

Constitution Day marked as 'Black Day' in Madhesh 'Country would face serious consequences if not amended'

Kathmandu: While Nepal celebrated the Constitution Day on September 19, youths of Madhes observed Black Day to demonstrate their resistance over the constitution. The Constitution of Nepal was promulgated four years ago.

To commemorate the constitution promulgation day, the government of Nepal has public holiday to observe the day. The youths in Madhes has announced the Black Day on the Constitution Day.

The youths have demanded the amendment of the constitution in such a manner that meets the aspirations of discontented communities to ensure social justice for rebuilding long-lasting peace in Madhes and Nepal.

In Province 2, Chief Minister Lalbabu Raut, snubbed all of the functions organized on the occasion.

Some of provincial ministers, however, attended the anti-constitution protests to mark the day as a black day. The ministers' protest was organized just after civil servants and members of



security forces organized a rally in support of the constitution. Chief Minister Raut didn't attend a cleanup program that was attended by chief district officers and top civil servants and mayor of Janakpurdhham.

As per agreement reached during the all-party meeting, it had been decided that all stakeholders would be present at the Janaki Temple on Friday, to mark the Constitution Day. But Chief Minister Raut and his ministers didn't show up as promised.

Instead, Principle Secretary Shankar Subedi led the

celebration.

Shortly after the celebration function, ministers and lawmakers elected from Raut's party, Rastriya Janata Party Nepal, marked the Constitution Day as a Black Day.

Physical Infrastructure Development Minister Jitendra Sonal, Industry, Tourism, Forest and Environment Minister Ram Naresh Raya and Social Development Minister Nawal Kishor Sah carried black banners in their hands and wore black bands around their heads and chanted anti-constitution slogans.

In his address to the party

supporters Chief Minister Raut warned that the country would face serious consequences if the constitution amendment was delayed. In the evening, RJPN cadres enforced a 15-minute black out in protest of the 'discriminatory' provisions in the Constitution starting from 7 pm.

Similarly, Indigenous groups also held a big rally in Kathmandu marking a protest day. They carried out the protest rally demanding to abrogate the present regressive constitution.

A meeting of Province 2 government held on September 3 had formed the Constitution Day Celebration Main Organising Committee led by the chief minister. The banner showed Province 2 government was the organizer of the program, but none was present from the province government.

The sanitation program was launched from Zero Mile to Bus Park and pamphlets against dengue were distributed in Janakpurdhham.

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Indian State Minister attended Constitution Day celebration program

Kathmandu: Minister of State for External Affairs of the Government of India V. Muraleedharan attended chief guest of Constitution day and National Day of Nepal.

Ambassador of Nepal to India Nilamber Acharya hosted a reception on the auspicious occasion of the Constitution Day and National Day.

Among the guests attending the reception were officials of the Government of India, Delhi-based Ambassadors, diplomats, Members of Parliament, political leaders, members of business community, scholars, artists, media persons, members of Nepali community in



India as well as people from various walks of life.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Acharya highlighted the importance of the Constitution Day and National Day for Nepal as well as the key attributes of Nepal's Constitution. He said that the Constitution has laid strong foundation for the inclusive polity based on social justice and it has incorporated all the fundamental norms and values of democratic governance. Mentioning about the inclusive nature of the Constitution, the Ambassador stated that the mixed electoral system for the

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Editorial

Constitution Day v/s Black Day

There are certain days in a nation's life which carry both symbolic and historical meaning. The Constitution Day is such an occasion which symbolises people's quest for a life enriched by the value of justice, equality and dignity. In democracy, a constitution is the core document that defines the system of governance, process of election, separation of power, system of checks and balances and the protection of people's rights. Without a constitution, the dream of people for the right to life, dignity, equality and prosperity remains unfulfilled.

Nepali people's struggle for a system based on constitutional supremacy, reached qualitatively different level as a result of victory in the People's Movement of 1990. It was a great historical watershed which brought an end to the autocratic monarchical system based on family succession. For the first time in history a parliamentary democracy with constitutional monarchy was established in the country. The people got a democratic constitution where the principle of people's sovereignty was enshrined. However, there were some constitutional

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loopholes which were misused by the subsequent Shah kings when the country was in the midst of decade long insurgency.

The people's movement of 2006 was a political movement which galvanised all the democratic forces fighting for change and created a force strong enough to overthrow monarchy which was trying to entrench itself by reducing democratic values to naught. Finally, the cherished dream of the Nepali people to own a constitution was fulfilled through two consecutive constituent assemblies. When it was promulgated on September 20, 2015 with a two-thirds majority of the Constituent Assembly, both internal and external forces combined to subvert it. They questioned the competence of the sovereign parliament's authority to promulgate accusing it of legitimising the exclusion of the Terai people. Creating a false premise for opposing the constitution, they did everything possible to turn it into a dead letter by undermining its implementation.

But not everyone felt the same way, as many Madhesi, Tharus and indigenous groups marked September 20, Constitution Day, as a 'black day'.

NEFIN, the umbrella organisation of indigenous nationalities, has been leading protest programmes against the constitution ever since it was promulgated in 2015. Janajati leaders raised questions over the government's failure to amend the constitution in the four years since its promulgation.

Protest programmes were visible especially in Province 2, where the Madhes-based Rastriya Janata Party Nepal led a rally in Janakpur with black headbands and black flags as symbols of protest.

Now, the ship of the Nepali nation has reached the home stretch by successfully negotiating a rough stretch marked by stormy waves and hidden shoals. The credit for this goes to the able captainship of our prime minister KP Oli who has been leading the country to stability, rule of law and prosperous future. On this day, all the Nepali people should stand united and pledge not to allow anyone to tarnish the sanctity and sacredness of the constitution through the acts of betrayal and treachery.

Citizenship, identity and Nepal's contested constitution

- Nirnaya Bhatta and Maximillian Morch

Four years ago, celebrations erupted across the Nepali capital after President Ram Baran Yadav stood in front of the Constituent Assembly and promulgated a new constitution. The constitution formally declared Nepal a federal democratic republic and was the product of the second Constituent Assembly which had been in session since 2013. The final proceedings of the constitution were fast tracked in an ephemeral moment of political unity as the country still reeled from the devastating April earthquakes earlier the same year.

New constitutions were introduced in Nepal in 1948, 1951, 1959, 1962, 1990, 2007 and 2015. Each edition indicated a change in the political outlook of Nepalis and a demand for change of the status quo to varying degrees. The 2015 Constitution of Nepal sought to, at least in spirit, usher in Naya Nepal (New Nepal), a Nepal that brought equality to all Nepalis. Today's 30-year-old Nepalis would have been born into a system of Panchayat (a party-less system), where Nepal was the world's last Hindu kingdom, run by an absolute monarch. Now with the new constitution, Nepal became a federal secular republic with representative democracy. Its monarchy, which had reigned since 1768, was abolished in 2008.

Yet the celebrations that accompanied the constitution in Kathmandu, supposed to bring in a new era of unity and domestic harmony in the country and direct Nepal on the road to a more inclusive state, only served to illustrate the fundamental differences between the different ethnic groups that make up Nepal. The constitution was bitterly opposed in the southern plains adjoining India with protests which left at least 45 dead (including civilians and security personnel). That a document brought a sense of unity in the hills, yet signified the same old division in the plains, is indicative of the scale of the issue the Nepali state needs to deal with.

The 2015 Constitution of Nepal failed to address the demands of Madhesi and indigenous populations,

particularly concerns regarding the drawing of federal boundaries. Most contentious of all was the citizenship criteria indicative of the two tiered legal system on offer. This criteria, which was discriminatory against Madhesi and women and made it very difficult for both women and Madhesis to pass on citizenship to their children. The fact that what was otherwise such a progressive and reformist constitution, which brought monumental changes in the country's legislature, governance and administration would retain outdated citizenship requirements was surprisingly conservative. Yet displeasure at the constitution was not just limited to inside the country, as India soon sought to justify a blockade of Nepal's borders in protest.

have gone away. Indeed, this is immensely important as in the long run, there are few issues facing Nepal that may be more problematic than citizenship and the wider question around Nepali identity, which is itself directly related to the (indirect) restrictive citizenship requirements in the constitution for Madhesis.

Conservatives, in the name of national security, have not been inclined toward inclusion and measures they have taken have made it difficult for the non-Nepali spouse of a Nepali woman to acquire citizenship, fearing that masses of Indian men will populate and take up important positions in Nepal. But conservatives need to seriously contemplate the question if being non-inclusive is a good security strategy in the long run? In short, is it a good security

The 2015 Constitution of Nepal failed to address the demands of Madhesi and indigenous populations, particularly concerns regarding the drawing of federal boundaries. Most contentious of all was the citizenship criteria indicative of the two tiered legal system on offer.

Those defending the constitution and its overzealous citizenship requirements point to an open and highly porous border with India and the need to safeguard state sovereignty. Yet ill-considered fears of a mass influx of Indian migrants clamoring for Nepali citizenship should not be allowed to close off avenues to Nepali citizenship and access to the many benefits of the State that comes with it. After all there are many marginalized communities in Nepal which for a myriad of reasons have been unable to secure citizenship or documentation to this day. Today, while for some Constitution Day is a celebration of the ending of the final restructuring required after the civil war and is a marker of the progress Nepal has made since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2006, for others celebrations in the face of complaints signify how far there is to go to achieve a fair and equitable Nepal. Lawmakers and policymakers should not confuse a quiet Terai for a placated one. Just because the Terai is no longer aflame does not mean the concerns of such communities

policy to alienate the Madhesi through the introduction of such stringent citizenship criteria? With the parliamentary deliberations on Citizenship Amendment Bill almost concluded, already there are fears that scores of Madhesi will be back on the streets, demanding not to be shunned aside (again).

For those committed to a socially progressive inclusive Nepal, there needs to be deliberate efforts made to incorporate the Madhesi and other marginalized communities into the popularly envisaged national identity of Nepal and this cannot happen without a reconciled approach to the countries citizenship restrictions to ensure that such communities are brought into both the Nepali State, through avenues to citizenship, and the Nepali Nation. To operationalize the constitution, many scores of acts are being enacted and existing ones amended. There may be no better time than now to consider Madhesi sensitivities. Doing so will require deliberate action to expand the Nepali identity umbrella beyond "Ek bhasa, ek bhusa (one national language and attire)."

Necessity of charter amendment already justified

➤ *It has been four years on since the constitution was promulgated, but you are still protesting without feeling of belonging to the constitution, is it still fair to oppose the constitution?*

• The Nepali people's movement demanded that a federal constitution should be drafted from the Constituent Assembly. Accordingly, the Interim Constitution was a consensus document. On the basis of the 16-point agreement, the four sides were declared the constitution. Even then, we protested. We wanted everyone to accept the constitution as consensus document. But they ignored our demand and issued the constitution. We have achieved federalism, democracy, secularism, proportionality, inclusiveness. These issues are positive which our movement also demanded. In this constitution we have raised the subject of amendment.

address the issues of disagreements by amending the constitution. It is not only Madhesh but the issue of the country itself.

➤ *Why do you celebrate the Constitution Day as a black day rather than a section of the constitution that discriminates people?*

• We have also supported the current government that it could amend the constitution. We also raised voices in the parliament time and again. The people already knew what we did for the constitution amendment. We have repeatedly told the people that the promulgated constitution was issued in our dissent. The government had issued an order to celebrate Constitution Day but people did not celebrate the day spontaneously. There is no point for celebrating the constitution through an order but it is a matter of belongingness. It is a two-thirds government

constitution should be amended on the basis of need and justification.

• The constitution amendment requirement and it has been justified already. In the past, the Congress and the Maoists voted for amending the constitution. The Madhesi Party has more responsibility. This constitution also was made through our great sacrifices and contributions. The release of the democratic republic constitution through the Constituent Assembly is also a matter of pride for Nepal. There is no other option than to amend the constitution through the process of legitimacy and electoral process. Then Forum (Socialist Party) had joined the government with the issue of amending the constitution. So they have more responsibility to amend the constitution.

We have not instructed to mark Constitution Day as black day. The people spontaneously celebrated it as Black Day.

- We have achieved federalism, democracy, secularism, proportionality, inclusiveness. These issues are positive which our movement also demanded.

-We still disagree on some of the clauses of the constitution so that protecting the achievements of the constitution.

-This constitution also was made through our great sacrifices and contributions.

-Unity of the RJP and the Socialist Party is also a desire for Madhesi, indigenous.

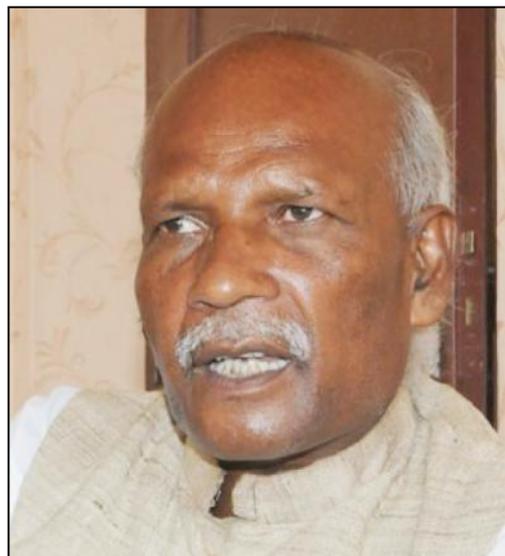
Even revision was also made in the first stage. Even now, a demand has been submitted to parliament for amending the constitution. The amendment proposal was registered in parliament. We participated in the election to hope that the constitution would be amended and to protect the achievements gained through the constitution. The people voted for us in terms of amending the constitution. As a result RJP-Nepal and Socialist Party are running the joint government in Province 2. We still disagree on some of the clauses of the constitution. So that protecting the achievements of the constitution, it is our intention that the government of the two-thirds should

that can solve the country's problems. It should come with more responsible for peace and stability in the country. Right now, the issues written in the constitution are being violated. Proportional inclusive representation is mentioned in the constitution itself, but at the local level, the public service has advertised against the constitution while demanding staff.

➤ *In the past, then Forum Nepal and RJP-Nepal marked black day all over Madhes, now Socialist Party is in government but mum. Your protest also was not being effective. Other side, the government is also saying that the*

➤ *How confident are you that the KP Oli-led government will amend the constitution?*

• It is also an opportunity and responsibility for them to bring the country out of conflict and make this constitution acceptable for all. By understanding this responsibility, and seeking the basis of need and justification, the influence of the Western powers in the country increases. Reshm Chaudhary is still in jail and hundreds of our cadres are still facing false charges. Thousands of people have become disabled during the agitation. They did not receive the treatment costs yet. The report of the Lal Commission has not been made public. If such issues are not addressed on time,



**Mahendra Raya Yadav
Leader, RJP-Nepal**

the constitution itself could be threatened. The achievements that we received can be equally lost, so it is important to be vigilant over time.

➤ *The date of the general convention of party was fixed on November 14-16 but it does not seem to have much preparation. There is also talk of unification with the Socialist Party. So first whether general convention or unification?*

• Our party has also adopted both policy of a convention and uniting the party. We have formed a talk team to discuss the issue of unification. The team is discussing informally. Negotiations are ongoing on both sides. The balance of power in the national politics of Nepal has changed. The country needs an alternative force. The unity of the RJP and the Socialist Party create an alternative force. There is also a desire for Madhesi, indigenous that parties to be united. With party unification, the oppressed communities in the country will have a chance to rise. Everyone wants the two parties to be unity and also

to hold the general convention of unity. That is why both parties have moved extended their general convention for six months.

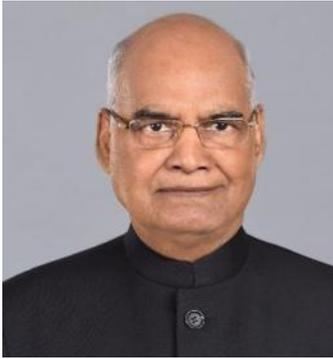
➤ *What first either general convention or unity?*

• The unity is a major issue. We are at the negotiating table. Until at the negotiating table, the atmosphere for the general convention could not begin. It is the best first to unite the parties and hold joint general convention. Doing so, it can create alternative powers. Not only Madhesh, it is the demand of the nation.

➤ *Why the need for unification of RJP and Socialist Party?*

• We formed RJP by uniting six parties and it was desire of country and people. As we six parties were united and one of our parts was left. During Maletha incident in Saptari, we promised they could also be brought under unification. In this country, the Congress and the Communist are united against Madhes and the indigenous. We need to address the issue of Madhesi and indigenous as an alternative force.

India extends best wishes on Constitution Day



Kathmandu: Presidents of India has extended best wishes to the Government of Nepal and entire Nepalis on the occasion of Constitution Day.

“On behalf of the Government, the people of India and on my own behalf, I have the pleasure to extend warm greetings and felicitations to Your Excellency

and to the people of Nepal on the occasion of your National Day,” read the message sent by President of India Ram Nath Kovind addressing to President of Nepal, Bidya Devi Bhandari. “India and Nepal are bound together by not only shared geography but also by history, culture, civilization and close people to people ties. Our continuously expanding partnership today spans across diverse sectors. We stand committed to continue our close cooperation with Nepal for the development and prosperity of our people, according to the statement of good wishes,” he said.

Kovind further said “I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your gracious invitation to me and my wife to visit your beautiful country.

Regular exchange of visits at the highest levels between our two countries demonstrates the priority that we attach to our close partnership. I look forward to visiting Nepal at a mutually convenient time.”

The message said “I convey my best wishes for Your Excellency’s good health and well-being as well as for the continued prosperity and progress of the friendly people of Nepal.”

Likewise, offering best wishes on the occasion, US President Donald J Trump in a message of greetings said addressing to President Bhandari “On behalf of the American people, I extend warm wishes to you and the people of Nepal on the occasion of Constitution Day,” read the message of greetings sent by

President Trump addressing to President Bhandari.

Also, extending best wishes on the occasion, President of the Swiss Confederation, Ueli Maurer in a message of greetings said addressing to President Bhandari, “On behalf of the Swiss Federal Council and the people of Switzerland, it gives me great pleasure to send you and your country’s citizen our best wishes on your Sambhidhaan Diwas. I would like to take this opportunity to wish a bright and promising future—for you in your official role as well as for your country and its residents.”

“Switzerland is committed to maintaining a strong relationship with the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal and we look forward to building on this in mutual accord.”

Constitution Day marked ...

Despite the fact that the provincial government had formed the main organizing committee, the CM and other ministers abstained from taking part in the program as Samajbadi Party-Nepal decided to stay silent. Samajbadi Party Province 2 Chair Bijay Yadav said his party did not have any function to mark Constitution Day. “We are neither supporting nor protesting the Constitution Day,” said Yadav, who is also minister of financial affair and planning. Rastriya Janata Party-Nepal, however, decided to observe Constitution Day as a black day.

Constitution Day was marked in Rautahat district headquarters Gaur and Chandrapur

While a procession was taken out in Gaur as early as 6:30am, the procession concluded into a constitution day wish exchange programme at the District Coordination Committee office.

CDO Kiran Thapa, Nepal Police SP Bhupendra Khatri, Armed Police Force SP Rabinraj Karnajit, Nepal Army colonel Samantadhwoj Kand and National Investigation Department’s SP Abhinaya Singh were present in the event.

A similar procession was taken out at the initiative of Chandrapur Municipality. The procession was participated in by all government and non-government organisations, schools and personnel of security agencies. Government offices and banks in the municipality had flown national flag on their premises today to mark the auspicious day.

Madhesis, indigenous community and others, who were dissatisfied with the statute, didn’t take part in today’s celebration. Rastriya Janata Party-Nepal held a protest in Gaur in the afternoon today, calling the constitution as discriminatory and demanding release of Resham Chaudhary, a parliamentarian who is in prison. Around 50 persons, including Gaur Municipality Mayor Ajaya Gupta and Deputy Mayor Kiran Thakur, took part in the protest.

Indian State Minister ...

federal parliament has guaranteed representation of women as well as various communities of Nepal’s diverse society.

The Ambassador spoke about the comprehensive and multidimensional nature of Nepal-India relations. Stressing on importance of economic engagement between the two countries, he made a point that economic dimension is increasingly receiving greater focus at both leadership and functional levels. Connectivity and infrastructure receive top priority in our engagement, Ambassador Acharya said, so does cooperation in water resources and hydropower as well as trade, transit and investment.

Ambassador Acharya hoisted the national flag in the Embassy premises in presence of members of Nepali community in India and the Embassy officials and staff. Interaction program on Constitution was also held.

Oli wishes to Modi in three languages



Kathmandu: Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli has extended birthday wishes to his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi in three different languages.

Oli has extended the message to Oli via Twitter. He has used English, Hindi and Gujrati languages while extending birthday wishes to Modi.

“Heartiest greeting to Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modiji on your auspicious birthday, I wish for your good health, happiness and well-being.”

“We will continue to work together for further consolidating multifaceted Nepal-India relations,” Oli has written. The tweets read: Heartiest greetings to Prime Minister Shri @narendramodiji on your auspicious birthday. I wish for your good health, happiness and well being. We will continue to work together for further consolidating multifaceted Nepal-India relations. Modi is observing his 69th birthday on Tuesday.

Nepal Railway Company to operate Janakpur-Jayanagar railway

Kathmandu: The government is planning to assign the state-owned Nepal Railway Company to operate and manage the newly upgrade Janakpur-Jayanagar railway line. The government is planning plans to recruit more employees to work for the company, government sources say. For that, the department has already requested the Public Service Commission to add more staff.

Department of Railway Director General Balaram Mishra confirmed that Nepal Railway Company will operate the railway the same way it did before. Nepal Railway Company was founded in 1972, but it hasn't been in operation since 2014. The company will use an engine currently being



assembled in India by Konkan Railway. The government signed an agreement with Konkan Railway to procure the engine for around Rs 846 million in May. The Indian

company has said it will deliver the engine by December. As the date of the handover nears, the department is starting its preparations to operate the service. Nepal Railway Company

is preparing to hire around 200 employees, including railway engineers, mechanical engineers, train operators, station managers, and ticket officers to run the railway. However, as of now, the company only has provisions to hire 20 employees.

Even though the government has said it will operate the railway on its own, it will still need technical assistance from India because the government doesn't have the knowhow to operate a railway. "Our staff have no clue how to operate the broad-gauge railway which is why we've held talks with India and they've said they'll help train our staff," said Mishra.

Prior to this, Nepal had a train which operated on coal. However, now the train will be operated on diesel and electricity.

Province 2 NCP leaders demand action against Mahaseth, Shah



Kathmandu: 16 central members of the ruling CPN from Province 2 have submitted a letter demanding action against Minister for Physical Infrastructure and Transport Raghubir Mahaseth, the party chief in the province Prabhu Sah and other leaders. Deputy incharge of the party in the province and central member Nagendra Chaudhary, and 15 other central members including Mahendra Paswan, Ram Chandra Jha, Gopal Thakur, Ram Chandra Yadav, Sri Prasad Sah, Ratneshwore Goit Yadav, Ram Kumar Sharma, Mamata Giri, Sarala Yadav, Dinesh Rai, Jagat Prasad Yadav, Shatrughan Mahato, Bodh Maya Yadav and Rabindra Baitha have written to the party secretariat Tuesday demanding action against those violating the party statute, intra-party instruction and circulars, and the party be operated in accordance to due procedure and discipline. They have demanded the party chairman in the province Sah,



incharge Satya Narayan Mandal, deputy incharge Bishwo Nath Sah and secretary Suman Pyakurel be dismissed and stringent action taken against them for creating uneasy situation by holding oath-taking ceremony violating the circular of party's central committee. They have also demanded Minister Mahaseth be removed from the standing committee for violating article 34(b) of the party's interim statute. They have demanded removal of some of the leaders nominated in the provincial committee and inclusion of other senior and competent leaders. They have demanded revocation of nomination of unqualified members in all the district committees in the province against the article 36(b) of the party's interim statute and special circular (a) of the party, and nomination of senior and qualified leaders. They have also demanded immediate stopping of illegal formation of committees under the district committees.

Ajit Dhovel becomes more powerful in India

Kathmandu: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's national security advisor Ajit Dhovel has become more powerful in the Indian politics.

Dhovel has received all the responsibility under the Indian External Affairs Ministry. Now onward, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar should report to Dhovel. National security, policy, foreign affairs, external affairs ministry, Indian Diaspora affairs, defence, internal security, atomic energy and investigation departments related ministries' responsibility will be taken by Dhovel, according to the Indian External Affairs ministry.

Earlier, Indian external intelligence RAW was reporting to PM Modi, from now onward, it will also report to Dhovel.

In Modi's second tenure, Dhovel has been rewarded with ministerial level status and with the new responsibilities, he is responsible for analyzing and formulating Indian policy towards the neighbouring countries.



NCP and CPC to hold interaction today

Kathmandu: The Nepal Communist Party (NCP) and Communist Party of China (CPC) are going to hold comprehensive interaction on deferent ideological issues on 23 and 24 September.

NCP and CPC leaders will hold comprehensive interaction, informed Devendra Poudel, deputy chief of School Department of NCP. Chinese Foreign Department chief Song Tao led delegation will participate at the two-day workshop.

Seminar paper will be presented by the Chinese leaders on CPC's functioning and role, whereas, NCP leaders will present paper on NCP's functioning and role.

Three Chinese leaders and also three NCP leaders will present their paper at the workshop, said Poudel.

NCP chair and PM KP Oli is going to inaugurate the workshop amidst a function chaired by DPM and School Department chief Ishwor Pokhrel. Chinese supreme leader Xi Jinping's vision, thought and philosophy will be discussed during the workshop.



Nepal's agenda in UNGA- Peace, Climate Crisis and Development

Kathmandu: Nepal will be vocally raising development-related topics in the high-level meetings of the 74th General Assembly of the United Nations.

Minister for Foreign Affairs, Pradeep Kumar Gyawali, has reached to New York to attend the meetings leading the Nepali delegation. The high-level meetings are taking place from September 23 to 27 in New York, USA. Nepal will participate actively in and express its views regarding its development priorities and international issues of common concern in the high-level meetings related to climate change, sustainable development, global health concern, high-level political forum for sustainable development, investment for development and least developed countries affairs, among other topics.

At the backdrop of Nepal is preparing to host Sagarmatha Sambat on Climate Crisis in February 2019, Minister Gyawali's engagement with the heads of the governments and states especially of the mountainous and Island



nations will be more fruitful. Heads of State or of Government or Vice President or Deputy Prime Minister or Minister for Foreign Affairs and delegates from 188 countries of the world will participate in the UNGA. A Nepali delegation including Minister for Forests and Environment, Shakti Bahadur Basnet, will participate in a meeting related to climate change to be held on September 23. Nepal will inform the meeting regarding the

implementation of the Climate Change-2019 strategy by the government as well as the measures adopted towards adaptation capacity enhancement, and the progress made in agriculture and food security, and forest and biodiversity conservation. Similarly, Nepal will share in the meeting about reducing the impact and the effect of drought, too much rain and scanty rain on human livelihood and the reality Nepal is suffering from the

climate change effects although it has zero contribution to the green house gas emission.

Likewise, the efforts made by the Government of Nepal towards achieving the third goal of the Sustainable Development Goals as well as expanding the cooperation of the international community would be reviewed in the high-level meeting on global health concern. The achievements made by Nepal in the health sector and challenges will also be shared in this meeting.

Foreign Affairs Minister Gyawali, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Health Upendra Yadav and Secretary at the Ministry of Health Dr Pushpa Chaudhari will participate in the meeting. President of the Sustainable Development Committee under the National Assembly, Tara Devi Bhatta and member Dina Nath Sharma, and National Planning Commission member Krishna Prasad Oli will assist the delegation led by Foreign Minister Gyawali in another meeting related to the current assessment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Province 2 to form corruption control commission

Kathmandu: The Province 2 government is preparing to form a commission to promote good governance and control corruption. The new commission will be named Good Governance Commission and its functions will be similar to those of the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority at the central level. The commission will be authorised to investigate into activities of the provincial and local government bodies. They can also carry out raids, study audit reports and financial documents and monitor the government offices whenever necessary. Currently, the provincial government is finalising the bill on the commission. As



proposed in the bill, the commission has to cooperate with the CIAA if the CIAA seeks

support to conclude any investigation. If it receives any complaint about the issue that

falls in the jurisdiction of the CIAA, the commission should forward files to the CIAA.

As the commission will not have a right to file cases to the court, it has to forward the cases which demand a legal action to the CIAA. For others, it can recommend concerned authorities to take departmental action.

The bill has proposed a three-member committee to recommend officials of the commission. The chief minister will lead the panel that comprises the provincial speaker and the main opposition leader.

Sagarmatha Sambaad on April 3, 4

Kathmandu: The Sagarmatha Sambaad on 'Climate Change, Mountains and Future of the Humanity' is to be held in Kathmandu on April 3 and 4, 2020.

To be hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nepal in collaboration with the Institute of Foreign Affairs and the Policy Research Institute, the Sambaad aims to exchanges experience and achievements achieved by Nepal on the issues of politics, society, economy, environment, conflict management and peace process with the world, said the organisers.

This information was shared at a seminar with the theme of 'Sagarmatha Sambaad: national consultation' organised to make the Sagarmatha Sambaad a success. The seminar chaired by Minister for Foreign Affairs, Pradeep Kumar Gyawali was attended by experts in the related field, high level political leadership, government officials and media-persons. On the occasion, Minister Gyawali, also director of the



Sagarmatha Sambaad and coordinator of the organising committee, said issues of world's environment, climate change, world trade, economy, terrorism, immigration, intellectual property, information technology and other new technologies have taken priority.

"The Sambaad will contribute to getting the world's attention to issues of common concern at national and regional levels through dialogues, get international support and sympathy and resolve them," said the Minister, highlighting the relevance and necessity of the Sambaad.

The dialogue aimed to ensure greater participation of people

from different walks of life including Nepal's development partners, civil society, private sector and academic field in dialogues and discussions about issues of regional and worldwide concerns facing Nepal and environmental, economic, socio-cultural and good governance issues on a regular basis, to contribute for the promotion of common understanding about the issues, seeking ways for resolving them, the Minister said.

More, the objective of the dialogue is to make world community aware of Nepal's own success stories of home-grown peace, fighting climate change, inclusive democracy, contributions to international peacekeeping, women

empowerment and uplifting of the marginalised sections and its achievements in the area of environment conservation; and to hold intellectual dialogues on the matters of common concern, according to him.

On the occasion, Minister for Forest and Environment Shakti Bahadur Basnet was of the view of establishing climate change issue as the matter of mass concern and making the Nepali well aware of its consequences. He spoke of the need of greater discussions and dialogues on this serious issue of international concern.

As he said, the Sambaad would provide a forum for developing a common understanding about climate crisis among high political leadership and the entire world community and to prod up political leaderships to develop a will power to cope with the crisis efficiently.

The Sagarmatha Sambaad 2020 will deliberate on several themes such as traditional knowledge, culture and technology; agriculture, food security, forest and bio diversity; green economy, tourism, energy and water and low carbon resilience, it is said.

'Resham Chaudhary will release soon'



Sunsari: Nepal Communist Party (NCP) Co-chair Pushpa Kamal Dahal indicated that Rastriya Janata Party-Nepal lawmaker Resham Chaudhary, who was held guilty for the Tikapur carnage, might be released.

Addressing the Jitiya festival organised at Jhumka town of Sunsari district, Dahal disclosed that the party had decided in principle to withdraw false charges levelled against Tharus in connection with the Tikapur carnage. "Lawmakers

elected by the people will be freed," Dahal said, indicating that Resham Chaudhary may be released.

Kailali District Court had, on March 5, sentenced Chaudhary to life imprisonment, holding him guilty of playing a role in the murder of eight security personnel, including Nepal Police SSP Lakshman Neupane.

Advocate Sunil Ranjan Singh said although Dahal hinted that Chaudhary could be freed, it would not be easy for the government to do so. He said the Supreme Court had set precedents barring the government from giving amnesty in serious cases such as rape, organised crime and murder. Even if the government wanted to give amnesty in such cases, it could not do so without the consent of victims and the concerned court, he added.

Rahul Chaudhary selected as powerful hotelier in India

Kathmandu: Rahul Chaudhary, Executive Director of CG hotels and resorts selected in The Power List 2019 by Hotelier India. Chaudhary is listed among powerful 35 professional hoteliers.

Rahul Gandhi is heading hospitality sections of Chaudhary Group. The Hotelier India published the list of influential 35 hoteliers of 2019. The list includes the successful hoteliers and resort managers from all over India.

Rahul has been fulfilling his responsibility as an Executive Director of CG Corp Global and CG Hotels and Resort from New Delhi. Since last few years, CG Hotels and Resort has been extending its service from different parts of India.

CG has collaborative investment in prominent and established Hotel Taj, CG Hotels and Resorts has been operating over 100 hotels in over 20 countries with 6000 rooms.



We have now 10 hotels and we will have 200 hotels by 2020 with over 10,000 rooms," adds Rahul. He said that he has been following his father Binod Chaudhary's successful professional skills and quality footpath. My father is source and my inspiration. "Because of his successful professional skills and quality, we are able to expand our chain from China to New York City.

Government allocates Rs 30 million Terai-Madhesh

Kathmandu: The federal government has allocated a budget of Rs 22.5 million to execute the housing program and beyond focusing on disadvantaged families in Birtamod and Arjunhdhara municipalities.

Lawmaker Pabitra Niraula Kahrel shared that the federal government earmarked a budget of Rs 22.5 million for executing housing program along with other social works.

Houses would be built for the disadvantaged community people in coordination with Birtamod and Arjunhdhara municipalities under the Terai-



Madhesh Prosperity Program. The remaining amount would be spent for the construction of community building in

Buddhashanti rural municipality and completing the construction of community building of Coach Rajbamshi in

Kankai municipality.

A budget of Rs 7.5 million has been allocated for backward community and disadvantaged families of ward 7, 8 and 9 of Birtamod municipality while the earmarked amount Rs 6 million for the arrangement of housing for deprived people in Arjunhdhara-3. An agreement was made for Arjunhdhara municipality to allocate Rs 1.5 million to execute the disadvantaged housing program and for Birtamod municipality to provide Rs 900,000 for the same.

Launch a movement against corruption, says Minister Yadav

Siraha: Minister of Industry, Commerce and Supplies Matrika Yadav stressed the need to launch a

society. We need a movement to uproot it," Yadav said. "If you start a



movement against corruption and to expand industries in the country. Inaugurating AB Mall operated by Siraha Super Market Private Limited at Golbazaar, Minister Yadav reiterated that a movement should be launched against corruption and for the promotion of industries to realise the government's goal of 'Prosperous and happy Nepal.'

Stating that corruption was a major challenge to prosperity of the country, Yadav urged civil society and youths to launch a movement against it. "Corruption is deeply rooted in Nepali

campaign, I shall also participate in it," he told civil society and youths.

Stating that some media outlets had accused him of being corrupt, Yadav claimed that those allegations were unfounded.

"Some media outlets have been spreading rumour of corruption to defame me, which is not true," he added.

Minister Yadav said the country would never be rich by relying on imports. He emphasised on domestic production for prosperity and development of the country.

President Bhandari to visit Japan

Kathmandu: President Bidhya Devi Bhandari is confirmed to attend the enthronement of Japanese Emperor Naruhito.

According to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, President Bhandari will leave on an eight-day visit to Japan soon after the Dashain festival.

President Bhandari will leave for Japan through Myanmar on October 16 and return home on October 23, the source told Khabarhub. The enthronement of Japanese Emperor Naruhito has been scheduled for October 22.

In May 2019, the new Emperor Naruhito made his first public address since taking the throne, following the abdication of his father, Emperor Akihito. Emperor Naruhito acceded to the Chrysanthemum Throne upon the abdication of his father on May 1, 2019.



विजया दशमी, शुभ-दिपावली तथा छठ पर्व
२०७६
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*सर्वाधिक ब्याज दरको लागि

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