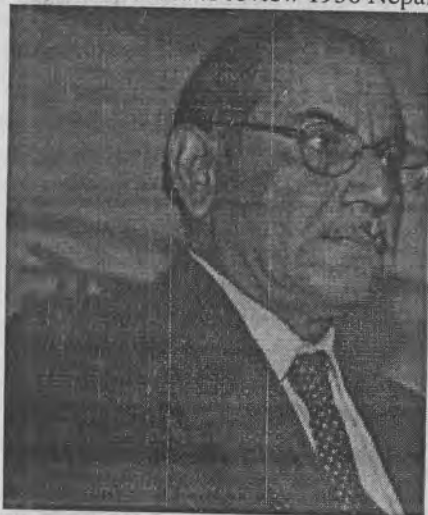
Party workers: Understanding electoral verdict

bilateral agreements.

"Our past policy towards the 1950 treaty remains unchanged, we want to scrap that treaty and replace it with a new one in the changed context," said Maoist chairman Prachanda. "We also want to review all other treaties signed between Nepal and India."

Another former Indian ambassador to Nepal K. V. Rajan, who pleaded in the past that there is no clause for amendment of the treaty, too, backed Saran's points. "India is ready for renegotiations with new Nepalese government on the issue of 1950 Treaty," said Rajan.

Not only diplomats Saran and Rajan, even some Indian scholars have backed Prachanda's idea to review 1950 Nepal-



Shyam Saran: Quick response

India Treaty.

Speaking at a talk program on 'Effect of Constituent Assembly Election Results in Nepal' organized by the India-Nepal Jana Ekta Manch on Friday, leaders of the Communist Party of India (Marxist and Leninist) and the Revolutionary Democratic Front (RDF) requested everyone not to consider Nepal's Maoists as anti-Indian elements.

Underlying the need to review the treaty in the new political context, special correspondent and analyst of the Economic and Political Weekly, Gautam Naulakha, said, "As there are several discrepancies in the existing treaty, it must be reviewed."

Talking about the Indian government's stance that it intends to review rather than scrap the treaty," said Naulakha, "We will exert pressure on the Indian government and compel it to nullify the old treaty."

Reinterpretation of Treaty

Actually, any treaty signed between two countries is subject to interpretation. B.P. Koirala was the first Nepali prime minister who gave interpretation of 1950 treaty regarding security. "Nepal is a fully sovereign independent nation. It decides its external and home policy according to its own

judgment and its own linking without ever referring outside authorities. Our Treaty of Peace and Friendship with India affirms this," said Koirala about Nepal's status vis-à-vis Indo-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship 1950.

Koirala issued his statement on November 29, 1959 to correct Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru's statement on Indian parliament on November 27, 1959. Nehru, in his statement regarding Sino-Indian border troubles, had said, "Any aggression on Bhutan or Nepal will be considered by us aggression on India.

Prime minister Koirala said, "I do not know the international status of Bhutan and its relations with India. But, Nepal is an independent sovereign nation and there can never be any doubt with regard to this fact."

After B.P. Koirala's statement, on December 3, 1959, Indian prime minister Nehru corrected his earlier statement given in the parliament. "Certainly, I think what the prime minister of Nepal, Mr. B. P. Koirala has said is completely correct."

By correcting Nehru, B.P. Koirala affirmed his stand on sovereign right of Nepal to forge alliance with any country. Nepalese experts, too, argue that there is no need to raise the debate over five-decade-old treaty, which was signed in different context.

Experts argue that the status of treaty can change in due course of time and context.

"In a due course of time, some treaty arrangements remain disused and become



Prachanda: Timing it wrong



New Indian envoy Sood: Hectic schedule

irrelevant. So, is the case with the 1950 Treaty. Nepal is not the same as during the last days of autocratic Rana regime. Its international contacts have tremendously enlarged compared to that time. Nepal was not a member of United Nations in 1950 nor there was anything like non-aligned nations groupings. The SAARC declaration has nullified several misunderstood terms by implications. Nepal of 2008 cannot be retraced back to the previous Nehruvian special relationship concept," said a political analyst.

Others, too, have similar views. Many changes have taken place in both Nepal and India since the conclusion of 1950 treaty and both sides have intermitted, derogated from several of its provisions," writes professor Surya Subedi in his article India-Nepal Security Relations and the 1950 Treaty.

Treaty agreement cannot make any difference regarding the power. As a small country, Nepal cannot debar any big power if it ants to be a hegemony.

"If a big power is determined to act in hegemonic way, no treaty obligation debars such power from doing what it wants," said the political analyst. "Nepal has its own geo-political safeguard

which cannot be compromised with one against the other neighbour. So far as the concept of security umbrella is there, any step towards that will provoke the other neighbour to react."

Chinese scholar Wang Xing in his book Nepal's National Defensive Strategy and Nepal-China Relations writes, "Nepal going under Indian security umbrella continues to threat China's security. The strong presence of Tibetan separatists in India and Nepal-India open border are two such matters which cannot permit Nepal to go under any country's security umbrella. Thus, independent Nepal is very necessary element for China's security."

Although there is no general debate in Nepal and no other major political

parties have in their manifesto suggested to scrap or renegotiate the treaty, Maoists' hurry in calling for its abrogation will serve nobody's interest, at least not on this side of the border.

This is for the first time there has been such a prompt response from top policy makers in New Delhi to amend it. Before formation of the government under the leadership of Maoists, it has come into prominence in New Delhi newspapers.

As no other political party has raised the issue of need to amend the 1950 Indo-Nepal Treaty, how Maoists are daring to do it. Maoists have neither secured majority nor they have enough seats to amend the treaty like that of far-reaching implications. ■

Constitutional Provision

- (1) According to Article 156 of the interim constitution, (1) the ratification of, accession to acceptance of or approval of treaties or agreements to which the state of Nepal or the government of Nepal is to become a party shall be as determined by the law.
- (2) the laws to be made pursuant to clause (1) shall, inter alia, require that the ratification of, accession to, acceptance of or approval of treaty or agreements on the following subjects to be done by a two-thirds majority of the total number of members of the Legislature-Parliament existing:-

Peace and friendship;

Security and strategic alliance;

The boundaries of Nepal; and

Natural resources and the distribution of their uses.

Provided that if any treaty or agreement referred in the sub-clauses (a) and (d), is of ordinary nature which does not affect the nation extensively, seriously or in the long-term, the ratification of, accession to, acceptance of or approval of such treaty or agreement may be done at a meeting or the Legislature-Parliament by a simple majority of the members present.

- (3) After the commencement of the Constitution, unless a treaty or agreement is ratified, acceded to, accepted or approved in accordance with this Article, it shall not be binding on the Government of Nepal or the State of Nepal.
- (4) Notwithstanding anything contained in clause (1) and (2), no treaty or agreement shall be concluded that may be detrimental to the territorial integrity ■

"In The Name Of New Nepal, We Have Committed Many Mistakes"

- Laxman Prasad Aryal

One must understand that this is an interim constitution drafted for a short period of time or just to hold the election for Constituent Assembly and frame the new constitution. This is the reason interim constitution follows the concept of political consensus.

LAXMAN PRASAD ARYAL, former judge of Supreme Court and chairman of Interim Constitution Drafting Commission, is a well known lawyer. With the completion of election for Constituent Assembly, a new situation has emerged with the possibility of a hung assembly. As there is no provision for the formation of majority government in the constitution (which only talks about consensus government), a political deadlock has appeared. Aryal spoke on various issues: Excerpts

As a chairman of Interim Drafting Commission, what do you suggest for settling the present political deadlock?

Simply, they need to summon the Legislature Parliament and amend the constitution to pave the way for new government. One must understand that this is an interim constitution drafted for a short period of time or just to hold the election for Constituent Assembly and frame the new constitution. This is the reason interim constitution follows the concept of political consensus.

At a time when no political party is in a position secure two third majority, what do you suggest for the formation of new government?

There is a way out. Political parties can amend the interim constitution to change such rigid clause, if it is necessary.

Don't you think experts like you are responsible for the present crisis?

We are not responsible for the present political deadlock.

Then, who is responsible for that?

If you want to analyze the present constitution, you must recall the lengthy process followed by the leaders of political parties. In first stage, we had submitted a draft to the political leaders. In second stage, they changed clauses and articles. Finally, they even amended those changes. In the first stage, we are solely responsible since we presented the draft but we

were not involved in second and third stages. We were not even consulted in these two stages.

Do you mean that political leaders are responsible for the mess?

If you compare the first draft and the final copy, you can see our point of view. The present interim constitution looks like a political document drafted by politicians for their immediate benefits.

If that is so why didn't you resign when your draft was distorted?

We didn't have to say so because the draft was rewritten after we handed it over to them. We were just given the role to draft the constitution.

It means you were not consulted at the final stage of promulgation?

That was it.

Who wrote the part five of interim constitution where the article says prime minister is chosen either through the political consensus or two third majority?

That was there in our draft.

As a constitutional expert, what do you say whether a country should run under political consensus or as per the constitution?

One of the basic characters of interim constitution is that it was drafted just for an interim period. This constitution is a medium to cross over the interim period. We had proposed the political consensus in the functioning of the government as well during the interim period.

Don't you think legal bases are required for the formation of the government?

Actually, political consensus itself is a legal basis. Right now there needs to be a political consensus of seven parties to institutionalize the mandate of Janandolan II.

But there is nothing to clarify on what basis political consensus should be developed?

That is not there.

The interim constitution says the first meeting of CA will decide the fate of monarchy but you are saying that there is a need to summon the legislature parliament. Can the legislature parliament implement the Republic?

The first meeting of Constituent Assembly shall declare Nepal as republic, not the first meeting of legislature parliament.

So, only after completing the process through legislature parliament, will the CA be summoned?

The process of legislature parliament means to include all the new parties in political consensus. This meeting of legislature parliament will bring all other parties in constitutional framework through the amendment of the interim constitution. For instance, instead of writing seven political parties, there is a need to write the political parties elected in the CA. Only after amending the interim constitution, you can summon the CA. First of all you need to decide what kind of presidential system the country needs. Whether there needs to be a prime ministerial system or presidential system and so on.

Whether the prime minister should summon legislative parliament or CA, then?

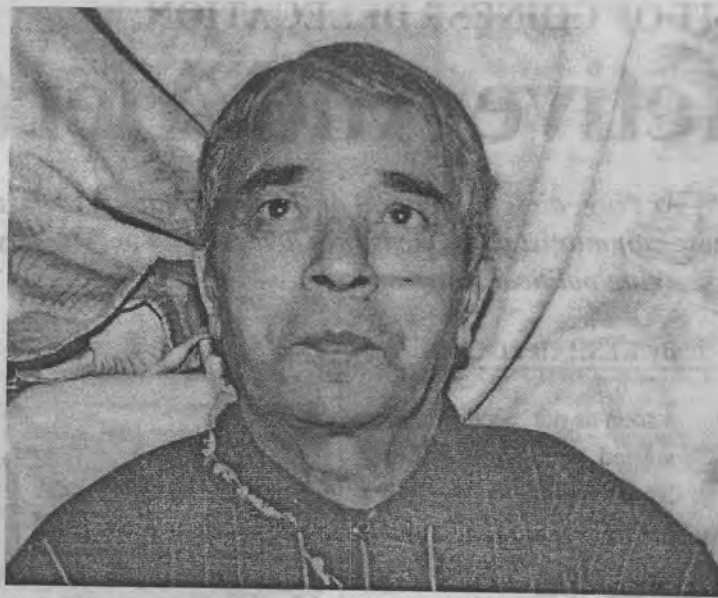
Prime minister will summon the meeting as CA but it will work as a legislature. Constitutional Assembly has to play two roles. It plays legislative role as well as assembly role. It means first it will work as a legislature, which will amend the constitution, then after it will function as a constituent assembly.

How will the first meeting of constituent assembly decide the fate of monarchy?

Like the parliament, the Constituent Assembly will also have its own proceedings and rules. Legislature parliament will prepare the proceedings and rules for the assembly.

What will be the status of present prime minister following the summoning of CA? Does he need to resign?

It is a complex process. Of course, people's mandate is the basis to rule the country. The



question now is whether we can strictly interpret the constitution or liberally interpret it.

How will you interpret the constitution when the constitution clearly said that the prime minister is selected either on the basis of political consensus or two third majority?

If one of the parties had secured two third majority, the present political stalemate would not have arisen.

Didn't you visualize these kinds of crises when drafting such articles?

In the name of New Nepal, we have committed many mistakes.

Who will nominate the 26 members?

After the formation of new government by legislature parliament, it will nominate 26 members.

Why are there so many loopholes and ambiguity in the interim constitution?

All the interim constitutions are like that because this is a period of political instability.

What kind of constitution you have made, which has already been amended three times in the past, and you are again suggesting for another amendment?

Actually, leaders of seven political parties distorted our draft constitution. This is the reason behind the present political deadlock. Had they proclaimed the interim constitution as drafted by us, the present crisis could have been avoided. ■

Only after amending the interim constitution, you can summon the CA. First of all you need to decide what kind of presidential system the country needs.

VISIT OF CHINESE DELEGATION

Active And Alert

Led by Ai Ping, director general of the international department of Chinese communist party, a visiting delegation appraises itself with the changing political situation

By KESHAB POUDEL

As soon as the election results started coming in, China - Nepal's northern neighbor - became the first country to announce aid package to Nepal. China offered a US\$ 200 million soft concession loan to 50 MW upper Trishuli Hydro Power project.

Then came Nepal-China Trade Fair where Chinese ambassador to Nepal Zheng Xianglin agreed to provide market to Nepalese products in China to reduce the widening trade gap between the two countries. As Sino-Nepal bilateral trade rose to US\$ 400 million in 2007 and is growing every year, these kinds of exhibitions will have significance in helping promote bilateral trade.

Within a week, a high level delegation led by Ai Ping, director general of the International Department of Chinese Communist Party has visited Nepal. He announced that Railway will come to Khasa, Nepal-China border by 2011 on completion of their ninth five year plan. Ping told this to prime minister Girija Prasad Koirala during his meeting with him at the latter's official residence.

"Ping informed that the extension of the broad gauge railway from Lhasa to Khasa has been incorporated in China's five year plan and that the project was expected to be completed within five years," prime minister's foreign affairs advisor Aditya Baral



Ping: Friendly assurances Photo: Janadisha

told the media.

Along with meeting prime minister, Ping also met with CPN-Maoist leader Prachanda who is projected as the head of next new government and other leaders of political parties. He even attended a program organized to thank CPN-UML and Maoist members of Constituent Assembly in

Dhulikhel,

"Change in the government structure cannot have influence in state-to-state relations between the two countries," said Ai Ping. "There is no reason to (be concerned about) the friendly relations between the two countries when Maoists are going to lead the government. There is no hindrance in maintaining friendly relations with the Maoist government," said Ping.

Participating in an interaction, Ping stressed the need to maintain close relations between the two countries. "We respect sovereignty and territorial integrity of our neighbor Nepal," said Ping. "Nepali people have their own vision for economic prosperity and development. We are there to support them."

"Now on, we will also give due place to encourage people-to-people relations at the grass root level," Ping said.

Whether they are coincidental or something else, these three events indicate how much China - which shares more than 1470 kilometer long border with Nepal - cares and is concerned about the unfolding political situation in Nepal after the elections. By offering soft loan and sending high level delegation, Chinese message is clear that they will have all-weather relationship with all political parties.

"The bilateral relationship would be further strengthened with a new spirit and in the interest of benefiting peoples at greater extent," said Krishna Bahadur Mahara minister of information and communication and spokesman of CPN-Maoist.

The visit of director general of Chinese Communist Party indicated that China is alert and active in Nepal. ■



Private school: Under Damocles' sword!

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Anxiety In Education

The entire private school fraternity is nervous following the contradictory positions demonstrated by Maoist leadership on their policy of nationalization

By SANJAYA DHAKAL

We will guarantee the right to private property. As far as schools are concerned, we believe that at least up to 12th grade, the state should take over the school education."

That was what senior Maoist leader Dr. Baburam Bhattarai had said a week ago in an interview with Kantipur Television.

His comments were followed by a strong directive by the student wing of the Maoists asking private schools not to raise admission fees and be prepared for nationalization of schools.

The comments on nationalization of private schools by leadership of the Maoist party, which has emerged as the single largest party from the CA election and is

preparing to form next government, has clearly made the private school operators across the nation quite nervous.

Immediately after the CA election results came out, the Maoist leaders held a series of meetings with private sector business community and assured them of right to invest and make profit. However, their comments vis-à-vis private schools were not favourable.

While some Maoist leaders have said that their policy is to nationalize all the private schools, others have thrown in more confusion by saying that for the time being they would allow the private schools to operate.

Bhoj Raj Shah, president of Private and Boarding Schools Organization of Nepal

(PABSON), said that the entire school operators are anxious.

"This has created a sort of fear, confusion and disillusionment. The Maoist leadership must clearly and publicly come out with their positions regarding private schools at the earliest," said Shah.

Dharmendra Bastola, chief of the education department of the Maoist party, said that the state should take over the ownership of the private schools as they were charging exorbitant fees and creating rift in education.

"For the time being, our policy is not to let them earn hefty profits and to provide security to their investment and property. In the long run, we believe that the state must take over all of the private schools," he said.

Educationists are alarmed with this policy of the Maoists. Even as most of the educationists believe that the current education system needs overhauling, they think that the haphazard nationalization would lead to a disaster.

Said Dr. Mana Prasad Wagle, an education expert, "If a public-private-partnership is adopted whereupon the government provides subsidy and the parents do not need to pay hefty fees and where there is a uniform syllabus and quality of teachers, that could provide one solution. But if nationalization is introduced amid the current government bureaucracy, that will lead to a disaster."

The confusion blanketing the private schools is not only affecting the 9000 schools and 150,000 teachers and staffs employed by them but also the future of 1.5 students.

The private school operators complain that no one is positively evaluating their contributions. "We have made a number of contributions such as in stopping the flow of money outside the country by providing quality education within the country. Besides, in the SLC results, we can see that 98 percent of students securing distinction come from private schools. Around 80 to 85 percent of our students pass the SLC (compared to less than 50 percent from government schools)," said Shah.

Education experts fear that haphazard nationalization of schools could be a repeat of similar experiment that had roundly failed during 1970s. ■



Rural population: Are they aware?

Mosquito Menace

MALARIA UPSURGE

Malaria has returned with a bang threatening the lives of people, especially in rural areas

By A CORRESPONDENT

A couple of days before the International Malaria Awareness Day (April 25), around a dozen patients had come to district hospital in Gulariya, Bardia - 500 kilometers west of capital Kathmandu - complaining high fever.

Following the blood test, they were found to have been infected by Malaria. As usual, they were given anti-malaria drugs and asked to come again for follow-up. This was a normal practice in Nepal about treating a patient who is diagnosed with malaria.

Most of the infected persons are infected by parasitic protozoans called

Plasmodium vivax, considered less dangerous than the *P. falciparum*. According to Epidemiology and Disease Control Division, altogether 12 districts including Bardiya are riskier in terms of malaria infection susceptibility.

Along with medicines, the district health officials also recommend Indoor Residual Spraying in these areas. This process of administering medicines and spraying toxin to kill the *Anopheles* species of mosquito (which carries the parasite) has been practiced for last 50 years but it failed to protect the people.

Although the studies have shown that sleeping under insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs) can reduce mortality by up

to 63 percent, Nepal is yet to be in a position to distribute such nets to all the population living in areas vulnerable to malarial infection.

In many parts of the country, economically poor people sleep out in the open and find it uncomfortable to sleep under the net. For successful use of bed nets, there is a need for a behavioral change.

Nepal has set up health institutions in many rural parts but they still lack basic facilities like test-labs and materials.

As temperature rises and monsoon approaches, the patients visiting health posts with high fever continues to rise not only in Bardiya district but also in other districts lying on the southern plain.

□ Nearly 120 people have been diagnosed with malaria in the last 10 months in Bardiya district and 11 patients were suffering from fatal malaria caused by *plasmodium falciparum*," said Dr. Guna Raj Lohani, a medical superintendent. "Hundred and five other patients are suffering from malaria caused by less dangerous *plasmodium vivax*."

Not only the plain areas, even hilly district like Ilam has reported infection related to malaria in recent years. According to District Public Health Office, Ilam, 69 persons were affected by Malaria last year.

The first attempt to control Malaria in Nepal was initiated in 1954 through the Insect Borne Disease Control Program supported by USAID.

In 1958, the malaria eradication program in the country was launched with the objective of eradicating malaria from the country within the limited time period. However, the program was converted into a malaria control program in 1978.

Currently, malaria control service is being provided free of cost to approximately 17.3 million people of 65 districts at risk of malaria. Out of Nepal's total population, approximately 74 percent are at risk.

According to Department of Health Services, High Malaria Incidence has been observed even in hilly and mountainous districts such as Kavre, Sindhupalchowk, Bhojpur and Dhankuta districts along with in terai districts like Kanchanpur and Bardiya.

Despite increasing number of health facilities in rural parts of Nepal, a large



A woman from Terai region: Vulnerable

number of malaria patients suffer undetected.

According to Department of Health Services, annually Indoor Residual Spraying off was carried out in outbreak areas, and new settlements in high risk malaria areas. The health officials closely observe the prevalence of *P. falciparum* cases and areas with drug resistant malaria.

With the virtual eradication in early 1970s, the Malaria has again come back stronger and resistant to drugs threatening a large number of population living in various parts of Nepal. From plain to mid-hill and mountains, Malaria is now everywhere.

As the temperature is rising globally thanks to the global warming, the situation may go from bad to worse in coming days. The disease-carrying mosquitoes are now flying even to Himalayan regions taking advantage of rising temperature.

□ There are some regions where people need to be alert as the season for

the disease approaches. Generally, the monsoon season beginning from June to September is a period of high prevalence," said Dr. Manas Kumar Banerjee, Malaria expert and coordinator of Avian Influenza Project, speaking at a press conference organized on the eve of World Malaria Day.

Another health expert warns that mosquitoes are attacking the people all over the country. "Only 10 out of 75 districts in the country are safe from the risk of malaria. Though 65 districts are at risk, the government has focused on 13 districts from where most cases of diseases are being reported," said Dr G.D. Thakur, chief of Disease Control Division.

Unlike in the past, much of the latest technology is now available to fight Malaria. "The people should be made aware of latest technology to prevent themselves from the disease," said Dr. Banerjee.

Net Against Mosquitoes

As the people living under poverty

line are more vulnerable to the disease, the government is now planning to supply nets free of cost to those areas where people cannot afford.

The government distributed 340,000 nets last year. Of the total recipients, 85 percent received them for free while 14 percent were charged Rs 150 each. "One net per family was distributed and they were suggested to prioritize children and women to sleep inside the net as they are at higher risk," said Dr. Thakur.

This year the government is planning to distribute 200,000 more nets which would be absolutely free and one net per two people would be distributed. Although the net has proved to be one of the most effective ways to control the disease worldwide, it is yet to be seen how effective the net distribution will be in Nepal.

Controlling malaria is one of the greatest challenges for the country. As many Nepalis go to work in Malaria-infested areas of India like in northeast, they carry the malaria with them. The global warming and import of malaria from India has remained a great challenge in controlling malaria in the country. In 2007, 4220 positive cases of malaria were tested.

According to World Health Organization, malaria is the eighth highest disease burden worldwide and the fifth-highest for the poorest developing countries. This mosquito-borne disease disproportionately afflicts and kills children under 5 and pregnant women. Sleeping under insecticide-treated bed nets can reduce mortality by up to 63 percent and morbidity by at least 40 percent. Under the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the net is distributed to the affected population. "Along with free distribution of net, we are also encouraging local population to contribute small amount of money to buy it," said Dr. Thakur.

Malaria was Nepal's most serious public health problem in the past afflicting roughly 25 percent of the population in 1950s. Endemic malaria threatened roughly 50 percent of Nepal's population living below 1300 meters of altitude and now it is expanding its area of infection.

At a time when the temperature of the earth is rising due to the global warming, Malaria is going to be a major challenge of public health in coming days. Bardiya's cases remind the urgency of the need to tackle it ■

Comrade Speaks

CPN-UML leader Bharat Mohan Adhikary's auto-biography highlights important events of Nepalese communist movement

By A CORRESPONDENT

Writing memoir or auto biography needs immense patience and courage to reveal what one has seen during his life time. If the writer does not distort the events, such books also help as an important document to write the history in correct perspective.

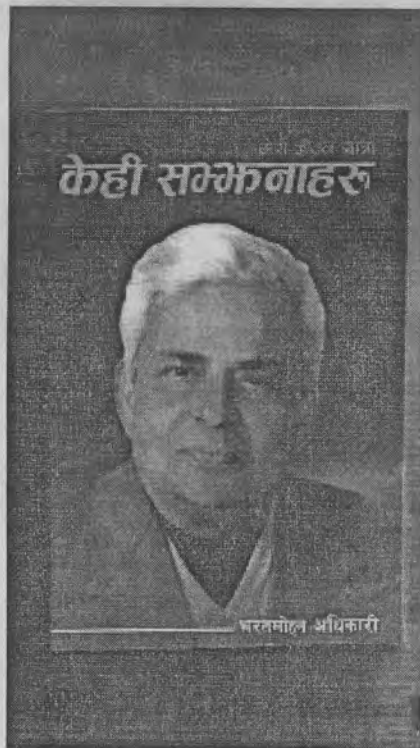
After the restoration of democracy in 1990, many politicians, writers, scholars have already published their biographies but only a few authors have shown their courage to speak the truth about the political events.

With the publication of B.P. Koirala's *Atmabrittanta* and *Jail Journal*, many politicians have come out with their memoirs noting their struggles in various roles. It is unfortunate that only a few of them showed the guts to speak about their past like B.P. Koirala. Most of the books are just half truth.

Former finance minister and long time communist activist Bharat Mohan Adhikary's new book, too, has many lacunae as the events and incidents recorded by Adhikary are not completely fair and truth.

From communist movement in Nepal to his role in minority communist government, Adhikary narrates all his experiences and encounters. One can find many interesting encounters in the book. Being a long time worker of communist party, his analysis is very much influenced by partisan interest.

Whether on the issue of communist movement in Nepal or the role of CPN-UML in Arun debacle, Adhikary's views are very much influenced by partisan interests. So far as the debacle of Arun



**Mero Jeevan Yatra:
Kehi Samjhanaharu
(My Struggle for Life:
Some Reminiscent)**

By:

Bharat Mohan Adhikary

Published by:

Suprabahu Publication

Pvt. Ltd

Phone:

4280614, 4273983

Price:

Rs.250.00

Pages:

358

III is concerned, Adhikary, who was finance minister at that time, firmly says that Arun III was canceled under the pressure of India.

From his struggle in communist movement and his role as a minister under the CPN-UML government, Adhikary tries to explain himself the difficulties faced by a minister.

Although Adhikary regrets the fall of Soviet Union, he has correctly interpreted the events behind the Arun III debacle. Whether one may like it or not, Adhikary has drawn the conclusion that economic failure is reason behind the collapse of Soviet Union.

Adhikary is frank enough to write history of communist movement in Nepal particularly the Naxalites movement and its origin. Adhikary has tried to project himself as a moderate communist; his comments against leaders of other parties are very biased. For instance, his criticism on B.P. Koirala on his role in the national referendum.

The first part of the book is related to his experience in the communist movement of Nepal. Being a member of the party, he explains almost all events as an eye-witness. The second part of his book are related to his role in the government as a member of CPN-UML.

Although he worked with various ministers, RPP leader Rabindranath Sharma had great place in his mind. He mentions Sharma as a villain who complexly ignored his demands.

From being a member of constitution drafting committee to minister and party's standing committee member, Bharat Mohan Adhikary had manifold experiences and he has written about almost all his experiences of past in the book. He details many ups and downs in the communist movement in which he was one of the active participants.

Despite the weaknesses, Adhikary has made efforts to write the book and inform the public. By publishing the book, Adhikary has added a new chapter in Nepalese politics ■

“Everything will be done as per the understanding.”

Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala, responding to queries from reporters whether he is ready to step down to allow Maoists to form the next government.

“Girijababu has been leading since the peace agreement. We will want others to respect his leadership also during Constituent Assembly.”

Sher Bahadur Deuba, senior leader of Nepali Congress (NC), pointing out that the Maoists need two-third majority to stake a claim to form new government.

“Right now I cannot renounce every kind of violence. We want to take the peace process to its logical conclusion and through this establish a model of peace and renounce reactionary violence.”

Prachanda, Maoist chairman, talking to reporters after holding interaction with donors and diplomats.

“They should dissolve the YCL and the weapons that the PLA hold should either be destroyed or given to Nepal Army before Prachanda leads new government.”

Gopal Man Shrestha, vice president of NC, setting out preconditions for the Maoist government, in The Himalayan Times.

“As per the mandate of the people, the Maoists should lead the government, but they should commit that excesses



against the opposition will not continue.”

Shankar Pokharel, leader of Unified Marxist Leninist (UML), at an interaction.

“We have special relations with the two countries (India and China) and we will not play off one against the other. Instead, we will try to make Nepal economically sound by learning from the experiences of both the countries.” CP Gajurel, Maoists’ foreign department chief, addressing a seminar on Indo-Nepal relations hosted by Indian government in Patna.

“It is impossible for the first meeting of the CA to abolish the monarchy. Those who are saying that the first CA

meeting will abolish the monarchy are fooling the people.”

Upendra Yadav, coordinator of Madhesi Janadhikar Forum (MJF), claiming that the first meeting will be over just after the new members take the oath of office and observe silence for martyrs, in The Himalayan Times.

“We will never follow the example of Maoists in Nepal and fight elections. We believe in capturing power through armed struggle.”

Srinivas, a central committee member of the Communist Party of India (Maoist), talking to reporters Wednesday (Apr 23) outside a court in southern India where he was on trial for his alleged role in the assassination of a former state government minister.

TRANSITION

BAGGED: 100 seats under the Proportional Representation (PR) category by the Maoists; 73 seats by Nepali Congress, 70 seats by Unified Marxist Leninist; 22 seats by Madhesi Janadhikar Forum; 11 seats by Terai Madhes Loktantrik Party; 8 seats by Rastriya Prajatantra Party, 8 seats by Communist Party of Nepal (Marxist Leninist); 5 seats by Sadbhavana Party-

Mahato; 4 seats by RPP-Nepal, and 3 seats by Rastriya Janashakti Party.

FILED: Half a dozen cases have been filed in the Constituent Assembly (CA) court, accusing of election rigging. Sharat Singh Bhandari, who won from Mahottari-6 as a candidate of Madhesi Janadhikar Forum (MJF), faces two cases against him. Other winning candidates who have faced cases at the

court include Rambabu Prasad Yadav (MJF, Bara-1); Dr. Ram Sharan Mahat (Nepali Congress, Nuwakot-2); Sher Bahadur Deuba (NC, Dadeldhura); and Ramesh Rijal (NC, Parsa-1).

REJECTED: The resignation submitted by Pashupati SJB Rana, as the president of Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP), by the meeting of central working committee of the party.

EXPOSITION

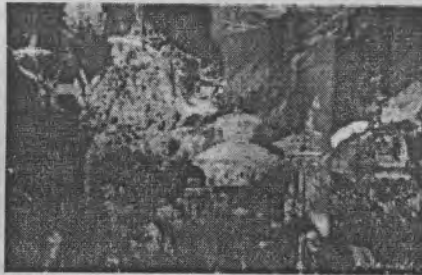
Unique Painting

Digital paintings are a different mode of depicting feelings

By A CORRESPONDENT

Nepal's temples, nature and culture have always been fascinating aspects for all those who come to visit the country. The combination of culture and nature has made Nepal's position much different and unique.

For western writers, artists and philosophers, this unique character of Nepal has always been endearing. This time even Pakistani artist Dr. Mohammad Ali Bhatti, director, Institute of Art and



Design, has tried to paint Nepal's various facets including temples and nature.

Based on digital paintings, the works

of artist Dr. Bhatti describes photos of places around the valley like Swoyambhunath, Bouddhanath, Pashupatinath and other important places of the valley.

Exhibited at Siddhartha Art Gallery, the painting exhibition titled Impressions of Nepal are full of rich surroundings including temples, natures and culture. Artist Dr. Bhatti is able to grasp all important aspects of historical, cultural and natural values of Nepal.

Inaugurated by Pakistani ambassador to Nepal, Sohail Amin, the painting exhibition will continue till May 9.

The colors are much interesting and match the artist's imagination. It is this combination of colors, which makes picture more vibrant, rich and interesting.

Not all the pictures have similar kind of message as some are dark and some are black but they produce the combination of results. ■

Creating New Nepal

Artist Kiran Manandhar painted the longest painting showing how new Nepal looks like

By A CORRESPONDENT

It is often said that when artists and poets express their feelings, that reflect the country's overall scenario, characters and cultures. This is what one can see after watching the longest painting by artist Kiran Manandhar.

From colors to figures, Manandhar gives space to all.

There is nothing like perfect as everything requires certain degree of evolution. But artist Manandhar has his own clear vision - what he wants is change to accommodate all. If the change cannot accommodate all, it will end in another revolution.

This is not only Manandhar's concept. After completing first and second phase of Jana Andolan, Nepalese have already seen third Jana Andolan which was launched in southern plains to establish the right of Madhesis.

He has claimed that his painting is the world's longest/largest painting. He drew

the painting in one day (April 25), in 130 meters long cloth, which was spread from top to bottom of Dharahara in Kathmandu.

Artist Manandhar has already drawn a number of paintings explaining various waves of society.

"As Dharaha is 62 meters in height, first it was decided we would paint that much, But I had already finished that much by noon, so it was decided that I would paint the rest of the 130 meters of cloth that had been brought. Dharahara was chosen because whenever big news had to be delivered to the people in the past, that was done from a big height," said Manandhar.

"From 2007, a lot of political changes have taken place and finally a new constitution is being made. It should be made soon which includes people of all caste, class and religion. The youths of today are very alert and if time is wasted like it was earlier, another revolution may take place. We just wanted to get this



message across," he said, adding, "My painting is figurative and semi abstract which has Nepal's scenic views, culture and people."

He also expressed pride that this is the longest painting that has been made in the world. ■

SPOTLIGHT

The News
Magazine
Packaged
with
Up-To-Date

News
Views
&
Analyses
Our Readers
Deserve The Best



SPOTLIGHT

The National News Magazine
BALUWATAR, GPO BOX: 7256

TELEPHONE: (977-1) 4423127, FAX: (977-1) 4417845

Email : spot@mail.com.np



The Star is in Your Favor.

Choose Your Lucky Casino!



CASINO NEPAL
Soaltee Compound
Tahachal, Kathmandu
Tel: 4280588
Fax: 9771 4271244
rdt@mos.com.np



CASINO ANNA
Hotel de L' Annapurna
Durbarmarg, Kathmandu
Tel: 4228650
Fax: 9771 4225228
casanna@mos.com.np



CASINO EVEREST
Hotel Everest
New Baneshwor, Kathmandu
Tel: 4780925
Fax: 9771 4782284
everest@mos.com.np



CASINO ROYALE
Hotel Yak & Yeti
Durbarmarg, Kathmandu
Tel: 4438619
Fax: 9771 4223933
royal_royale@hotmail.com



CASINO RAD
Radisson Hotel
Lazimpat, Kathmandu
Tel: 4420311
Fax: 9771 4445525
casinorad@mail.com.np



CASINO TARA
Hyatt Regency
Boudha, Kathmandu
Tel: 4482517
Fax: 9771 4470722
casinotara@mos.com.np