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Patriotic alliance: need of the hour

TRS Reporter

Ultimately, the political situation seems to enter to the new process after the withdrawal of Ram Chandra Poudel's candidacy for prime minister. As Unified CPN (Maoist) and CPN-UML stood together against him, Poudel preferred to withdraw rather than get defeated in 17th round of the election. The legislature-parliament will, as agreed by the political parties, adopt new procedure after amending the parliamentary regulations regarding the election of the prime minister which will give Nepal a new government.

The UCPN (Maoist) has been effortful to form a government of consensus with the participation of all the major political parties. The overwhelming desire of the people is a consensual government under the leadership of UPCN (Maoist), the largest political party in the country. Many do believe that tasks of taking the peace process to the conclusion and writing of a constitution can only be performed when there is a government under the leadership of the largest party and its chairman Prachanda. It has been proved that the country cannot go forward as long as the other parties disregard the Maoist party's stance for consensus.

If the Maoists' sincere effort to form a consensual government fails to yield fruit, it will try to form a majority government under its leadership.

If the other parties disagree to the largest party's second option, the Maoist leadership has clearly said that the party is ready to remain in the opposition. Maoist leadership is trying to bring all the parties into consensus and take the peace process to the logical end, and conclude the remaining tasks of constitution-making. Being responsible to peace and constitution, the largest party also reached an agreement with the government on forming an alternative mechanism for monitoring army and arms that was being done by UNMIN.

On the other hand, the rightist factions of Nepali Congress and UML along with other fringe parties are trying to keep intact the so-called left-democratic alliance to sideline the Maoists. Caretaker Prime Minister Madhav Nepal and UML leader KP Oli tried their best to elect Ram Chandra Poudel even intruding the decision of UML's central committee. When their attempt didn't succeed, they asked Poudel to withdraw his candidacy.

In this way, the Prime Ministerial election will still be the struggle between patriotic force and national betrayals, between self-respecting and self-surrendering. The rightist force is trying to drag nation to either President Rule or military coup by sabotaging the peace process and obstructing the constitution-making. Thus this force is welcoming the foreign intervention knowingly or unknowingly. So, it has been the primary task

of the nationalist and progressive force of the nation to defeat the rightist force.

However, the rightist force of the nation seems to lose this time. The nationalist and progressive force within UML has stood bold against the rightist faction. Failure of the attempt to elect Ram Chandra Poudel is a serious blow to the rightist faction. The Madhesi parties have also polarized as rational nationalists and national betrayers. The foreign intervention seems failing because of the Maoist strength. The Maoist Party has got unified on the tactical line and forward moving-program. The central committee meeting has approved the document which will lead the whole party towards its targeted goal.

The parliamentary parties have no option other than to agree on the Maoist-led new government if they really want to see peace and constitution writing process completed. The people have no faith in the parliamentary parties. They have realized that the 21 months after the formation of government under the leadership of Madhav Kumar Nepal has been just a waste. In a recent media survey, about 74 percent of participants express their view on the need of consensual government under the leadership of the Maoist Party. Thus, the solution of the present deadlock is a patriotic and progressive alliance against all type of retrogressive and status-quoist forces, and foreign interference.

Special committee to monitor both NA and PLA

The Government of Nepal and Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) have reached a 3-point agreement to give the arms monitoring responsibilities to the Special Committee that were being carried out by the UNMIN.

A day before the end of UNMIN's term, Maoist Chairman Prachanda and Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal signed the three point deal on 14 December to set up a six-member mechanism to monitor Nepal Army and People's Liberation Army (PLA) and their arms.

The special committee will monitor arms storage container at the seven Maoist cantonments and Nepal Army's Chhauni Barrack. Likewise, this panel will also work as a mechanism to settle disputes in course of monitoring. The Mechanism will have three members

each from the Special Committee and its Secretariat to take over the UNMIN's responsibility.

The part of the second point of the agreement reads, "So as to prevent any obstruction or problems with regard to peace process and monitoring of management of arms and armies following the departure of UNMIN, the Special Committee will perform all responsibilities carried out till by UNMIN for maintaining an atmosphere of trust and resolution of differences and monitoring of the Maoist weapons stored in the 7 cantonments and the arms kept outside for the security of Maoist leaders and a container kept at Chhauni."

UCPN (Maoist) and the government have agreed to bring PLA under Special Committee soon.

Govt-Maoist strike 3-point deal

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Maoist central committee makes revolutionary decisions

TRS Reporter

Ideological and political struggle, run in the inner party life of UCPN-Maoist since a long time, has been concluded positively coming to the latest central committee meeting. The debate presented in three different documents, in Palungtar among six thousand party cadres, has, now, been synthesized in a single document. Specially, ideological, political and the organizational action-plans, which were common in the documents of Chairman Com. Prachanda and senior Vice-Chairman Com. Kiran, have been merged in a new height. Other Vice-Chairman Dr. Baburam Bhattarai is disagreed with the main spirit of the merged document of the party.

The differences of opinions, except the similarities, of both the leaders will be presented in the party congress to come. To systemize the inner party struggle, Maoist party has decided to make the debate public in some of the ideological issues that are decided and determined by it. Differences related to the latest tactical line will be carried to the party cadres in different levels through 'Bichardhara' (Ideology, an internal party publication). Situation of the differences

of opinion will be made clear in the central schoolings that are going to be held (however, not in the form of forum) and express commitment on unity in action according to the party decision. No permission is given to complain against the party line, action-plan, leaders and cadres publicly and negatively. Comrades in the same level will be free to discuss each-other except the formal meetings and they will be free to interact together.

The entire party is strongly committed to develop the procedures of the two-line struggle. It has clearly committed to implement unified document passed by the majority, adopting the policy "freedom in discussion" and "unity in action". Although the passed document has maximum focused on peace and writing constitution, it has talked about 'four preparations' and 'four bases' for revolt if there will remain no possibility to advance. Along with it, Maoist party has taken the issue of principal contradiction in a changed and developed form. Principal contradiction, according to it, appeared in a blending form of India expansionism and the domestic reactionaries, which is against the Nepalese

people and Nepalese revolution. Because of all these reasons, the preparations for struggle have been necessary for national independence and the people's republican democracy.

A new government has not been formed due to the interference of Indian expansionism even after the resignation of Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal. Boarder encroachment and the murdering of Nepalese people in the boarder areas have been increasing day by day. Indian ruling class is creating pressure over the caretaker government for agreement to make treaty on extradition. It has revived a plan to keep Indian air marshal in the international airport of Nepal. It has massively interfered and controlled the media.

Analyzing all these situations objectively, the first regular meeting of UCPN-Maoist has taken effective decisions after making a single document. The decisions of Maoist have brought polarization even in the volatile situation. The patriots, progressives, nationalists and the revolutionaries are being polarized into one side and the puppets, anti-people and the traitors on the other.

UNMIN leaves Nepal

After supporting the Nepali peace process for four years, the United Nation's Mission in Nepal has left Nepal. ON January 14 UNMIN organized a closing ceremony at its headquarters in New Baneshwor.

UNMIN was established in Nepal on 23 Jan 2007 to support the peace process as per the Security Council resolution 1740. Its last term was extended on Sept 15 for four months.

In the closing ceremony UNMIN chief

and verification of Maoist army personnel and the discharge of those disqualified, UNMIN has worked with dedication and impartiality,"

Speaker Subash Nemwang, leaders of different political parties, chiefs and representatives of diplomatic missions in Nepal, among others, attended the closing ceremony.

Likewise, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon urged the political parties to speed up efforts to conclude peace process.

"I encourage the parties to redouble their efforts to build the confidence that can bring progress on all fronts of Nepal's peace process," read the UNSG's message to the closing ceremony of the UNMIN.

At the function Sameul Tamrat, chief of UN's Asia Pacific Department of Political Affairs, assured that that the United Nations will remain engaged in Nepal's peace process through the United Nations Country Team, and through the continued engagement of the Department of Political Affairs.

Earlier, the Maoists had sent a letter to UN urging to extend the UNMIN's term but the government didn't agree to extend the term which eventually showed UNMIN the exit door.



The flag-down ceremony at the UNMIN headquarter in Kathmandu.

Karin Landgren reiterated her appreciation to the Government of Nepal and the Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist, and all political parties, for the cooperation.

She further said, "For the past four years, the UN has responded to Nepal's request for support to its peace process through the deployment of this mission. From supporting the successful elections, to assisting in the operations for the removal of wartime landmines and explosives, to the registration

Double-dealer Rana to be called back

■ TRS Reporter

Kathmandu

The government has initiated process to call back Nepal's ambassador to India Rukma Shamsher Rana, on the charge of his direct involvement in Dabur Nepal. The International Relations and Human Rights Committee, a legislature committee, had directed the government to immediately recall Rana after he was found to be holding the post of Managing Director of the Dabur Nepal. This Indian joint venture firm had been under the scanner of the anti-graft body CIAA.

International Relations and Human Rights Committee had discussed the controversy involving Dabur Nepal on January 9. The manufacturer of soft drinks and herbal beauty products was target of raids by the Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA) last month.

Dabur Nepal has been facing one after another blow over its alleged involvement on tax evasion and adulteration on its soft



drink product- Real juice.

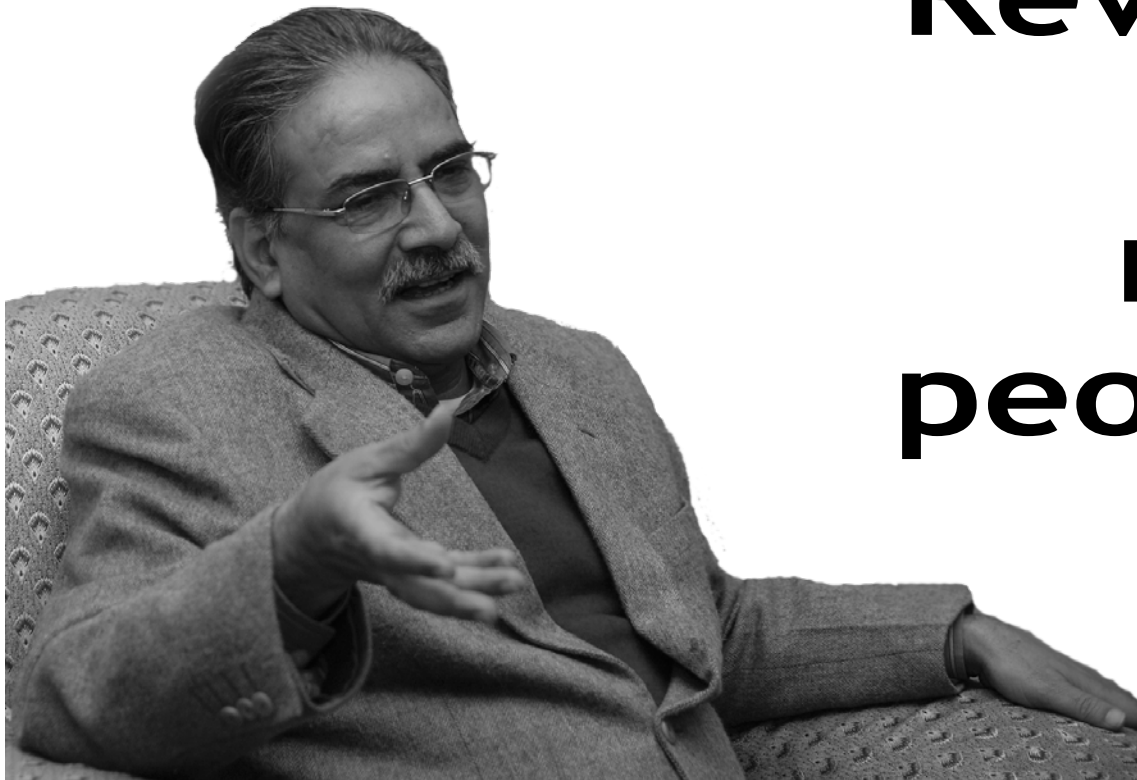
The Committee had directed the government with the decision that since Rana is also the MD of a company under scanner of CIAA, it's inappropriate for him to remain as the ambassador. With the decision of the committee, Rana's ambassadorship has also been jeopardized. The Foreign Ministry has said that it has already initiated process to pull him back.

Rana, who has close links to India having been educated in India, was appointed Nepal's envoy to India in 2009.

The CIAA recently carried out spot investigation at the godown of Dabur Nepal and seized 74,000 cartons of its Real brand of fruit juice for allegedly manipulating manufacturing dates.

Revolt means bringing millions of people to the street

**Prachanda, Chairman
Unified CPN (Maoist)**



United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) is leaving Nepal. What will happen to peace process in the absence of UNMIN?

We are talking with other political parties to extend the tenure of UNMIN because the role of UNMIN has been clearly determined since peace process began, in the interim constitution, and other understandings and agreements that were reached among the political parties. The peace process is reaching its last stage. The extension of UNMIN is, therefore, necessary. We have written a letter to the United Nations requesting UNMIN's continuity. However, the government and other parties have objected to it. We have also requested the UN to devise an alternative mechanism or system to facilitate the peace process, if the UN does not take any decision to continue its mission in Nepal.

In this situation, a political office might be set up here, which, we think, could monitor the peace process. So far as I have understood, the UN is preparing in that way. The UN is in favour of establishing an office for monitoring peace process. There are, certainly, some questions raised on who would monitor in place of UNMIN and what may be the alternative mechanism and what will happen to the ongoing peace process. However, I do not think that the peace process will be derailed after January 15 because we are discussing the matter with the other political parties. Even the international situation is unlikely to accept any steps against the process. Although, if we observe the activities and the intention of the government, it becomes clear that they want to provoke the Maoist party, derail the peace process and push the nation into a long conflict. However, all of the political parties do not agree with the government and the entire situation does not seem so.

Secondly, we are in a serious discussion with the other political

parties on forming an alternative of UNMIN. I think it will be resolved through consensus before January 15. We want to appeal people not to be terrified by thinking that the peace process will break down and conflict will take its place. However, the situation is very sensitive. Harsh and complex situation may have to be faced if the aspirations of the peace agreement and the interim constitution are not addressed. But, we are sure that there is no alternative to national consensus.

However, the government has sent a letter to UNMIN urging to handover the weapons of PLA stored in the cantonments to the government. What is your opinion?

It was quite wrong to urge the UN body to handover the arms without making a political agreement, reviewing the agreements that have

there is more or less Indian hand behind the departure of UNMIN. But, in the latter period, the continuous interruption in peace process, and blame over UNMIN for not accelerating it or attempts to drag the UNMIN into debate shows that the "Key Five" nations; mainly, America and India, probably thought that they would not get benefit from it.

Principal task of the peace process is to integrate armies. UNMIN is going back. What is the concrete proposal of UCPN-Maoist for army integration?

At first, there are ideological differences on whether to accelerate the peace process or not. In the interim constitution, including all the understandings and the agreements, UCPN-Maoist has been treated as a party or power while the government is the other party or power.

If the conspiracies of the counter revolutionaries continue, in spite of our good efforts for peace and constitution building, we will have no option other than to initiate a revolt.

been committed before. UNMIN did well when it objected to the government's unilateral move in this regard. We believe that Security Council of UN has also rejected it and advised to make political agreement. I sent a letter to the UN after the caretaker government sent unilateral letter to it. The rejection of government's letter by the Security Council regarding handing over of weapons is a very happy news for us.

Indian hand is said to be behind the departure of UNMIN from Nepal. What do you think?

Certainly, India has not taken the presence of UNMIN in Nepal comfortably since its beginning. Indian interest was made public indirectly. In this sense, it can be assumed that

Army integration is on this equilibrium foundation between two powers. But, the external reactionary forces and domestic NC and the UML are not ready to recognize UCPN-Maoist as a power or party to the peace process now. They want that the Maoists should surrender before them and dissolve the PLA. As long as they try to abort all the agreements committed in the past, the peace process cannot go ahead smoothly.

We have not reached any agreement to the fix modality of integration. If they accept the Maoist party as a party or power, at first, it is not necessary to integrate the PLA with Nepal Army (NA) or any other security mechanism. The easy integration will be making the PLA a 'special

force' by providing special responsibility to it. If they do not agree with this, the total number of PLA, that want to be fused, should be integrated with the equal numbers of the three state security forces - Nepal Army, Armed Police Force and Nepal Police - to form the special force. But, we can never agree with the plan to treat PLA soldiers as new recruits or force them to undergo such procedures in the name of carrying out army integration.

Winter-session of the Legislature-Parliament has started. How are you planning to move ahead in the election of the Prime Minister?

We are clear from the beginning. We are still claiming to form the government under the leadership of our party because ours is the largest party in the Constituent Assembly. However, we are also very clear that the situation is not in favour of us. Along with it, the other political parties are not ready to accept the change and progress. Due to their status quo mentality, they are not ready to accept the leadership of UCPN-Maoist. However, the objective situation requires consensus among political parties for the formation of the government and its operational processes. New government can be formed under the leadership of any party if a consensus is made among the parties.

Is there any possibility of compromise, then?

Any possibility has not been seen yet. However, the situation to accept anyone occurs if any agreement is made on building peace and power sharing. There is not any favourable situation to make an agreement. In this context, the only way is to form the government of the majority. Probably the ongoing election of the PM ends from this step and the candidacy of Ram Chandra Poudel will be cancelled. Decision of the Supreme Court that rules out neutrality during the election of PM in

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EDITORIAL

End the sisyphusian story

Ninth session of the Legislature-Parliament is underway with the issue of electing Prime Minister (PM) from the House. People are waiting hopefully for political outlet through the election of the PM. People even in this sense are more hopeful that the House has been summoned after a special appeal of the single largest party, UCPN-Moist. The significance of the House will remain in two principal tasks: one is to end the running impasse on the election of PM and the other is to give a new elected PM for the nation, either a consensus or majority based.

The unending procedure of the PM election should come to an end and the concerned actors should take initiatives to prevent repetition failures to elect the PM which has been reflecting the story of Sisyphus. Efficient and popular party candidate should be elected to the post of PM respecting the mandate of the people expressed through CA election. An obligatory situation has been created even to take some necessary steps to accelerate the peace process and the process of writing a new constitution. None of the parties have right to mortgage the nation. A nation without a functioning government promotes instability and chaos. Neglecting the fresh mandate of the people leads the nation to a failure state. Therefore, the winter session should be the remedy to wash out inevitable uncertainty. All the parties, whether they are larger or smaller, are directly elected from the people in the historic period to build peace and constitution. They cannot get rid of their irresponsibility by blaming each other.

The CA, which also works as the legislature-parliament, has stood on the foundation of a decade long People's War (PW) and the Second People's Movement. The directive to the CA is to follow the mandate of the revolution and the movement. Monarchy has been abolished and republic has been established. The task of the CA is to advance the peace process and write constitution according to the mandate given through a huge sacrifice that uprooted monarchy. Therefore, there is no confusion to advance ahead. If there will be hesitation and negligence in some of the smaller political parties, a compulsive situation will develop for completing the revolution. Once there is such a situation, people and history will take account of all the actors and punish or reward accordingly.

Urgent task of our Party



■ Dharmendra Bastola

The false promises of the Nepalese petit-bourgeoisie of writing compromised constitution with progressive character or so forth, is nothing but attempt to blunt the revolutionary aspiration of the masses of people, attempt to hand over power to the bourgeoisie and the reactionary classes.

Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) has completed two rounds of Central Committee meetings in Paris-Hill right after Palungtar Expanded Meeting (EM). Palungtar Expanded Meeting voiced unanimously on three things: there is no alternative of the party unity, no alternative of transformation of the party and there is no alternative to the accomplishment of revolution, which is at the stage of strategic offensive. This was the mandate of the Palungtar EM.

Based on those mandates, we have now to fulfil an urgent task into account. What are the most urgent tasks of

urgent task of the revolutionary party. All the Nepalese people are quite aware today that the comprador capital and the financial capital (sattebaj punji), has been the ideological political as well as organisational and cultural problem in the road to make the nation independent and prosperous. Comprador capital serves the imperialist monopoly destroying national economy that causes public mentality handicapped. It draws a deep division between the poor and the rich. The rich that stands over this financial capital is only a stooge that uses the monopoly capital to exploit the people.

How does the comprador

feudalism and comprador capitalism espoused by Indian expansionism. In the changing context, Indian expansionism has entered putting hand in hand to assume full responsibility to suppress the people in case the lackeys will be failed. Hence, the ideological political struggle has to be targeted against the leadership of the parliamentary parties especially of the Nepali Congress and the UML.

Linked with the principal contradiction is the issue of writing constitution. There are two trends- revolutionary and reactionary. In this context, there is a debate in the country that the constitution should be



our party, which have to be taken much seriously right away? To fight and defeat the comprador bureaucratic capitalism and feudal autocracy in order to free the country from the yoke of imperialist and expansionist suppression is the most urgent task of our Party. Secondly, fight for writing constitution, thirdly, to fight for the army integration, fourthly, fight for taking the peace process to logical end. Finally, the urgent task is to take adequate measures to face the counterrevolutionary challenges that are imposed by the feudal and bureaucrat capitalist elements.

To fight and defeat the bureaucratic capitalism and the feudal autocrats that try to raise head after the abolition of monarchy is the most

capital handicap the public psychology and corrupt the culture of the nation? The nature of the financial capital, much dangerous like the countries Nepal, is to seek opportunity in getting profit in hours, minutes and seconds. The smaller the capital is, the more it is pernicious. Just as the small scale production generates bourgeoisie by week, by days and by hours, as Lenin had pointed out, the small scale financial capital generates lumpenproletariat by days, by hours and by minutes.

Bureaucrat capitalism has now become the main enemy of the Nepalese people. Our Party, Since 1992, had been analysing that the principal contradiction is between Nepalese people and reactionary state made of domestic

a compromised document. Principally, no constitution in the world can be written for both the opposite classes. Constitution either can be of the bourgeoisie or of the proletariat. In this context, the false promises of the Nepalese petit-bourgeoisie of writing compromised constitution with progressive character or so forth, is nothing but attempt to blunt the revolutionary aspiration of the masses of people, attempt to hand over power to the bourgeoisie and the reactionary classes. Therefore, the urgent task is to write constitution, which frees the nation from the yoke of imperialism and feudalism.

The third urgent task is to accomplish army integration between the democratised Nepal Army and professionalised

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India's hawkish policy in South Asia



Yubanath Lamsal

Nepal is the worst victim of New Delhi's hegemonic and expansionist policy. India's long-held design is to bring Nepal under its security ambit

India's foreign policy in general and South Asia policy in particular is based on Kautilya's theory. Kautilya's treatise of diplomacy and war emphasizes on acquiring influence by use of force - both soft and hard power. Kautilya's so-called Mandala theory of foreign policy states: 'the immediate neighbours are considered as enemies, but any state on the other side of a neighboring state is regarded as an ally, or, the enemy of my enemy is my friend'.

Kautilya believed that diplomacy was just another weapon used in the prolonged warfare that was always either occurring or being planned for, which modern India has followed in letter and spirit when it comes to the relationship with its neighbours. Some foreign policy critics have gone a step ahead to term India's neighbourhood policy as being guided by colonial mentality. The 'use of force', 'divide and rule' policy and the 'doctrine of laps' that British rulers had applied to take control over South Asia are also the bases of modern and independent India's foreign policy especially with its smaller and weaker neighbours.

Indian policy with its small neigh-

bours has always been hawkish and hegemonic. As a result, India's relationship with all neighbours is characterized by suspicion and fear. Indian policy has been more hawkish and hegemonic after the end of the cold war. During the cold war, there was a balance of power in South Asia as the United States had allied with Pakistan, which had helped in keeping tab on Indian's hegemonic design. The end of the Cold War saw a marked shift in America's South Asia policy. The United States, guided by economic interests and objective of containing China, tilted its policy towards India. America started looking at things in South Asia through Indian eyes. India has taken the American policy shift as an endorsement of its hegemonic policy in South Asia, which has made New Delhi more hawkish whereas small South Asian countries have felt vulnerable from security point of view. Encouraged by US alliance, New Delhi has adopted the modus operandi against smaller and weaker neighbours in exactly the identical way the United States did on Afghanistan and Iraq prior to attack on these countries.

New Delhi fought wars with

China and Pakistan. China is, too, powerful, for India to meddle in. It has been effortful in destabilizing and weakening Pakistan so that India would be the only power in South Asia. India and Pakistan are virtually on red alert. Bangladesh was created out of Pakistan with support from India. But India and Bangladesh, too, are not in friendly terms and there are many issues that have strained the relations of these two nations. Sri Lanka is also not happy with India as its long ethnic conflict that virtually devastated the island nation had link with Indian conspiracy.

Nepal is the worst victim of New Delhi's hegemonic and expansionist policy. India's long-held design is to bring Nepal under its security ambit. New Delhi's long-term security goal is to bring Nepal and Bhutan under its control, which was clearly spelled out in India's security and foreign policy. According to India's foreign policy and security doctrine prepared soon after independence in 1947, New Delhi planned to bring Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim into Indian union by 2015. It succeeded to invade and annex Sikkim in 1975 through a well-orchestrated

political drama. New Delhi has also controlled Bhutan's security and foreign policy virtually rendering the Himalayan kingdom into India's protectorate. Nepal is the India's next target. India is trying to bring Nepal under its security and political ambit through coercive method and conspiracy. The present meddling in Nepal's affairs is a glaring instance of India's strategy.

South Asia is the priority zone of India's foreign policy in which Nepal is on the top bill. In Nepal, India's three strategies are at work simultaneously. The first is the Fiji process under which India is heavily encouraging Indian nationals to settle in Nepal and seek Nepali citizenship as early as possible so that within a few years people of Indian origin would outnumber the original Nepali people. This process is concentrated more in Terai. The second strategy is the process of Bhutanization through which India wants to control Nepal's security and foreign policy. For this, India has exerted pressure and used various tactics to make Nepal accept India's suzerainty. The third strategy is to annex Nepal by trick or force as it did in Sikkim in 1975.

Revolt.....

the House, has opened the door for the formation of new government as Political parties like the UML which stood neutral previously have to vote for or against now. But it is not clear who will be the PM.

What are the concrete decisions of your party's Central Committee meeting held recently after the Palungtar Extended Meeting?

We gathered thousands of the cadres from all over the country and did a broader democratic exercise during the Extended Meeting. The document, now, has been endorsed according to the mandate of Palungtar meeting. The essence is to carry the peace process and writing constitution to its logical conclusion. Peace, here, is the peace according to the comprehensive peace accord and the agreements. Peace is not possible by forcing the Maoists to surrender. We are ready to conclude the peace process on the foundation of the agreements that are committed before, because we fought a big

war and many battles for writing a new constitution with anti-imperialist and anti-feudalist essence. The constitution is going to be written addressing the issues of class, caste, region and gender according to the agreement for restructuring the entire state. The Maoist party is not lagging behind the commitments it has committed. We have clearly spoken if the conspiracies of the counter revolutionaries continue, in spite of our good efforts to build peace and writing a new constitution; then there will be no option left for us other than to initiate a revolt.

But how can you make the revolt a success because your party Vice-Chairman Dr. Bhattarai has disagreed with the main spirit of the document of the CC meeting?

Revolt or movement is always carried out by the people and not by the party alone. All the revolutions were initiated at the time when there was struggle within the party. People revolt when there is stormy environment outside and differences

of opinion inside the party. October Revolution got its victory when there was a sharp inner struggle of Lenin with Jinoviev and Kamenev. This instance of intra-party struggle and initiation of revolution can also be seen in the history of Chinese Revolution. Certainly, the reflections of the class society occur inside the revolutionary party itself. However, the main thing is how to make the revolutionaries weightier and how to manage the inner struggle.

Our party has developed some ideas following the recent meetings. Main thing is to settle the inner struggle in a scientific way. To be honest towards class, people and revolution is the main thing. To make a written document of the party after Palungtar is a very important thing. We are in the process to develop and systematize the inner struggle by taking lessons and sharing experiences from the past. We are advancing in a unified way. We have adopted freedom in discussion and unity in action.

What type of revolt are you going to initiate?

Many people have their different opinions. Some have said that the Maoists are going to initiate People's War through guerrilla fight again, which is wrong. We are the biggest party in the Constituent Assembly. We want to advance as a revolutionary party. We struggle against those who are against writing constitution. Revolt, here, means bringing tens of millions of people to the streets. For that, we should make environment. We are going to complete our schooling programmes before February 13 and then declare the programmes of struggle. We will resist if the government tries to crush. We will resist fiercely if the people on the street with just demands are treated with cruel oppression. The resistance, either, will be established in the world, as a successful model, or it will turn towards a National Resistance Movement.

(This interview was taken on 9 January.)

"A big storm in imminent": 21st century communism in Nepal



● Noaman G. Ali

"We are ready to convert academic institutions into barracks. And ourselves into soldiers," says Ramil Bhum, a student leader from Nepal's far-west region of Seti Mahakali.

Sitting on the grass outside a large hall of Tribhuvan University on the outskirts of Kathmandu, Bhum is surrounded by a group of international observers, of whom I am one. We've been invited to observe the 18th national convention of the All-Nepal National Students' Union (Revolutionary), or ANNISU-R.

With 1.4 to 1.8 million members, there is no doubt that ANNISU-R is the largest, best-organized and most militant of students' unions in this poor, land-locked country of 30 million. It is a mass organization of the Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist), the country's largest political party.

"A big storm is imminent in Nepal," says Krishna Bahadur Mahara, a Maoist leader, sitting with us now in the large conference room on the roof of his party's headquarters. "Our party is not confused about our immediate and ultimate goals. Our immediate goal is the people's federal republic, then socialism, then communism."

Communism? Conventional wis-

dom in the West is that communism means tyranny, mass murder, inefficient economies, and perpetually grey skies. It's good in theory, bad in practice. If anyone speaks seriously of communism, it's usually a member of a small and marginal group.

Yet, the Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) and its associated mass organizations count millions of farmers, workers, students, small-business owners and many more as members. Millions more support the party indirectly. Why?

Bache Lal Sardar, another student leader in ANNISU-R from Saptari district in the east, explains one of the reasons, "I am from a marginalized, indigenous dalit (untouchable) community. I have observed the exploitation of dalits from close up. I began thinking of revolution, and how to make it a success."

Feudalism, backed by a caste system, is widespread in Nepal. Landless peasants or peasants with small landholdings are dominated by rich landlords with vast holdings. The most exploited and oppressed segment is that of the dalits, the untouchables. Inequality is the order of the day.

When the Maoists began a People's War in 1996, one of their goals was to weaken the feudal system and abolish the institution of untouchability. They would do so in many instances when they took over an area by force of arms. Structural inequalities die hard, but the Maoists would not tolerate discriminatory practices. Dalits and peasants flocked to the party.

In Chaimale, a village in the hills twenty kilometers southwest of Kathmandu, local Maoist cadres show us the house of a landlord. "During the People's War, it was the

party office in the area," chuckles Shambhu Maharjan, a party cadre for thirty-three years. According to him, the landlord's holdings were redistributed to peasants, but the house itself was given back upon the ending of the War in 2006.

Though the Maoists signed a Comprehensive Peace Accord with the traditional, status quoist parties in order to put an end to Nepal's monarchy and establish a federal republic, things aren't very good in the village.

Kreethima and Sangeeta, both 16-years old, stopped attending

in Hindi, translating for the other two—she learned it when her family went to India. Millions of Nepalese go abroad, to India or the Gulf, to find work.

Bishal is young, and joined the party fourteen years ago, in his teens. The party was illegal, and when his membership was exposed, he joined the People's Liberation Army to fight in the People's War. I asked him why he joined the party. Why not just go to school?

"I realized that for the freedom of our people, struggle is essential. When your conscience feels that



International delegates at the closed session of ANNISU-R's 18th national conference

school in grade seven. Sangeeta's little sister, Shokmaya, 14-years old, is in grade five. The three are fetching water from the village tap. "We know that without education there is no future, but our fathers cannot afford to send all of us to school," Shokmaya says.

Her family isn't from Chaimale, but came here from a poorer village in eastern Nepal. "It was dangerous work in our poor village. It hurts that we never had enough money." They still don't. She speaks to me

struggle is a major part of liberation, how can you just go to school?"

That's why many of ANNISU-R's members see themselves not only as students, but as soldiers, soldiers in a struggle for liberation and development, a struggle to revive in the 21st century the hope that communism once signified for millions of the world's most wretched and oppressed.

Ali is associated with BASICS Community News Service, Canada.

CPP demands Ka Bart be released to sit in talks



The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) on January 12 reiterated the demand for the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) to immediately release Tirso Alcantara ("Ka Bart") to enable him to sit as a consultant of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) and represent the Southern Tagalog region once formal peace negotiations with the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) resumes.

"The continued detention of Ka Bart and other NDFP peace consultants and their staff constitutes a blatant violation of the Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees (JASIG)," said the CPP. "The GRP must comply with its obligations under JASIG and effect the release of Ka Bart and other detained NDFP consultants and accredited personnel."

"Every minute that NDFP consultants are

detained by the GRP in violation of the JASIG puts into question the compliance of the GRP with past agreements and imperils the future of the peace talks," added the CPP. "The continued detention of the NDFP personnel and more than 300 other political prisoners is a serious obstacle to the peace process."

The CPP has asked the NDFP peace panel to take up in the upcoming preliminary talks with the GRP negotiating panel the matter of the GRP's violations of the JASIG and other previous agreements. "These issues should be resolved before the resumption of formal peace talks."

The CPP also denounced the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) for continuing to detain Ka Bart and insisting without basis that he is not a consultant of the NDFP.

<http://www.philippinerevolution.net>

The challenges of tourism in Nepal



Thakur P. Devkota

Tourism is a very important industry for Nepal's economic development. Due to diversified culture and biodiversity as well as altitudinal variation, Nepal is a highly potential country for tourism business. It has a lot of scenic and cultural beauty to lure tourists from different parts of the world. The altitudinal variation from tropical climate 75m to the highest peak of the world the Mt. Everest 8848m the snow zone area carry the different kinds of the biodiversity which have the power of attraction. The natural resources like snowcapped mountains, deep gorges, beautiful rivers with high current, lakes waterfalls, fauna and flora, plain lands with forest, cultural resources like beautiful people with smiling face, unique ethnic culture with indigenous song, dance, drama, religion, organic foods are major factors for the development of the tourism industries.

The government of Nepal has formulated tourism policy with the aims of increasing national productivity and income; foreign currency earnings; creating employment opportunity; improving regional imbalance and projecting the image of Nepal more assertively in the international arena; through the development diversification of the travel and tourism industries.

In the initial time the tourism activities centralized in the city area like Kathmandu, Pokhara, Chitwan, and Khumbu area. The tourism industry was led and occupied by the economically higher class people who are the residents of the city area.

Hence focus was on building tourism infrastructures in the periphery of the city area while the real tourism products are located in the rural areas and far from the city area.

With different tourism promotional programmes or campaigns like Visit Nepal Year 1998 and currently undergoing Nepal Tourism Year 2011, the government has been trying to focus on development of tourism infrastructure, destination diversification, poverty reduction to promote the rural and eco-tourism development. Tourism can also play significant role in reducing poverty. However, as tourism industry is controlled by a limited number of city

the peoples of villages are used as load carriers, guide, service man, organic producer but they cannot take reasonable price and pride.

For the diversification of the tourism benefit in far and rural areas must be the major concern of public sector to raise the people's living status in those areas.

The slogan of NTY-2011 "Together for the Tourism" calls all tourism stakeholders, public sector entrepreneurs, common people and other related institutions to make it a success. Without active participation of the peoples who are directly and indirectly involved in tourism, it cannot be successful.

development of the quality with new destination for quality tourism and quality visitors. Political instability, lack of proper international airport, adequate infrastructures, quality human resources, proper management and diversification of tourism activities, strong mechanism of government for monitoring, risk of sex tourism and prostitution, lack of proper utilization system of tourism resources are the other challenges to make NTY a success. Threat of socio-cultural degradation and disappearance of the conventional good culture, threat of environmental degradation, security threat, threat of global endemics disease, lack of public and



Lack of proper international airport, adequate infrastructures, quality human resources, proper management and diversification of tourism activities, strong mechanism of government for monitoring, risk of sex tourism and prostitution, lack of proper utilization system of tourism resources are the other challenges to make NTY a success.

people, the sector has not been as instrumental in addressing poverty as it could have been. The tourism entrepreneurs sale tourism products like culture, Himalayan range, biodiversity, natural entities which are all located in the rural areas and

The challenges of tourism industry are the government's ineffective marketing tools as well as the production of tourism products, infrastructure development and designing of policy. There is no proper policy and plan for the

political will and social awareness, insufficiency of supporting industries for tourism, lack of public institutional arrangement for the product production and promotion are the major challenges for the development of tourism in Nepal.

Urgent

People's Liberation Army. One country cannot have two sets of armies. Of course, while there is a war or a duel power is in existence, there can be two armies in one country. In our country, due to transitional situation, still there is dual power in existence. That means, there are two ideas, two state and two armies. But if such situation remains for a long, it will be harmful to the country. A long time civil war ridden Sudan shows that a country could lead to a dangerous situation if the conflict not settled correctly. Today, Nepal has fallen into the hands of the corrupt gangsters, who are not committed to the 12-point agreement, Comprehensive Peace Accord and consequently the following agreements. These parliamentary parties demand the liquidation of the People's Liberation Army.

The forth urgent task is to take the peace process to the logical end. The parliamentary party and their masters, especially the Indian expansionist forces tend to destroy the peace process and impose conflict. The term as logical end has also two meanings: either to follow the DDR (disarm, demobilisation and rehabilitation) process destroying the PLA, public spirit and imposing the reactionary autocracy under bourgeoisie dictatorship or to follow the Security System Restructure (SSR) through which build new national army, writing the constitution, establishing a democratic dictatorship of the people.

Finally, the urgent task that has to be taken in account is to face the counterrevolutionary challenges imposed by the reactionaries like counter revolutionary coup-de-etat just as happened in Chile and Indonesia. These kinds of challenges can only be met by leading struggles as the national liberation

movement, which promotes people's democracy and leads to national independence.

Some people argue that revolution is not possible in the present world situation. Some people also like to argue that since the line of revolution will be failed, the turn will come to capitulate to the reformist line and that has to be considered correct. Of course, some people may take self-contentment with the reformist line by saying that revolution is not possible. But the fact is that the failure of implementing revolutionary line never mean that the reformist line is correct. Once an applied revolutionary line fails that demands deep study about the objective situation and subjective condition. However, the road to accomplish these urgent tasks of our party are torturous, still the future is bright. The revolutionaries must dare to act; the triumph is inevitable.

Bastola is Politburo Member of UCPN (Maoist).

Nepal Tourism Year launched



A paraglider carries flag that reads 'Together for Tourism' on the occasion of inauguration ceremony. (Inset) President Ram Baran Yadav delivering speech. Photos- Dinesh Shrestha

Nepal Tourism Year 2011 has formally been launched with the target of welcoming one million tourists in this single year. President Ram Baran Yadav declared Nepal Tourism Year 2011 open amid a grand and colourful ceremony at the Dasharath Stadium on 14 January.

The government under the leadership of UCPN-Maoist had declared NTY 2011 in the year 2008.

Distinguished guests included Secretary General of United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Dr Taleb Rafai, tourism ministers from South Asian countries and other Asian

During the ceremony, the leaders passed on a peace torch brought from Lumbini, the birthplace of Gautam Buddha.

The country has targeted to welcome one million tourists in 2011, double of the 2010 figure. Among the projected arrivals, 700,000 are expected to come by air and the rest overland.

In 1998, Nepal had observed a campaign 'Visit Nepal Year-1998'. After an interval of 13 years, the country is welcoming tourists in a big way. The campaign aims to project Nepal as a safe tourist destination and a choice of premier holi-

Inappropriate US warning

The US has issued travel warning to its citizens willing to travel to Nepal, arguing baselessly that the visitors may face difficulties owing to political agitations.

Two days before the official inauguration of Nepal Tourism Year-2011, the US issued travel warning, which is taken as an unhelpful and baseless attitude towards tourism industry of Nepal. US Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, issued a warning on 12 January terming chaotic political and insecure situations as threats to tourists. The department has said that major urban areas encompasses murder, sexual assault, and armed robbery, and has blamed that Police resources to combat such crimes are limited.

But, the political and security situation is not as bad here as the US Department of State has claimed. Peace process is going on and all the political parties have shown their commitment to make NTY-2011 a grand success. Moreover, there have not been any political strikes for the last one year. Although Nepal went through political movement, no tourists were harmed in the past. Even at the time of Armed Struggle, tourists were greeted and welcomed.

The US claim that major cities like Kathmandu are insecure is also not true. Many Nepali who have lived in American cities have experience that Kathmandu is far safer than US cities. According to FBI, about 11 forcible rapes in the 100,000 population was reported in 2008 in New York city which is far higher than in Kathmandu. In that Year, NY City had seen 298 aggravated assaults, 266 cases of robbery, 238 burglaries, 1410 of larceny theft, 1797 property crimes in the same population ratio.



Leaders of political parties pass on a peace torch brought from Lumbini, the birth place of Gautam Buddha.

nations like Iran, Laos, Cambodia, Kuwait, members of the diplomatic corps and the leaders of all major parties were present in the ceremony.

Similarly, there was encouraging participation of tourism entrepreneurs, businessman, private sector, and people from various other sectors.

Various cultural shows from almost all the communities from different parts of countries also performed on the occasion. A large number of tourism entrepreneurs and employees attended the function with their banners and national flags.

On the same day, various such programmes were also organised in cities like Biratnagar, Janakpur, Birgunj, Chitwan, Pokhara, Bhairahawa, and Nepalgunj.

dayers and adventurers.

It is believed that NTY 2011 will help in boosting the national economy by bringing in more tourists, and also promote Nepal in the international market.

A record number of tourists flew to Nepal last year, with most of the growth coming from its two giant neighbours India and China, according to official figures. Nepal aims to bring in some 260,000 tourists from India during NTY-2011.

Nepal Tourism Board's record of an arrival of some 500,000 foreign visitors at the country's only international airport in 2010, 15 per cent more than in 2009.