

Nepal, India to commence Ramayan and Buddha circuits

India would help establish Mithila Museum

Kathmandu: Nepal and India are to launch planned initiative to promote tourism in the Ramayan and Buddha circuits. Religious tourism has been put in priority on these circuits in a bid to boost tourism, thereby building a base for economic prosperity in both countries.

The circuits bear the mobility of huge number of people having religious faith. Along with the promotion of tourism, the cooperation on information, physical infrastructures and road expansion would be continued.

A meeting of the joint taskforce formed between the two countries to this regard took this decision, signing 14-point agreement, said the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi had shed light the importance of the Ramayan circuit during his



The religious sites of India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, where Lord Ram and Sita were believed to have reached in Terta era, will be connected through the Ramayana Circuit.

recent visit in Nepal. During the two day visit, prime ministers from both Nepal and India had jointly launched the bus service in the Ramayan circuit.

The Ramayan circuit connects the people around the religious sites of the Ramayana period from both countries where Nepal's Janakpur also belongs.

But, India has planned to link its 15 such sites in this circuit.

The religious sites of India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, where Lord Ram and Sita were believed to have reached in Terta era, will be connected through the Ramayana Circuit. It connects through Janakpur of Nepal, Ayodhya, Shringawerpur,

Chitrakut, Sitamadhi of Bihar, Bakar and Darbhanga, Nandigram of Western Bengal, Mahendragiri of Udisa, Jagadalpur of Chhatisgad, Bhadrachalam of Telangana, Ramesworam of Tamilnadu, Humpy of Karnataka and Nasik and Nagpur of Maharastra of India.

It is believed that the circuit would be spectacular for Nepal when the circuit has also connected Sita's maternal home and Ram's in-laws' house, Janakpurdham.

Though Sri Lanka has not been linked through the circuit right now, preparations are underway to establish connection among all three countries.

Likewise, the Buddha Circuit will link Tilaurakot, Ramgram, Gotihawa, Niglihawa, Namobuddha, halesi, Boudhanath and Soyambhu among others while keeping Lumbini at the centre.

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RJP-Nepal fails to make headway



Kathmandu : RJP-Nepal has failed to decide its general convention and select Parliamentary Party leader. The political committee meeting of RJP-Nepal, which was crucial to take an important decision failed to make any headway. Party General Secretary Keshav Jha said, "Since the meeting of political committee failed to come to a conclusion, the presidium would try to take necessary decisions regarding the plans for the national convention and the parliamentary party." The leaders of the political

committee have entrusted the leaders in the presidium to come up with concrete and uniform decision on the plans for the first national convention of the unified party.

The party has already declared that the national convention would be held on April 20-22 next year.

The meeting has clearly mandated the presidium to either join the government or begin the movement to withdraw support to the KP Sharma Oli government.

Opinion of leaders in the presidium remains divided. Therefore, they have failed to take major decisions for the party to move forward.

The meeting mandated the presidium to select the Parliamentary Party (PP) leader at the earliest by endorsing the statute of the PP.

Since most of the leaders were for dissolving the existing system of six-member presidium, the party is expected to endorse the statute that incorporates one-person leadership system.

Editor Ahiraj honored



Janakpur: Dhanusha District Youth Committee of the National Youth Council has honored Dr. Rajesh Ahiraj, editor of Madheshvani weekly and President of Madhesh Media House President. Dr. Ahiraj is well known Madhesh specialist and political commenter.

District Youth Committee honored Ahiraj at a program organized in Janakpur for his contribution for Nepal's youth movement.



Editorial

The threat of monsoon

The monsoon rain in Nepal is necessary for cultivating crops. The country with difficult geography and terrain relies heavily on rain water for agriculture as it lacks required technology and funds to irrigate most of its fertile land through artificial ways. It is said that the economy of Nepal, a nation where about 66 per cent of population eke out their livelihood from agriculture, will receive a blow in the event of long spell of drought because such a situation mars the chance of good harvesting of important crops. Despite monsoon rain proving a boon for the Nepali agriculture and overall economy, the same rain frequently leaves adverse impact on the lives and properties of the people. During the monsoon time, the Madhes is gripped by its disastrous impacts in the forms of floods, inundation, landslips and many other forms of disasters. Every year, fertile land of Madhesh as well as vital infrastructure fall prey to the monsoon related disasters, causing the loss of millions and millions of rupees to the people and the government coffer, not to speak of loss of life. Currently, the monsoon rain has been lashing the breadth and width of the nation. The weather experts in the nation have warned that all major rivers of the country would witness a rise of river water to dangerous levels. All the major rivers and their tributaries have swollen to such levels that they have caused flooding as well as inundation of

During the monsoon time, the Madhesh is gripped by its disastrous impacts in the forms of floods, inundation, landslips and many other forms of disasters.

large part of land in both in hills and flat Madhesh. Floods have already swept away houses, killed people, cattle and domestic animals, and inundated fertile land and damaged crops and other properties.

Our monsoon miseries are the products of lack of preparedness and awareness on the part of the government authority and the people. Years after years, the people and the nation come under the assaults of the monsoon-related disasters. Many of us do know that the during every monsoon season, the same kind of disasters, such as floods, inundation, landslips and damage to the vital infrastructure, will return to haunt us. However, the people and the nation continue to fall prey to such disasters, simply because the government authorities, the concerned ministries, departments and other line agencies abjectly fail to counter the challenges in time by making thorough preparations. Over the years we have come to realise that the government agencies have continuously been failing to set up embankments in the rivers or train the rivers and their tributaries. Likewise, proper measures aren't taken to protect the people from landslips or steps to avoid landslides. Most importantly, our authorities are often seen failing to take necessary measures to protect highways, bridges, transmission lines and other important places from falling victims to the monsoon related disasters. Protecting these entities would save millions of taxpayers' money while at the same time helping the government avoid ignominy of being termed as inept in handling disasters related impacts. On the other hand, the government authority needs to equip its departments and agencies so that they can efficiently aware the common people about lurking disasters. Accurate prediction of weather situation, floods and landslides would be helpful in saving several lives and peoples properties.

During any monsoon time in the country, a common person cannot help thinking that our government should work towards making its agencies and departments efficient to tackle the challenges of monsoon related disasters. Since all natural disasters always leave a deep impact on the life and properties of the people and on the nation's vital infrastructures, the government must make proper preparations to tackle any challenges of such natural disasters. Preparedness to curb or control the impact of the disasters would be the key to protect the life and properties and vital infrastructures of the country. The same would enable any government in avoiding criticism for being grossly inept.

Nepal-China: Reality Sets In - 1

Kamal Dev Bhattarai

As relations with India turn cordial, Nepal slows down the implementation of past agreements with China.

As the bilateral relationship with India warms up, Nepal's Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli has slowed down the implementation of some key agreements reached with China during his previous visit as a prime minister in 2016.

These agreements, which were termed as "historic" and "game-changing" two years ago, failed to make any

2016 outreach to China, under the rationale that Nepal must diversify its trade and supply systems. Oli got support from all walks of life for his attempts to do just that, and after political machinations forced him from office, he continuously criticized the two succeeding prime ministers — Pushpa Kamal Dahal and Sher Bahadur Deuba —

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed but it lacks details and clarity. Last month, a Chinese team arrived to conduct a pre-feasibility study of railway link between two countries, but it has yet to submit its report. During Oli's visit, the two countries agreed to expand Chinese railway to Kathmandu, dropping



headway during Oli's second visit to China as prime minister this week. Some new agreements have been signed, with a particular focus on boosting Chinese investment in Nepal, but very little progress has been made to implement past deals. Soon after the 2015 border blockade by India, Oli, then Nepal's head of government, signed a Transit and Transport Agreement with China, which in principle ended India's monopoly over the Nepali supply system. The border blockade, which the Indian government denied responsibility for, created a huge shortage of daily essentials, affecting the daily lives of Nepalis.

In response, the public rallied around Oli's

for failing to implement the agreement signed during his tenure. But now Oli himself has not been able to make substantial progress, either.

For example, back in 2016 Nepali officials held several rounds of talks on importing petroleum products from China. The two countries also agreed to direct their respective officials to finalize details regarding the supply of petroleum products. But while the deal to import oil from China has stalled, Nepal and India have already begun construction on a cross-border petroleum pipeline.

In another example, Nepal and China agreed in principle to develop a railway network across the Himalayas in 2016. A

an earlier plan to extend the same railway line to Lumbini, near the Nepal-India border. India had criticized the plan to extend the Chinese railway to Lumbini.

There are also disputes between Nepal and China concerning the project's funding. China has offered a loan for the construction of the Nepali side of the railway, but Nepal is requesting that the funding be a grant — to which China is unlikely to agree. Nepal fears being caught in a "debt trap" if the railway is funded through a loan from China. Oli's visit was expected to finalize the funding question for the railway, but there was no progress.

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Our aim is to include points that are not included in constitution

KP Oli is now heading the government of two-thirds majority.

If he works according to the agreement with us, it can be understood that the change in thinking of Madhes has come.

When is the demand for Federal Socialist Forum address after going to the government by making two-point agreement?

Of course, our party has joined the government by two-point agreement. The matter has already started talking about the amendment. It is finalized by all processions. We have gone to the government by agreeing that and it will be done.

The constitution amendment was the demand for the Federal Socialist Forum and the RJP-Nepal, whether it is discussed with the RJP on this matter?

It was wrong perception that the demand of the Federal Socialist Forum and the RJP is the same. There is their own concept of their own party. There was also a constitution amendment in our agenda. The RJP also has the constitution amendment of various agenda. It may be possible to have anything to say, but it does not mean that the party's agenda is the same. The purpose can be the same. We have already been in the direction of achieving the purpose for which we have gone to the government.

So there is a separate demand for amendment of the constitution of the RJP and Forum?

The objectives would be same but the procedures are different, the concepts are different. **But, both Forum and RJP launched Madhesh movement for the same demand?**

At some time, the RJP boycotted the elections, and we had gone to the polls. Agenda did not

leave us and even went to the election. Later on, on the same path, the RJP came and participated in the election. Soon there was a coincidence; we fought together with each other. Coincidence is a matter of place, but the processes differ. Accordingly, we are still moving forward.

Even if the draft amendments to be brought, there should have discussions with the leaders of RJP?

Politically, we all discuss with the parties. Now the government brings the proposal of amendment to the constitution, not us. We have the emphasis on the main objective of the proposal to amend the constitution to bring the government.

In the election time, especially by targeting then UML, Forum won the election by showing UML as anti Madhesh party. Now the party is participating in the leadership of the party. How much of this government has convinced that the constitution in which you amend?

It is a different subject what the persons says to win the election and with whom it can be made alliance. Our aim is to include points that are not included in the Constitution regarding Madhes. We are trying to cover the subject in the constitution. Now, the two communist parties have been formed to form a strong coalition alliance, in Madhesh's demand, it is impossible to do this work without dealing with them. In this situation, the government also called upon us to join the government. Therefore, in order to fulfill the purpose and interests of Madhesh, we have joined the government.

After the Prime Minister, have the change in the views of Madhesh of KP Oli?

It becomes difficult to be friends and enemies in politics. At the time of the election, there is an agenda. The atmosphere of that time is now over. Oli is now heading the government of two-thirds majority. If he works according to the agreement with us, it can be understood that the change in thinking of Madhes has come.

We have been in the government for a month. Therefore, it is not possible to say that everything is good, but it does not have to be a hurry to say that it is bad. Improve weaknesses and work according to the expectations of the people and progress towards the problems of the people, and the government will succeed in winning the mind of the people. The flood problem has been shown in Tarai and Madhes. It is the responsibility of the Government to make a long-term plan to provide relief to the people there and to reduce the damage of flood victims. On this point, the Government needs to take care of it.

Flood floods are increasing in every district of Madhes? What is the damage caused by floods?

Nepal government needs special attention to reduce damage from natural disaster. I play a role in reducing the damage caused by my own personal and party, and our party members have raised awareness about the government by talking about this matter in Parliament.

Why could not the government's attention go to the long-term solution of such issues that are annually?



Bimal Prasad Sribastav

Lawmaker, Federal Socialist Forum, Nepal

It is unfortunate that the government to ignore such issues. Emergency relief arrangements are made to victims from the flood victims, even if it does not take long term solutions. Therefore, the strongest government built now is to find long-term solutions by understanding the problems of the people of that region.

In Province 2, there is joint government of Forum and RJP-Nepal. You are participating in NCP-led government in the center. But why NCP withdrawal back in Province 2?

The government of Forum and RJP in Province 2 will not dissolve even if CPN or Nepali Congress withdraws their support. Our strategy of the state is different. There is still a consensus with the RJP and there is no discourse. There is no possibility of the government of Province 2 change now. Do not doubt it. If there is no agreement between the RJP and the Forum, there is no consensus on our cooperation in the Province 2.

What is the reason the Forum and RJP alliance cannot

expand in other areas except Province 2?

We participated in the elections as per the situation and there was a coalition where the need was felt. If the coalition was able to build a coalition in other places, the result could have been different. But unfortunately, we could not go through the alliance in Province 1 and Province 5, but we are pleased with the results received from the election. From this we will learn a lesson later. In the upcoming elections, we will also try to combine other areas in addition to Province 2.

What has changed during the recent Nepal visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

Relationship between Nepal and India is not the relationship we make. This is the relationship between generations. With the open border between Madhesh and India, roti-beti relation has also been established between us. So, if anyone wants to ruin the relationship with some of his or her own interests, this relationship does not break. If anyone searches for this relationship, then it will be imagined.

EPG's completes final joint report

Kathmandu: The Eminent Persons' Group (EPG) has completed its task making a uniform position on the controversial treaties and issues existed between Nepal and India including the treaty of 1950 and porous borders.

In the last meeting held in Kathmandu, EPG ended with joint report on the treaties and issues that so far has been the cause of general hiccups to serious tensions.

within its democratic constitution but new political and diplomatic world order has compelled to form clear outlook to world and neighbor.

In this backdrop, the old treaties and agreements, which are almost obsolete, should be renewed, replaced and amended. The EPG has come to this position in the given two years term.

Though the detail of the common report will be made public soon after



The biggest success of the EPG is to agree to replace the treaty of 1950 Peace and Friendship signed between Nepal and India 68 years before when Nepal was in a final battle to overthrow Rana Oligarchy. The treaty is unequal not only in terms of its contents, in terms of signatories too.

After the treaty, many and significant changes have taken place in Nepal and India as the role and responsibilities of the power nations have been redefined and reset. Nepal saw the three shifts in governing system – Constitutional Monarchy and Democracy, Absolute Monarchy-Federal Republic – and India also witnessed the dynasty rule to Hindu Fundamentalist-BJP.

India, a vibrant democracy since it became independence from United Kingdom on 1947- has been trying to address the domestics conflicts

meeting with the two Prime Ministers, it is said the EPG agreed to replace the old treaties with new one and regulate the open border.

As the Prime Minister Oli and Prime Minister Modi are moving forward with restoring normal relations leaving aside the controversies, the EPG report has given further impetus to make restored relations better. Prime Minister Oli, who has been leading the national interest without compromising sovereignty and territorial integrity, has pragmatically deployed balanced foreign policy. The visit of Prime Minister Oli to the India and China has remained as the evidence of his dignified and pragmatic foreign policy.

Both the governments should now fully own the EPG report and redefine Nepal-India relations in the changed context.

Indo-Nepal Art Exhibition begins

Kathmandu: A five-day Indo-Nepal Visual-Art Exhibition kicked off here at Nepal Art Council, Babar Mahal.

The exhibition will be showcasing around three dozen artworks of 12 Nepali and 15 Indian artists.

The participating Nepali artists are Ajit Sah, Devendra Thumkeli, Hari Om Mehta, Kumar Dorje, Manisha Shah, Nar Bahadur Bishwakarma, Rabindra Shrestha, Ramesh Kunwor, Ranju Kumari Yadav, Santosh Rai, Sapana Shah and Saroj Lamichhane.

Similarly, Amita Goswami, Atul Padia, Avani Shah, Bindu

Padia, Binita Parekh, Chandrakant Parmar, Greeshma Kothari, Harshana Birari, Lalit Solanki, Nandubhai Rathwa, Ridhi Singh, Sonjaye Maurya, Suryakant Goswami, Trupti Rawal and Vipul Gulati are the artists participating from India. On the occasion, besides Berry, culture expert Dr. Ram Dayal Rakesh, Nepali artist Ajit Sah and Indian artist Atul Padia had expressed their views on the themes, techniques and genres of the demonstrated artworks and the exhibition's importance on deepening the Nepal-India multi-dimensional ties.

Nepal, India to commence ...

India has been running Buddha circuit in around 700 kms linking Sarnath, Kusinagar and Shrawasti, among others putting Bodgaya at the centre. The circuits of both the countries will be connected each others once agreement to this effect was made from both sides.

As per the bilateral agreement, actions would be forwarded in a planned manner for the tourism promotion in which the Indian government has agreed to incorporate Nepal as a destination for visit in the package that it provides to its government officials.

Similarly, the Nepali vehicles would get an easy entry in India equal to the Indian vehicles enjoying in Nepal. For the approval to grant, the Indian side would advance necessary processes.

Construction of roads and bridges linking the two countries would be expedited while the private sectors of both the countries would market and promote Ramayana circuit, Buddhist circuit and adventurous tourism.

Furthermore, India would help establish Mithila Museum in Janakpur meant for promotion of religious and cultural tourism.

Likewise, Nepali citizens would get permission to climb Indian peaks in an easy manner as per the demand of Nepal.

As processes are underway to establish tourism university in Nepal, bilateral exchanges would be done for the educational programmes and practical classes in order to develop quality human resources in tourism.

As per the agreement, Indo-Nepal tourism forum would be formed for bilateral tourism potentials, promotion and marketing and carry out other activities for the cause.

Nepal has proposed to jointly construct a gate at Sunauli-Belhiya, Nepal-India border aimed at promoting the Buddhist philosophy.

The Ministry has expected that the gate in Indo-Nepal border will promote bringing in foreign visitors in the country as Nepal was preparing to mark 'Nepal Visit Year in 2020.'

The second meeting was led by joint secretary at the Culture Ministry of Nepal Ghanashyam Upadhyay and Joint Secretary at the Tourism Ministry of India Suman Billa.

The meeting also held discussions on the issues of expanding the aviation network between Lumbini and different Indian cities.

Following the meeting, Joint Secretary Upadhyay told that the meeting of joint taskforce was held with an objective of bringing foreign tourists in Nepal.

Madhesh may turn desert if no Chure conservation: Province 2 Chief

Janakpur: Chief of Province 2 Ratneshwor Lal Kayasta on Saturday cautioned that the south northern part of Madhes may turn into a desert land if it fails to conserve the Chure region.

He called for cooperation among civil servants to take initiatives to save the Chure from erosion. He was inaugurating at the 15th general assembly of the Council of Retired Civil Service Employees' at Janakpur in Dhanusa. On the occasion, Province Assembly member Ram Ashish Yadav suggested



Ratneshwor Lal Kayasta

taking initiatives for the welfare of retired civil servants who are often confronted with mental problems, common things in elderly people.

Mithila art and culture museum will be built: CM Raut

Janakpur: Chief Minister of Province -2 Mohammad Lalbabu Raut said that his provincial government was thinking of building a museum in Janakpur for Mithila art and culture.

Wrapping up a one-day Mithila painting exposition and competition in Janakpur, Chief Minister Raut also said that if his government was successful to attract national and international tourists to the Janaki Temple and Mithila art in Janakpur, it would be a great beneficiary for the development of Janakpur.

Altogether 29 Mithila artists from the districts of the province had taken part in the exposition-cum-completion hosted by Association of Nepali Terainin in America (ANTA).

All the 29 artists had created



their own kind of Mithila paintings within six hours for the competition.

Priyanka Suman was declared first, Ranju Yadav second and Chanda Sah third in the competition. The first prize carried a purse of Rs. 35,000 while the second and third received Rs. 20,000 and Rs.

15,000 respectively. Besides, other five artists were awarded consolation prizes Rs. 5,000 each.

Almost all the artists participated in the competition were women and children, and their home-made artworks were kept on the display, ANTA spokesperson Aprajita Mishra

Jha said.

The event was inaugurated by Chief Attorney General of the province Dipendra Jha.

On the occasion, Chief Attorney General Jha stated that an academy for literature and art would be established for the preservation and promotion of language, literature and art in the province.

Likewise, ANTA spokesperson Jha said that apart from the development of art and culture, her organisation was ready to work with the provincial government for the overall betterment of the province.

Similarly, ANTA founder president Ratan Jha stated that it was high time for the ANTA and the provincial government to identify the sectors in which they would collaborate for the development of the province.

Nepal chairs 55th session of SAARC programming Committee



Kathmandu: The 55th session of the Programming Committee of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation was held in Kathmandu. The meeting was chaired by Nepal.

SAARC Secretary General Amjad Hussain B Sial addressing the one-day session congratulated Krishna Prasad Dhakal, joint secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nepal, on assuming the chairmanship of the committee.

In his opening remarks, Dhakal reiterated Nepal's commitment to the SAARC process and commended constructive contribution of member states in the attainment of the objectives of SAARC, stated a press

release issued by the SAARC Secretariat.

The committee performs functions of selection of regional projects and their location, formulation of cost-sharing modalities and mobilisation of external resources.

The committee is also mandated to scrutinise budget of the SAARC Secretariat, SAARC Regional Centres and its specialised bodies, besides determining inter-sectoral priority and finalising annual calendar of activities. It makes its recommendations to the Standing Committee of SAARC comprising foreign secretaries.

The committee was accorded the status of a Charter Body of SAARC by the 18th SAARC Summit in Kathmandu in November 2014. The committee comprises heads of SAARC Division at the level of director general/joint secretary in the ministries of foreign/external affairs of the member states, who also act as national focal points of SAARC. The committee last met at the SAARC Secretariat in Kathmandu on December 12 and 13 last year.

Rescue operations help facilitate stranded pilgrims, says India

Kathmandu : The Embassy of India in Kathmandu said it swiftly mounted rescue operations since July 2 to help facilitate evacuation of the stranded pilgrims to safer locations in Nepal

in response to humanitarian situation arising out of more than 1,500 Kailash Mansarovar pilgrims stranded in Hilsa and Simikot.

“As part of the rescue operations, the embassy deployed its officials and representatives with medicines in all the affected areas like Hilsa, Simikot, Nepalgunj and Surkhet to facilitate possible assistance, including medical check-ups of elderly and ailing pilgrims,” read a press release issued by the Embassy.

An Emergency Control Room, with contact numbers of embassy officials, has also been functioning round the clock since July 2 to cater the need of the stranded pilgrims and their family members' queries, it informed.

The Emergency Control Room is equipped with eight-member



multilingual personnel to avoid language barriers.

A total of 1,225 stranded pilgrims were airlifted from Simikot to Nepalgunj and Surkhet. For pilgrims airlifted to Surkhet, the embassy also provided bus service to ferry pilgrims to Nepalgunj. Likewise, the embassy also worked with tour operators to airlift around 675 stranded pilgrims at Hilsa to Simikot for onward evacuation to Nepalgunj and Surkhet.

During the evacuation process, 74 commercial flights were operated and the embassy additionally pressed in private choppers MI-16 along with Nepali Army helicopters that made more than 142 sorties in the difficult terrains of Hilsa-Simikot-Nepalgunj sectors, the press release said.

'Rajbiraj hospital upgraded'



Upendra Yadav

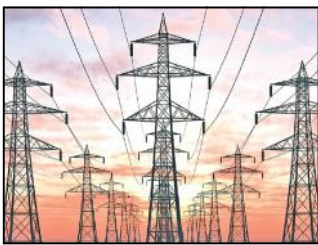
Rajbiraj: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health Upendra Yadav today said his ministry had allocated around Rs 750 million for upgradation of Gajendra Narayan Singh Sagarmatha Zonal Hospital in Saptari. DPM Yadav stated that the work on upgrading and modernising the hospital would start shortly. Yadav, who arrived in his constituency for the first time after becoming the health minister, inspected the health facility and addressed a gathering of hospital doctors, rights activists, and mediapersons.

In response to the concern expressed about lack of manpower at the hospital, the deputy prime minister argued that erroneous system and excessive political interference had affected services at the hospital rather than lack of human resources. "We will change the faulty system to improve services at the hospital," Yadav stated.

Yadav informed that his ministry had already taken the decision to fill vacant posts of doctors at hospitals and government-run health centres in the district. He said that work was on to prepare the list of doctors from Saptari working at other districts and they would soon be employed at the zonal hospital.

"Most of the doctors from Saptari are reluctant to return to the district. If they love their birthplace, they will have to come back," he added. He suggested the doctors, who are reluctant to return to Saptari, to quit their government jobs and open private clinics.

Nepal rejects India's proposal to increase power tariffs



Kathmandu: The electricity tariff being imported from India is not likely to increase immediately, thanks to Nepali delegation's rejection to a proposal floated by Indian side. In the 12th meeting of cross border power exchange committee concluded in New Delhi of India, the Indian delegation had proposed to hike electricity tariff as per the provision of bilateral electricity exchange programme. Executive Director of Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) Kulman Ghising had led the Nepali delegation in the meeting. During the talks, Indian side proposed to hike the tariffs up to 20 per cent.

According to NEA spokesperson Prabal Adhikari, Nepal refused to agree India's

proposal as the existing rate of the power purchased from India itself was already higher.

Currently, NEA is purchasing power from India at the range of 5.55 rupees to 6.45 rupees Indian currency. Both the sides have agreed to meet again within three months, said the members of Nepali delegation.

Meanwhile, three more transmission lines are being developed for the bilateral power exchange between Nepal and India. Dhangadhi-Paliya, Sampatiya-Anandanagar, Mainasing and Nanpara-Nepalgunj transmission lines would be forwarded following coordination between the authorized agencies of Government of Nepal and Uttar Pradesh of India.

A proposal would be submitted for the decision at the secretary-level meeting of both the countries by making technical preparations to this effect. However, Indian side has stated that further studies were required for the development of Dhangadhi-Paliya transmission line since it should be constructed along the national park region in India.

'Protest bans in capital undemocratic'

Kathmandu: Rastriya Janata Party Nepal leader Laxman Lal Karna has termed the government's decision to impose ban on staging protest, sit-ins and demonstrations in various areas of capital as undemocratic.

The Supreme Court Friday, following senior advocate Dinesh Tripathi's writ petition a day before, issued a stay order against the government's decision to ban protests at various places in the capital.

The government has decided to ban protests, sit-ins and demonstration programs in front of Shivapuri school, Kanti Child Hospital, Police Hospital, residential areas of Prime Minister, vice-president, Speaker and Chief Justice, Gairidhara, in front of parliament building, Singha Durbar area, Bhadrakali, Tinkune, Padmodaya area and Maitighar Mandala.

"Some of the works the government has done is totally wrong. Banning on peaceful protests in Maitighar Mandala and other places is undemocratic," Karna told Reporters Club Nepal.

"The government should not breach the laws given that it has



Laxman Lal Karna

majority in the House. The government's work is against the democratic spirit," he said. Karna also suggested the government not to ignore the agreements made with Dr senior orthopaedic surgeon Govinda KC, who is staging fast-unto-death in Jumla against the changes made in the Medical Education Ordinance.

The government had withdrawn the replacement bill earlier this week after protests by the opposition Nepali Congress over both the process and content of the legislation. Following its withdrawal from Parliament, the ordinance lapsed on July 4 after the government failed to get the replacement bill within 60 days of the commencement of parliament.

CM Raut inspects collapsed dam

Rautahat : Province 2 Chief Minister Lalbabu Raut took stock of the dam that was damaged due to the flooded LalBakaiya River at Inaruwa of Baudhimai Municipality, Rautahat.

The dam was damaged due to the flooded river on Tuesday. Personnel of Nepal Police, locals, people's representatives and officials of water-induced disaster and river control office have been carrying out emergency work to repair the dam for protection of the settlement in the adjoining areas.

CM Raut thanked security personnel and other stakeholders for carrying out emergency repairs as otherwise a large number of households of the locality would have been displaced and there would have been huge loss of property and lives.

CM Raut pledged to extend necessary support for repairs and development of necessary infrastructure and to save human



Lalbabu Raut

lives.

Earlier, CM Raut had directed the district chiefs and chiefs of security agencies to immediately rescue people at high risk of disaster in Bara, Parsa, Rautahat and Sarlahi. He also directed the authority to be on standby to mobilise security personnel and rescue operations to prevent disaster, conduct rescue and distribute relief in case of disaster in the four Tarai districts.

NC urges for effective relief and rescue of landslide and flood victims

Kathmandu: The Nepali Congress has urged the government to forward effective rescue and relief of the landslide victims immediately. The party also asked the government to save the life of landslide and flood victims. Issuing a press release, the NC asked the government to make arrangement of food, clothes, utensils and temporary shelter for the victim families in this sensitive hour of natural disaster.

The NC extended tribute to those, who lost their lives in flood and landslide, and expressed condolence towards the bereaved families. Similarly, the party also wished for speedy recovery of those injured in



incidents of natural disaster. The press release also drew the government's attention towards reconstruction of physical infrastructures like —roads, schools and bridges, damaged by the landslide and flood.

The landslide, flood and

inundation following the incessant rainfall since past few days across the country have also destroyed a huge amount of property. Around 20 people of Kailali, Banke, Sindhuli, Rolpa, Chitwan, Parsa, Mahottari, and

Sunsari districts lost their lives in the incidents of natural disaster.

Chief Secretary at the NC Central Office, Krishna Prasad Poudel, through the press release expressed sorrow over the incidents of inundation of thousands of hectares of fertile land as well as obstruction of transport service due to landslide and flood. The NC also directed its sister organisations, well wishers and cadres to make arrangement of rescue, relief and accommodation for the landslide and flood victims as well as to involve in relocating the people of disaster-risk areas to safer places.

Indian PM Modi likely to attend BIMSTEC summit in Nepal



Kathmandu: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to attend the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) summit on August 30 and 31 in Nepal. The summit of heads of governments of the seven member countries — Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal — was to be held in March, but was rescheduled due to domestic developments in the Himalayan nation.

On June 6, Modi had greeted the leaders of BIMSTEC countries on the group's 21st anniversary, saying the shared values would further strengthen cooperation and pave way for heightened development. "Greetings to fellow leaders and citizens of

BIMSTEC on its 21st anniversary. Our shared values will further strengthen our friendship and cooperation, and pave way for heightened development of this region which is among the youngest and fastest growing economies of the world," Modi had tweeted.

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bhutanese Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay, Myanmar President Win Myint, Nepal Prime Minister KP Oli, Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena and Thailand Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha are also expected to attend the summit to take a stock of progress of the regional organisation and set policies of the regional organisation, officials said.

The regional body, established in 1997, is often perceived as an alternative to SAARC. On the sidelines of the BRICS summit in Goa in October 2016, the BIMSTEC leaders had gathered in India for an outreach summit.

Road map for sustainable development on cards, leader Nepal says

Janakpurdham: Communist Party of Nepal (CPN) senior leader and former Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal has opined for preparing the road map of prosperity after assimilating the principle of sustainable development.

Speaking at an interaction programme, leader Nepal focused on identifying the possible resources to translate them into developmental programmes. He also focused on developing the infrastructures so as they could meet the goal of prosperity.

Similarly, speaking in the same programme, Minister for Federal Affairs and General Administration Lal Babu Pandit said that the journey to prosperity should be based on the availability of resources.

Likewise, Chief Minister Lal Babu Raut drew the attention of federal government not to encroach upon the jurisdiction of the provincial government.

Physical Infrastructure Minister at the province-2 Jitendra Prasad Sonal focused on preparing the long term plan for the development of the province.

PM Oli lays emphasis on reforms for prosperity

Kathmandu: Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli has laid emphasis on reforms at foundation level for the development and prosperity of the country.

During a meeting with lawmakers from Province 2 at Prime Minister Residence in Baluwatar, he stressed the need to create robust economic foundation at base for country's prosperity.

The delegates drew PM's attention towards bringing reforms in education, health and social sector in the Province. In response, PM Oli said the province's lawmakers should involve themselves in carrying out reforms, said PM Oli's press coordinator Chetan Adhikari.

PM Oli came down heavily on the bad practices of establishing reconciliation between perpetrators and victims under various pretexts. "Victim of any kind of violence should get justice. Perpetrators and the mediators arbitrarily reconciling the cases without victim's consent will be booked."

CM Raut decry lack of cooperation from bureaucracy



Janakpur: Chief Minister Lal Bahadur Raut has underscored political commitment and acceptance from the employees for the successful implementation of the federalism. Addressing the inaugural session of a seminar themed 'Management of Transitional Federalism' in Janakpur, CM Raut argued that the future of the federalism achieved after a long struggle and sacrifices

would depend upon the success of federalism in Province No 2.

He expressed the determination that he was ready to take any steps for the successful implementation of federalism. Arguing that the bureaucracy has not playing cooperative role, Chief Minister Raut warned that they would be compelled run the province after recruiting staffs on contract basis if non-cooperation continues.

Flood damages Mahuli Bridge in Saptari

Saptari: The flooded Mahuli River has damaged the bridge connecting East-West highway at Saptari. The flood has caved nearly 50 meters of the shore and led to cracks on the road.

The Armed Police Force and Nepal Police are continually monitoring the bridge's condition and easing vehicular movement from one side, according to SP Mukesh Kumar Singh, chief of District Police Office.

India wanted bilateral ties to be more cordial, says Koshiyari

Kathmandu: Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, coordinator of the Eminent Persons Group on Nepal-India Relations from India, paid calls on President Bidhya Devi Bhandari, Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli and Defense Minister Ishwor Pokhrel.

The meetings follow the ninth and final meet of the EPG held in Kathmandu that agreed on a joint report, which they plan to submit to prime ministers of the two countries soon.

During the meeting held with Minister Pokhrel, the two discussed contemporary Nepali politics, the government's work plan, various issues related to Nepal-India relations, according to Pokhrel's personal secretariat.

Conveying that the EPG agreed on a joint report within the stipulated time, Koshiyari said the report was prepared in such a way that any possible problems in bilateral relations could be avoided.

The senior leader of India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party also said that India wanted bilateral ties to be more strong and cordial. Thanking Koshiyari for playing a crucial role in preparing the joint report, Pokhrel expressed his belief that the two governments would work to implement the recommendations in the report.

"The way the joint report has been agreed with consensus, you should play an important role in effective implementation of the recommendation the same way," said Pokhrel during the meeting.

Stressing that meetings and interactions at political level should take place frequently to strengthen bilateral relations, Pokhrel said any issue in the relations should be sorted out through mutual understanding.



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- ↳ Engineering Entrance Second Topper (2005)
- ↳ HRES Science Topper (2007 & 2011)
- ↳ HRES Science Second Topper (2008)
- ↳ HRES Management Topper (2010 & 2011)
- ↳ CAPM Nepal Topper (2011)

Creativity & Innovation

- ↳ Winner of National Science Exhibition (2014)
- ↳ Winner of Inter-College Science Competition (2013)
- ↳ Winner of Nation-wide Science Exhibition (2013)
- ↳ Winner of Robotics Competition (2013)
- ↳ Winner of Robotics Competition IIRC-India (2012)

Exams and Co-curricular Activities

- ↳ Winner of National Inter-College Cricket Cup (2014)
- ↳ Winner of HISSAN Female Futsal (2013)
- ↳ Winner of Inter-College Super Cup Cricket (2013)
- ↳ Winner of MBBS-NEPAL Cup (2013)
- ↳ Winner of Miss Face of the World Nepal (2013)
- ↳ Winner of SPA Cricket Cup (2009 & 2010)



Schedule

Form Distribution:
Upto 24th Asadh

Entrance Examination:
24th Asadh (Sunday)

Result Publication:
25th Asadh (Monday)

Admission:
25th Asadh onwards

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