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Federal Republic of Nepal



'A big achievement'

Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist Chairman Prachanda has said that the agreement between his Party and six parliamentary parties is a big achievement. Speaking in a programme in Kathmandu, right after the agreement, he said that 'it is a big achievement to write Federal Democratic Republic for the first time in the history of Nepal in the constitution'. He further added that the 23-point consensus is fruitful but the implementation of the agreement is left to be executed.

As the country is undergoing through a big achievement of the establishment of Republic, questions are being raised from different quarters that the Maoist has left the stand on the Full Proportional Election System. Clarifying this very issue, the senior most leader of the CPN-M, Mohan Baidhya 'Kiran' has said that there is no question of abandoning the stand of the Full Proportional election system. He said that the party stand on this issue is maintained. He claimed that the phrase in the agreement 'though the parties have their own opinions' expresses the 'different position of our party'.

A Historical Break-through

■ Dharmendra Bastola

As a major kick off in solving the political deadlock of the country, the Communist Party of Nepal Maoist and the parliamentary Parties have reached to the consensus that the interim constitution of Nepal will be amended with provision that turns Nepal a Federal Democratic Republic and that will be implemented from the first meeting of the elected Constituent Assembly. This is a major breakthrough in the Nepalese history. By this decision, Nepal has now changed from the suspended monarchical system which virtually existed with the provision of the CPA and the interim constitution, to a Democratic Republic of Nepal. As a matter of fact, and as a matter of political reality, the monarchical institution of Nepal is abolished. The national and regional autonomous republics are ensured. The right of the full proportional system has now been inherited. The gateways for the political, economic and social restructure have opened up. Thus the ice of the political deadlock has broken down.

This agreement has also made the Nepalese people sovereign ever before. However this is one step on the journey to thousand Li, it is obviously

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■ Red Star Reporter

The leaders of the seven political parties have assigned in an agreement to declare Nepal a federal democratic republic and execute the agreement from the first meeting of constituent assembly (CA). The leaders came to the conclusion after the 7 party meeting held in the residence of prime minister at Baluwatar on 23 December, 2007.

After the agreement, 601 members of constituent assembly: one of them, 240 by first past the post, 335 by proportional and 26 by the council of ministers will be elected

under the mixed election system. Leaders also have agreed to make a high level mechanism, submit the CPN (Maoist) in the interim government and build a commission of martyr and disappeared.

Before it, alike the devastating violation of all agreements and compromises in the past, the NC created an obstacle by not executing the directive of interim legislature to hold the meaningful constituent assembly election, declare the federal democratic republic and adopt the full proportional election system. This made the constituent assembly uncertain and blocked the restructuring of the state.

Naturally, the leaders of NC seem to be more anxious for their class interest, the interest of the feudal and bureaucrat, than that of the nation and the future of the people. CPN (UML), of course, could not help in overcoming the political crisis since it lacks a clear vision, the plan and programme for the need of building a new Nepal. CPN (Maoist) proposed to take the debate over by holding a round table conference of concerned actors than to finalize it by the decision of any party, group or individuals. But NC strongly rejected it.

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Benazir Assassinated

Benazir Bhutto, the leader of the Pakistan People's Party, PPP has been assassinated on 27 December 2007. Her assassination has severely horrified the "world leaders" from India to the United States of America. Although, no group has taken responsibility of her assassination, yet, it is believed that Islamic militant groups fighting in Pakistan against the US offensives over Muslims, had taken this action.

Pakistan has been reeling under the railroad of the dictatorship of the most backward feudal and bureaucrat capitalist ruling class from the very inception of its foundation. Pakistani people are suppressed by these rulers for the interest of the Pakistani feudal ruling class as well as for interest of the British and American imperialism. These marginalised national, regional and religious groups in Pakistan have been carrying out armed resistance. These groups are labelled as terrorist by the US and its ally Musharaff govern-

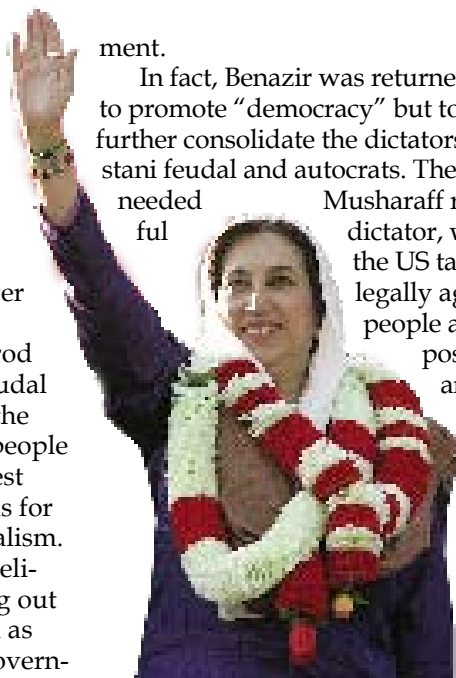
ment.

In fact, Benazir was returned to Pakistan not to promote "democracy" but to strengthen and further consolidate the dictatorship of the Pakistani feudal and autocrats. The US administration needed

ful

Musharaff raise to a power-dictator, which could allow the US take military actions legally against the Pakistani people and that was not possible baring Bhutto

and Nawaz Sarif from power. That was the essence, Musharaff was forced to give up the military post, and Benazir had



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In search of the disappeared

■ Red Star Reporter

Kathmandu

The kin of five thousand disappeared citizens by the state in the periods of past conflict are having very perplexed and miserable situation. The state has not made public the whereabouts of those citizens until now. The state in course of signing agreements with CPN-M in the previous days had committed to move some concrete steps to find out their condition, but the result is nothing. The family of disappeared citizens have been organized and staging movements time and again to pressurize the government to know the present condition of disappeared. Sometimes news comes out as a wave that the disappeared are killed, which makes their family members severely suffering.

Recently similar kind of news spread in the media. After the information was leaked by a retired army personnel about the suspicious site, where some of the disappeared were killed in Shivapuri Jungle area, the outskirts of Kathmandu valley, then a team led by National Human Right Commission (NHRC) visited the site on Dec 20th, 2007.

The team comprised of members of the Interim Legislature, family members of the disappeared, and representatives of the Army, Police and journalist. In course of the visit pieces of clothing, burned tyre, charred wood and plastic sacks were found on the site.

On the next day NHRC send a team of experts comprising forensic experts and crime scene investigation to the site. The NHRC has said that the suspicious materials found on the site have been sent to various forensic labs. The investigation team had even recovered a bone piece with burnt muscle.

Coincidentally, soon after the news about the suspicious site revealed, six ruling political parties and CPN-Maoist agreed to



NHRC team investigating the suspicious site at Shivapuri area

form whereabouts of the disappeared which is a part of high level 23-point political agreement. Ironically these kinds of agreements were made in previous days to form a commission but the government didn't implement the provision. So the family members of the disappeared are not believing wholeheartedly after the recent agreement and looking the development carefully.

When the NHRC team was investigating the site, Nepal Army expressed its disappointment. A NA colonel misbehaved the journalist and threatened human right activist using abusive language. Likewise Nepal Police said that it cannot give security to the site which made the issue more suspicious. *Janadi-sha Daily* has carried out a report that Nepal Army has conducted some suspicious activities in the site after the site was revealed. These kinds of suspicious activities of Nepal Army and the behaviour of the government not paying enough attention have raised serious questions. If the investigation of the gathered materials is done properly and further investigation held on the site, some concrete information may be acquired about the disappeared.

RJA meets Chinese Journalists

Revolutionary Journalists Association (RJA) met Chinese Journalists delegation, in the leadership of the chairman of Shanghai Wenching Media Group, on 8th December 2007, in Kathmandu.

During meeting two teams shared their experiences about Journalism of different countries. Chinese Journalists Delegation repeatedly stressed about the social responsibility of journalism.

Maheshwar Dahal, the president of RJA, said that the field reporters under the umbrella of RJA, informed Nepalese people in remote areas with truth and factual news in the war period. He added that the reporters including editors are now centered into the capital city of Kathmandu according to the changing political situation of the country.

A historical breakthrough ...

a great achievement of the struggle of our Party on the battle of negotiation. If the election of the constituent assembly held on mid June 2007, it would have been done on the spirit of the CPA and the Interim Constitution that stood on the base of ten years of people's war and on the force of 19 days people's movement. But the conspiracy of the domestic and foreign reactionaries had severely blunted that spirit and provoked the parliamentary parties to violate all the norms and mandates of the Nepalese people. And the date for the election for December was announced on the condition that people's rights are snatched, the suspended monarchy is still playing role from behind the curtain, the feudal and bureaucrat capitalist elements still dream that the election could be turned to 1980 referendum.

These are the reasons why our Party demanded Nepal be declared Republic immediately and full proportional election system be guaranteed. The essence of these demands was to ensure the Democratic Republic and Federal restructure of the national and autonomous republics. However, the major parliamentary parties strongly hesitated for our party even to endorse the note of dissent on the issue of full proportional election system, it is well recognised that our commitment to the interest of the people can never be compromised. So, along with the ideological and political differences and our Party has compromised on this issue on two major conditions: one, NC stepped up to Republic, and two, the country should

find a way out to go forward either through election or through people's struggle. Now, from these constitutional amendments, the parliamentary parties especially the Nepali Congress should cast away pro-monarchical tendencies completely, and come forward to the new political mainstream of Democratic Republic of Nepal and to bringing economic, political and social restructures in the country.

Now the duty of the Parties is to go to forge national unity and to the election of the CA without creating any hesitation and hindrance. Since the implementation of federal republic begins with the first meeting of constituent assembly, conspiracies to avert election could be hatched from everywhere. The election commission is trying to give a murky picture on its ability to hold election. If so, obstacle should be removed even by removing the election commissioner himself, off his chair. Once the Federal Structure of the national and regional autonomous republics is ensured, the Terai problem and other tensions will also be settled.

If the domestic and foreign reactionaries try to avert the election and bare the Nepalese people to exercise the sovereign right to declare republic, abolish monarchy, bring economic, political, social restructure, it will be very costly for them. Nepalese people now attain the right to rebel, and, in this condition the elimination of the reactionary element will be thousand times faster than ever conceived.

— Writer is CPN-Maoist central committee member.

114th Birthday celebrated Worldwide

The 114th birthday of Chairman Mao Tse-Tung, the great leader of world proletariat, has been celebrated all over the world. CM Mao who led Chinese revolution successfully, implemented Marxism-Leninism in the concrete reality of Chinese reality, initiated Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in socialist China and developed Marxism-Leninism to Marxism-Leninism-Maoism.

On this occasion, Chairman Prachanda of the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist has said that Comrade Mao has made an immortal contributions by developing the science of Marxism-Leninism into a new height on Marxist philosophy, political economy and scientific socialism.



Solidarity with Nepalese movement

Indo-Nepal People's Solidarity Forum has been set-up to assist the ongoing effort for the establishment of the Republic of Nepal. Recently Anandswaroop Verma, the member of presidium, in a program in Kathmandu publicized the concept paper, the objectives of the organization, its plans and programs through press-meet.

Addressing a press meet, Mr. Verma said, "India has no other alternatives than to support the republic of Nepal, because the 19 day janaandolan has already crossed the two-pillar theory of India." He stressed that the sovereignty of all the countries equals though the country is smaller or bigger. He clearly said, "But India always behaves the neighboring-countries as small countries with small sovereignty."

In this context, Mr. Verma, justifying the objectives of the establishment of Solidarity Forum, said, "We have decided to set up an All India Indo-Nepal People's Solidarity Forum to rally the revolutionary progressive and genuine

democratic forces of India in support of the Nepalese people's right to decide their destiny without any outside interference."

Mr. Verma pointed out that India should not interfere in the internal affairs of Nepal and so many issues raised up in the transitional period to republic. He further added that the treaty of 1950 should be reviewed and another new treaty should be made on a new basis. Analysing the Indian Interference in Nepal, he said that the dominant section within the Indian ruling class, RAW and SSB are responsible for it.

More than 25 central and provincial organizations and institutions of India are in the solidarity forum.

Likewise, an eleven member France Nepal People's Solidarity Forum has been formed in Paris of France on the presence of Comrade Gaurav on 23rd of November 2007. This forum has been formed under the leadership of comrade Peer. The formation of this Form has enthused to the Nepalese people in Europe and in Nepal.

We are resolute to our class ideology, idealism and our goal

Will the country reach a meaningful conclusion by the ongoing peace process?

In our opinion, the ongoing peace process is not the peace process occurring between two similar class and interest. This is the peace process advancing on the foundation of 10 years of people's war. The new processes of war and peace are possible in revolution and can be changed into each other. Marxism perceives and causes to understand it well. And another aspect is that the main objective of the peace process is to serve and accomplish the proletarian revolution.

The birth of violence after a certain pace of peace and the birth of peace after the completion of a certain pace of revolutionary violence lie under the Marxist laws of quantity and break-through. The peace process in this sense should provide revolutionary conclusion to the nation. But, here, I want to add that it will be big mistake to consider that the reactionary feudalist and imperialist state power will be transferred into proletarian state power by negotiation, agreement and unison contrary to the investigation of Marxism about the state power where there is always a sharp struggle and different interest between the two dissimilar classes (proletariat and exploiter).

What are the potential problems to come if the peace process is prolonged?

The problem is created within party due to the two principle reasons whether there is peace or war: the first one is the objective situation that grows up out of the party and the second is the contradiction to perceive and implement the Marxism-Leninism and Maoism within the party. The principle one is the objective situation developed outside of the party. At this time, there is the danger of rightist-deviation, eclectics-deviation and leftist-deviation. One of them, the ground of leftist deviation is very weak. It is impossible go-back to the war and advance ahead. Therefore, the rightist deviation is the principle problem of the party. The suitable objective-ground is available for it. There is no complexity and impossibility to deviate through it. The reliable situation exists for few persons or a group to go, fulfil interest and bear no problem for this tendency, is more dangerous because the puppets of imperialism and expansionism including the agents and some persons of feudalist old-power and aristocratic class are actively engaged to make deviate from the party.

The second major danger is eclecticism. The basis of this type of tendency is stronger though it is not as equal as to the rightist tendency. This problem can be created when we can not clarify our stand about the struggle among revolutionary and rightist, conflict between the people and rulers which are raised within and out of the party and seem to be like rolling-stone. But the deviation cannot exist for a long time. It goes to be submitted to any stable class. This may be in favour of revolutionaries and people or rightist and reactionary class. But we believe the revolutionary tendency has been the main tendency of our party.

What kind of role have you found the foreign powers in it?

It's our good fortune that the Nepalese proletarian-class has got the opportunity to observe the class character of two opposite class, class struggle and the climax of class interest. We initiated people's war and revolution in Nepal. We only hit upon the feudal class and comprador capitalist class of Nepal, but the Indian expansionist and the rulers of Delhi including American imperialism and its rulers are being convulsed. They are involving directly in our struggle. They are running to protect the old power and the ruling class of Nepal. They haven't forgotten to make melodious tongue for peace but they want to snatch the right of the people behind it. They want the protection of old power. According to our own information, not only the government officials, but their detective institutions like CIA and RAW are working actively to make fail our revolution. Only before a few days, Asoka Mehata, the ex-general of India, threatened to mobilize Indian army if Maoists try to seize the power. At the same time, Indian Ambassador ordered to hold the election by any means at that time. US ex-ambassador Moriarty went on giving open speech against Nepal and Nepalese sentiment. But the decisive force is the Nepalese people, themselves.

Why the international communist parties are criticizing CPN (Maoist)?

It's a burning question, indeed. Our party and revolution isn't the party and revolution of Nepal only. It is one of the essential organs of world communist party and world revolution. Therefore, the success and failure of the revolution influences the entire world. Another important fact is that the situation in which we're standing today is built due to the help and solidarity of the world proletarian class.

When we initiated people's war in Nepal, we were observing the revolution of Peru, Philippines and Turkey at that time. We discussed and shared the experiences with fraternal parties- RCP and CPI (Maoist). They have helped us too much. The revolutionaries of India helped us in political, technological, academic and other sectors. RIM and CPI (Maoist) have some anxieties and criticisms about Nepalese revolution while we are in peace process.

We've accepted those complains and criticisms cordially and should do so, because they belong to the same class. They don't want only the revolution, but also revolutionary internationalism in Nepal. Some others complain on it, but we say that the criticism of com. Ganapati and com. Bob Avakian is more favourable, beneficial and salutary than the admiration and compassion of Indian Prime Minister Man Mohan Singh and American president George Bush. We should make them to believe that we are resolute to our class, ideology, ideal and our goal.

What do you consider the cadres and people to pay attention on at this time?

This is an important question. The sharp struggle between revolution and counter revolution has resulted anxiety,

suspicion and awareness everywhere. A fierce attack upon revolutionary leaders, cadres, people and our party is happening everywhere. Imperialist, reactionaries and opportunists are in plan to split our party, attack upon honest cadres and disappoint all the cadres and people. The rightist deviation within the

party is more possible to come and make effort to condemn the whole party and the revolutionaries within it. The revolutionaries should not be deviated due to the outside attack. We have strong commitment on either salvation or death. But surrender and treason impossible. ■



- Netrabikram Chand 'Biplab'
Secretariat Member,
Central Committee, CPN-Maoist

Unilaterally Published Verification

Kathmandu : United Nations Mission to Nepal (UNMIN) has unilaterally publicized the result of the second phase verification of People's Liberation Army (PLA) on 27 December 2007 without consulting the Communist Party of Nepal Maoist. In spite of the full cooperation of the Party and the PLA to the UNMIN, its act of

undermining has raised some serious questions. Deputy commander com Pasang said, "It is not according to the process, but the UNMIN did it unilaterally. The result should have been sent to decision making body to be discussed according to the understanding of the JMCC. We are very sad on this act of UNMIN."

Federal Republic....

NC became unaware even though Madheshi leaders including Minister Mahant Thakur resigned collectively from their parties and interim legislature due to the delay in executing the directive of legislature.

Even though the agreement has been reached, the people are sceptical on the very question whether the CA polls will happen on time, because of the character of the Congress. The CA polls have become uncertain because of the traditional thinking and backward going plan and program of the parliamentarian leaders. It has also been much serious while the domestic and foreign power centres have been playing a dirty game over Nepalese poli-

tics. Maoist senior leader com. Badal says that the environment of movement should be created for not only to fulfil the CA polls but to bring the result of election in favour of Nepalese people. He claimed that the Maoist view point of executing the decision to fulfil CA polls will be implemented strongly.

A suspicion is created about the execution of the agreement because of the tendency to agree and break it time and again. Again if the agreement is not applied sincerely, a huge dissatisfaction will spread among the people and a new rebellion will take birth. At that time, the existence of not only the monarchy, but the leadership of the interim government, NC, will also be finished.

Benazir ...

vowed to fight to root out the militants up on her arrival.

However, assassination of any leader or any people is a heinous act, even then the Pakistani ruling class has planted the politics of mass murder and as-

sassination. This situation could be brought into a correct track by making the Pakistani people free of imperialist domination, economically and socially prosperous and politically sovereign.

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EDITORIAL

Question of Nationality

Chairman Prachanda has recently spoken out in a press conference that all the nationalist forces including those who hitherto remained around royalist camp should be united with the republican and the revolutionary forces in the process of the protection of Nepalese nationalism. This statement has triggered a blistering debate among all walks of lives. From the parliamentary leaders to the Nepalese 'free press', from the ordinary masses to the left oriented forces, almost all the people got engaged into this debate of the nation.

It is obvious that the Nepalese nationality has always been fallen under threat in its history. This is the reason, why the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) had urgently raised the question of nationality, democracy and livelihood before the initiation of the people's war and has been raising today since these problems are not solved. The ten years of people's war has not only smashed and uprooted the old modus operandi of the Nepali society but also gave way to advance the parliamentary parties get committed in building new Nepal, where the national sovereignty rests in the hands of the Nepali people, where national integrity develops on the basis of equality and equal opportunity, and the livelihood of the people develops to the standard of the 21st century human beings, having destroyed the present slavish society. At this moment the danger against national integrity and people's sovereignty is mounting internally and externally. In this particular transitional period, the nation demands unity of all nationalist, democratic and patriotic forces with the revolutionaries. Except a tiny and handful feudal and national capitulationist elements and the imperialist and expansionist agents, all Nepalese people will have to be united for this national unity and national freedom. This also clearly indicates that the principal contradiction is gradually shifting towards national independence. This is the essence of the remark what Chairman Prachanda made.

Some of the parliamentarian leaders and Nepali 'free press' are seriously engaging to distort this fact and to vulgarise the statement. This is bizarre. Moreover, the severely puzzled Indian agents, the naïve and infantile parliamentary politicians have even stated that from this remark of Chairman Prachanda, the Prachanda Path has reduced to Mahendra path and Prachanda's principle protects monarchy which is being uprooted through CA election. Their comments are either full-fledged servitude to foreign powers or simply mirage. Their arguments that the Prachanda put the Nepal Army into sternly difficulty, that the slogan stands against India, that the slogan breaks seven party unity are the manifestations how the Nepali politics and 'free press' are seriously bugged down into the mire of Indian hegemony and domestic feudalism.

If the parliamentarians are honestly committed to build new Nepal, if the Nepalese "free press" is to contribute their service in the interest of the Nepalese people, they must honestly learn from the brutal history of the Panchayat and the parliamentary politics and be able to transform themselves as per the demands of history.

Whither the Peace Process?



● C P Gajurel

Political confusion and uncertainty intensified when the government deferred the election of constituent assembly from the stipulated date of mid-June 2007. The whole agreement was based on the consensus of holding the election at the stipulated date. As anticipated by our party, the forces that were conspiring to sabotage the election of constituent assembly were able to do their job. First the government led by Nepali Congress requested the political parties that only the time was not enough and they asked one week time for complete the process. But again it was declared that the election could not be held in the next stipulated date. It is irony that the people who were responsible to foil the election are now accusing our party responsible for the delay of the poll. The question of election of constituent assembly has drawn attention of numerous people at home and abroad. Present article will be based on the same issue.

Harmful to disappoint the masses

The same people who were responsible to foil the election of constituent assembly are now engaged in disappointing to the Nepalese people that if the election will not be held within couple of months it will never be held and the political crisis will be aggravated in such a scale that it will engulf the country in the crisis that can never be resolved. Firstly, the election of constituent has been explained in such an exaggerated way as if it is panacea which can resolve all the pending problems and the political crisis of Nepal at one stroke. It is aimed that the political crisis will be resolved by writing a new constitution which can pave the way for a new progressive system in Nepal that can lead the country to forward progress and further advancement by creating a society in which the exploitation of man by man in all forms is abolished, the country will get rid of the monarchy ruling over Nepal since 240 years of despotic rule, the people of Nepal should be real master of the society, the country will be fully independent by abolishing all forms of foreign exploitation and oppression. But there are regressive and statusquoist forces who are

trying to (mis)use the election to legalize their most hated reactionary system and autocratic rule. Definitely the election of constituent assembly should fulfill the aspiration and desire of the Nepalese people not that of regressive and statusquoist forces. This is not the periodical election which is being held by a reactionary state for the sake of renewing their rule. This election has certain aim that has to be fulfilled. It should abolish the monarchy once and for all and has to establish 'federal democratic republic', has to fulfill the aspirations of all classes, genders, sections, oppressed castes, backward regions. If it fails to achieve the desired results the election will not only be meaningless it will be disastrous. Therefore for meaningful election certain conditions have to be fulfilled, otherwise there is a danger that the election instead of being instrumental in resolving the political crisis will further aggravate the crisis.

Definitely the election of the constituent assembly must be held. There should not be any pretext for not to hold it. It is vital important that the election should be meaningful and should serve the purpose of abolishing the monarchy and pave the way for new Nepal. Some people are so crying for "election" and it seems that they don't care whether it will be meaningful or meaningless election, it will bring good or bad result, it is worth of advancing to progressive society or back to the same backward society. They are trying to disappoint the people that if the election will not be held within a few days or couple of months, we all will go to hell. This way they are trying to disappoint and intimidate the masses and force them to go to "election" which will not serve its purpose. The heroic Nepalese masses should not be intimidated and made disappointed. They should be brave enough to hold the election by creating prerequisite and conducive atmosphere in which the election can bring the desired results. Definitely, the Nepalese people will not be intimidated and compelled to accept the election which does not serve its purpose and that helps the regressive elements to regain their position.

Prerequisites for the election

Our party, the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) considers that two demands, namely, declaring the republic from the legislative parliament and full proportional electoral process for the poll are the prerequisites that have

to be fulfilled before going to the poll. The question is being raised from many quarters on why the Maoist party has put forward such conditions for the poll right at the eleventh hour. So it seems necessary to clarify this question. It is certain that until the republic is declared, it implies that there still remains some sort of monarchy. Whatever form or kind of monarchy, it is the point where all sorts of the forces who want the come back of monarchy rally around. The creation of the Terai problem, Kapilbastu communal violence, Gaur ghastly massacre, Kathmandu bomb blast and all such divisive activities are the designs of the king and pro-monarchy elements at home and abroad. The palace backed by Washington and Hindu fundamentalist forces of India is creating such problem and its main aim is to sabotage the election and regain its lost paradise. So the inherent reality is that until republic is declared the king and its accomplices will not let the election to happen. So far the full proportional electoral process is concerned it is necessary to ascertain that all the classes, sections, genders, indigenous people, remote areas etc. have given due opportunities for them to represent in the constituent assembly which is going to write the new constitution. Apart from that the secessionist and anti-national elements and puppets of the foreign reactionary forces are trying to fulfill their evil design by exploiting the sentiments of the Terai people provoking them that they are debarred from sending the proportional representation. Only by addressing the genuine demands of the Madhesi people the secessionist elements can be isolated and national harmony can be achieved which can only guarantee the safety of integrity and sovereignty of Nepal. So it is clear that for the meaningful and purposeful election the two demands as mentioned above should be fulfilled.

Decisions of the legislative parliament

The legislative parliament has passed two resolutions, namely, declaring republic from the legislative parliament and full proportional mode of election. When our party put these two demands as the necessary prerequisites for the meaningful election of the constituent assembly we were accused by some elements that these demands were placed in order to disrupt the election. But now it is clear to every body that

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For a New Unity on a New Basis

Preamble of the Paper

A serious impediment on the way to peace process and political forward going has been felt everywhere at this time. The 12-point understanding between the Seven Party Alliance (SPA) and CPN (Maoist), concluded on Nov. 22, 2005 for democracy, peace and advancement took the political journey to Comprehensive Peace Accord, Interim Constitution (IC), Interim Legislature (IL) and Interim Government (IG) are fallen into a serious crisis. Consequently, the agenda on Constituent Assembly (CA) election, establishment of Federal Democratic Republic and the progressive social-economic transformation, accepted earlier, have not been implemented. This situation has led the entire peace process putting into the danger of peril. In this critical situation, it has been necessary to review all the understandings, agreements and compromises to recognize the problems objectively and find the scientific solution to maintain a new unity on a new basis.

A. General Overview

First of all, to understand the background of the present problems, it is necessary to review the past in brief. Two years ago, it was a historical event to reach to 12-point agreement between the CPNM that had been leading armed People's War against feudalism and monarchism since last 10 years and seven parliamentary parties that had been leading peaceful mass movement, for complete democracy. Although, CPN (Maoist) had taken initiative to achieve this understanding right after the heinous palace massacre, it took clear shape only after the Royal coup if 1 February 2005. The 19-day People's Movement (janandolan) was nearly to kneel down the monarchism and if the movement continued for few days more, it was almost sure to have republic established at that moment. Against the spirit of the 12-point understanding, as the major parliamentarian parties announced to stop the struggle unilaterally on the condition to reinstate the dissolved parliament, thus, the republic which arrives at the threshold, had fallen into uncertainty. Therefore, first of all, all concerned must honestly uphold that the present crisis is the bitter outcome of the wrong agreement held between the monarchy and the parliamentary parties on 24 April 2006 against the spirit and aspiration of the people's movement. The eight-point

agreement that held on 16 June 2007 with mutual tension and struggle between the CPNM and the seven parliamentary parties had once again put the democracy, peace and progress at the top of the agenda to mover forward mutually. After then, along with many ups and downs, a political consensus on 8 October 2006 and a comprehensive peace accord on 21 November, 2006 were signed. According to this roadmap, the process of putting PLA in cantonments and Nepal Army in barracks began, and interim legislature was established and the interim constitution was proclaimed (on Jan. 15, 2007). This process of the conflict management and political forward going process sans the mediation of the foreign centres was unique and unprecedented in the history of the world. Certainly, many compromises were made in

kinds of provocative counter-revolutionary activities. Finally, it is declared in a dramatic way immediately after that, that the proposed CA election scheduled for mid June could not be held on time. In this way, having bringing alteration on the scheduled CA election, and not holding election on mid-June, which was an important base of Comprehensive Peace Accord, was a serious violation of the peace process, and it was inhabitable to review some important agreements and understandings reached on the basis of those accords, for they would have been automatically unacceptable because they were based on pre-understanding. Therefore, it is necessary to understand that the present political stagnation is related to the inability on holding CA election on mid June objectively and subjectively which we had expressed through note of dissent at that time.

same time, the special session of legislature was summoned aiming at to maintain peace process, to make efforts to the last from on behalf of us, and to find the solution from within the interim legislature itself. The ball of the responsibility to solve the problem has gone in the court of the Nepali Congress which leads the government, since the special session of legislature passed the agenda of full proportional election system and declaration of the Republic on 4 Nov. 2006 As a whole, it is clear that the present peace process and revelling political process will not move ahead unless a new consensus is reached having made an objective evaluation of the 12 point agreement to peace accord and the decisions of the special session of the interim legislature.

B. Identification of the key problem

The correct identification

address the problems related to class, region, castes, gender, ethnicity and minority" in all these documents has justified it.

It means that it is not to establish the old "mainstream" but have a commitment of both side is to establish the "new" political main stream in the interim period after comprehensive peace accord. Contrary to this, objectively the immediate cause of the political stagnation is the Nepali Congress, mainly its leadership that express its arrogance as if leading all the parties including Maoists towards the political mainstream as per its outlook and attempt to maintain the status quo in the country.

2. The other main problem that has emerged from it, is not to understand that as long as the feudal and monarchy remains in the country and as long as the unitary state, security system, bureaucracy and economic and social system which were constructed since hundreds of years to safeguard the interest of the monarchy remains, and not to take necessary steps against that. The another big problem is that while the interim period is extending, the counter revolutionary activities of the monarchy and the monarchist elements are mounting and the NC leadership is becoming inapt to fight against it vigorously. It is a big mockery not to understand that as long as there is monarchy there will have no election of the CA.

3. The fact that the undesired activities and intervention of the foreign powers have also created additional problems in the specific geopolitical condition of Nepal should also be taken seriously. Specifically the series of incidents in Terai, after signing the peace process, are its witnesses. It is the matter of grave concern not to have a desired national unity and understanding at the time while there is a serious threat mounting against the sovereignty and the geographical integrity of the country.

4. The another big problem today is the lack of implementation of the terms of agreements boldly and mounting misunderstandings between the old rival forces. Particularly, the problems have further been aggravated by the negligence on management and care of the PLA, lack of sincerity in providing a minimum compensation to the families of the martyrs, carelessness to make public to the disappeared etc.



condition to hold the election of the constituent assembly by mid June of 2007, to institutionalise the republic into the interim constitution, on the question of election and other many issues. But, as the elements which never had any role and existence were created and such violent and destructive activities in Madesh were agitated right after the formation of the interim legislature and declaration of the interim constitution, it is not any difficulty to understand that it was a conscious effort of the royalist, and the domestic and foreign reactionary forces to attempt to disrupt the peace process and the election of the constituent assembly. Gaur massacre that took place 31 March 2007 was the climax of those counter-revolutionary activities. Even then, CPN Maoist involved into the interim government on April 1 2007, aiming at to ensure the election of CA by mid June and to ensure the peace and forward going process even without caring all

As long as it is not realised, so long will it be impossible to break the stagnation. The CPN (Maoist) has forwarded the 22-point basic propositions having come to the conclusion that as long as objective conditions and solutions are not identified of not having been the election in mid June, the election of the CA election will not be possible even in the future. The main conclusion of it is that as long as there is monarchy election will not be ensured and as long as the proportional election system is adopted, the election will not be meaningful. Similarly, the essence of it is that as long as the reliable environment for confidence is created by having fully applied the agreements of the peace process, it will be impossible to lead the peace process in the same way. The CPN (Maoist) has resigned from the interim government from 17 September 2006 by considering unsuitable to stay in the government until the fair environment is created. At the

of the problem becomes the most important duty to solve the problem. In this sense, the CPN (Maoist) has understanding that these are the main problem at the heart of the present political stagnation:

1. The first and the foremost problem is the basic difference is the basic outlook between CPN (Maoist) and the main parliamentary parties in understanding the peace process and political events. In spite of existing serious differences between CPN (Maoist) and parliamentarian parties on the world outlook and the recent model of democracy, both have agreed to establish federal democratic republican state by abolishing feudalism and monarchy and to exercise concurrent multiparty democracy. This is the essence of 12-point agreement to Comprehensive Peace Accord, interim constitution, including minimum common program. Having done inserted these phrases as "to restructure of the state for forward going to

For a new unity on a

5. The another most important aspect of the political stagnation is not to realize the fact that the restructuring of the State is the restructuring of the security sector and democratizing Nepal Army and the question of fusion of PLA.

6. The incidents of Madesh and others have also proved that having been unable to make ensure the participation in the political consensus and peace process to various ethnic and regional liberation organizations, the representatives of different classes, the civil agitators and etc, who have been waging struggle since long has also entangled the problem today.

7. Now the problem has also been intensified because of the imposition of the hegemony of the Congress Party, not to have a correct power sharing, and not to apply the pre-accepted agreements at the modus operandi in the interim government.

8. Not to adopt the policy and programme by the interim government to bring changes to the masses of people after the armed conflict; and mounting dissatisfaction among the masses of people are the other important aspects of today's problems.

C. Road map of Solution

On the basis of the above mentioned brief review and the identification of the problem, it is necessary to draw a new roadmap. Along with it, it is suitable to find the solution by identifying the problems as the problems created from the aspect of peace-agreement or, the

problems that created through a new manner in a new situation. Likewise, the effort should be made to solve problem by classifying them into ideological-political aspect and procedural aspect. Therefore, CPN (Maoist) holds that the problems erupted at present should be solved in the following way:

a) Ideological-political Aspect :

1. Both the parties should realize that, having respected the differences in the world outlook and political commitment inherent in the Maoist and the parliamentarians, at present efforts should be made to create a new political main stream and exercise it, based on new consensus, which is the essence of the peace accord. In this context, a dialogue should be held in a high political level and the effort should be made to wipe out the suspicions among each other.

2. A re-commitment should be publicized that the immediate common desire of both the sides is to establish federal democratic republic by abolishing feudalism and monarchy. It is necessary to absorb the fact that the present mutual cooperation is necessary to continue until the complete abolition of monarchy. The effort should be made to maintain a common understanding by erasing the differences in the understanding of the 'federal democratic republic'.

3. A commitment should be taken to maintain a well-developed National Unity for the protection and promotion

of Independence, Sovereignty and Geographical Integrity of the country. The political parties should carry a common campaign to make people realize the practical guaranty that the independence and national unity of the country will be ever stronger in the framework of the Federal Democratic Republic.

4. A common understanding should be maintained that the election of constituent assembly is impossible if the monarchy is not dissolved immediately by proclaiming the republic. Both sides should be agreed to declare the date of CA election as soon as possible by declaring republic.

5. A common understanding should be made on the inevitability of proportional election system for the meaningful CA election. A serious dialogue should be held among the concerned actors to maintain uniformity on the modality of the proportional election system.

6. On the issue of the Security System Restructure, the task of making fusion of the People's Liberation Army and the Nepal Army having it been democratized should be carried ahead soon and in a systematic manner by maintaining the political agreement.

7. A practical guarantee of the creation of the political mainstream should be given by implementing the policies and programs of Socio-economic transformation as per the decision of the Comprehensive Peace Accord and the Interim Constitution.

b) Procedural Aspect :

1. A High-Level Task Force consisting of both the sides should be formed to review and evaluate of implementation of all the agreements, understandings and compromises and recommend amendments on them.

2. An extensive political conference of democratic political forces, castes, ethnics, regions, madhesh, women, dalits, muslim, minorities, professionals, civil society representatives of the masses should be held to find the positive solution of present political stagnation through national discussion.

3. An agreement among political parties should be made soon to implement the proposal of republic and proportional electoral system passed by the interim legislature in a constitutional and legal way. The tendencies that aggravates conflicts and create obstacles on executing the decisions passed by the interim legislature should strongly be restricted. If necessary, the effort should be made to change the leadership of the government to maintain the peace process and unity among political parties.

4. The conflict management and the contents related to create reliable environment mentioned in 22-point basic proposal forwarded by the CPN (Maoist) should be implemented immediately. Specially, the management and care of PLA, distribution of compensation to martyrs' families, treatment to wound-

ed, a high-level commission to investigate to the disappeared, state restructuring commission, a land related commission and corruption investigation commission should be formed immediately.

5. A powerful peace commission, with the representatives of both the conflicting sides, should be formed by dissolving the one-sided 'Peace and Reconstruction Ministry' that had beard the responsibility to execute the decision related to the Peace Accord and conflict management.

6. The interim government should be restructured by sharing the power and responsibility in a new manner. The interim government should be carried on the basis of the principle of agreement and minimum common policy and program.

7. All the political parties should go ahead to accomplish forward going restructuring of the state and the society by creating the political agreement and the environment of the mutual-confidence at first should declare new date of the CA election.

In totality, we have no other options than to forge a new unity on a new basis to advance on way of democracy, peace and progress. We hope and believe that this interaction program will play a significant role to accelerate the peace process and political process by maintaining a broader national unity.

(Presented by CPNM at an interaction programme on 16 November 2007)

Whither the peace

these are the resolutions of the legislative parliament. These two resolutions have been passed by the majority of the legislature. But according to the provision of the interim constitution, to make amendment in the interim constitution on the basis of the decisions of the legislature, only majority will not be enough. It requires two third majorities. But decision of the majority vote in the legislative parliament has definitely a legitimate value. Now it is vital political question of debate in current politics of Nepal. It is a big test for those political parties who claim themselves as the champion of the democracy and rule of the majority.

Government should or should not abide by the decision?

As mentioned above the two proposals were passed by majority of the legislative parliament. As according to provision of the interim constitution, no single party or parties can put forward the proposal in the legislative parliament for amendment of the constitution, only government can do it. The legislative parliament can give

a directive to the government to table such a proposal before the legislative parliament. If the government does not abide by the decision and defies the legislative parliament, then it should be considered as the violation of the constitution. If the government openly violates the constitution, then it is evident that it has no moral right to continue in the government and consequently they should step down.

There is a big question on whether the C P N (Maoist) intends to bring down the government? Whether it has already decided to support U M L candidacy for the post of the new prime minister? Our line is quite clear. It is evident that there is no conducive atmosphere to hold the election unless the two proposals are agreed and the constitution is amended accordingly. The decision of the majority of the legislature parliament has paved the way for this. In case, Nepali Congress decides not to go according to the decision of the majority in the legislative parliament and the government defies the instruction of it, it can give rise to a new situation. In that

case the government should resign by itself. If they do not resign then it will be necessary to organize peaceful mass movement both to force the government to fulfill the demands which have already been passed by the legislative parliament and for the resignation of the government. In that case the issue of resignation of the government will come into the agenda.

Election not above the peace process

There is a tendency in some political parties, some organizations and individuals that the election of constituent assembly is every thing. They tend to speak in such a way and it seems that they put the question of the election of constituent assembly above the peace process. They forget the importance of the peace process while talking about the election of constituent assembly. Now many people have forgotten the significance of the peace process. It is necessary to remind that definitely the election of constituent assembly is important part of the peace process. It is one among the many parts of the peace process. But it is definitely not above the peace process.

What for the mass movement?

The priority of our party is to decide the issues by the consensus of seven political parties and make amendment in the constitution to declare republic and for the full proportional mode of election. This possibility has not been over until now. But it is difficult to be confident that it will take place with certainty. If the NC which is leading the government will not come to the term, then we will be left with no other option than to go for the mass movement. Our party has taken this decision quite some time back in its historic Fifth Expanded Meeting of the CC. Our party right from top to the bottom is prepared for this. We are eagerly waiting for the out come of the seven-party meetings. Therefore the correct policy for the party is to be well prepared for the mass movement and also carrying the dialogues and negotiations. It will be a mistake to fully dependent on the outcome of the dialogues and not to be prepared for the mass movement which will be peaceful. 'Be prepared for the mass movement and carry on the dialogue' will be the correct policy.

My experience with the PLA



● Roshan Kissoon

I have been a frequent visitor to the PLA cantonment in Chitwan over the past five months, where I also give English classes to PLA commanders. There is much disinformation in the Nepali and international media regarding the PLA, based on ignorance and prejudice.

brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, who are also soldiers in the PLA, and so the bond between them is very strong. There is marriage between different castes and communities in the PLA, and so in practice the caste system is being broken down, the soldiers are Nepali, not Bahun or Chettri. Most PLA soldiers marry other soldiers, and there are weddings periodically, usually coinciding with a cultural or political program. Around ten couples get married at one program; there is no priest, no special expensive wedding costume; they get married in military uniform. They pledge their

a hospital that is used by the local population. The PLA are always working, never idle. There is sometimes emphasis on construction, other times on education, at other times on military training. In their spare time, they play football and volleyball, as well as practice martial arts. They also watch TV and study in their spare time. Everyone eats together in the mess, and there is a rota system, so everyone takes turns to cook. Dalbhat with vegetables is served everyday, and once or twice a week meat will be served. The food is healthy, and everyone eats three times a day. Nobody drinks or

training to fight, could also dance and sing. The songs and dances are traditional, in that they are obviously variations of traditional folk songs and dances popular around Nepal, but also revolutionary; the songs are about revolution, about struggle, about the success and failure of oppressed people around the world to build a better life; the dances show with grace and beauty the dignity of struggle, men and women as equals. There is a very rich Communist culture here, a culture that takes the best of the traditional culture but revolutionises it, a culture that looks to the future and

tions about life in Europe, the Communist and Left movement in other parts of the world, reasons why the Soviet Union collapsed, the US war on Afghanistan and Iraq, Chavez, Castro *etc.* They study a great deal, and there are many study programs in the cantonment for all the soldiers, including classes in Nepali, military strategy, dance, and English. The commanders, in particular, research about experiences of revolution in other parts of the world, about what can be learnt from these struggles. From their reading and study, they know the lengths that US



The PLA soldiers, by contrast, want to create a better Nepal, as they understand that their own people deserve and need better than what currently exists.

Here are some of the things I have seen.

The PLA is made up of the poorest people in Nepal, from the mountainous regions bordering China to the Terai region near India, people from many different castes and clans, speaking many different languages, having many different traditions. However, in the PLA they are equal, they live the same life, eat the same food, and wear the same clothes. There is equality between men and women, and the traditional feudalistic practices such as caste discrimination, arranged marriages with expensive dowries, and the religious superstitions that plague all of South Asia do not exist here. A noticeable thing about the PLA is that many of the soldiers are related; many soldiers have

dedication to each other as well as to the cause of Communism. Due to these relationships within the PLA, the army is unified and dedicated. Furthermore, almost all of the soldiers have friends, brothers, sisters, cousins who were killed by the RNA during the People's War. They know these martyrs died for a better future, a Communist future, and they will not betray their sacrifice. The morale of the PLA is extremely good. There are many young children in the camp, some of them the children of PLA martyrs. They are well looked after, with great love, by everyone in the camp.

When I first arrived in the camp, it was quite bare and had only a few buildings. In the months that followed, the PLA have built what is virtually a small town, with

smokes in the cantonment, and the behaviour of the soldiers towards each other, locals, and visitors is good.

The interaction between the PLA and the local population is also good; when I first came to Chitwan many of the locals were wary of the Maoists. But, a few months later, the PLA are part of the population, and the many shops and restaurants around the camp are patronised largely by the PLA; the PLA have greatly improved the local economy. Furthermore, the PLA hold many cultural programmes in which the local population take part and learn about what the Maoists are trying to do, and about the basic rightness of their cause. It was in these cultural programmes that I saw the great talent of the PLA soldiers, who as well as

encourages creativity. There are many songs about the Nepalese revolution, some with lyrics written by Central Committee members. Many of the soldiers write poetry. Some of the PLA cultural group asked me about revolutionary culture from the West. I sang to them the American folk classic 'Stalin wasn't Stalin' and 'The Red Flag', a classic of the British workers movement. I also recommended that the plays of Bertolt Brecht be translated into Nepali. Some may be surprised to hear that there is even an excellent Maoist comedian, a Platoon commander, who performed at the recent 'PLA day' celebrations.

In my English classes with the commanders, I have many interesting discussions, and I am asked many ques-

imperialism can go to destroy a popular movement (look at almost any country in Latin America), but they know also that Communist forces under the leadership of Stalin defeated the Nazis and that in Vietnam Communist forces led by Ho Chi Minh were able to defeat the US army.

Whenever I come to Kathmandu, I meet middle class, well educated, English speaking Nepalese. They always want to emigrate to the West, they copy the worst aspects of Western culture, and do not see much of a future in Nepal. The PLA soldiers, by contrast, want to create a better Nepal, as they understand that their own people deserve and need better than what currently exists. For this, I will always respect them.

- Kissoon is an international freelance journalist.

Youth March for Nationality and Republic

● Dipak Sapkota

Young Communist League (YCL) the organization of the Maoist revolutionary youth of Nepal is currently busy in the 'Mechi-Mahakali Youth March'. The organization has said that the march is called for the unified youth mobilization for the consolidation and expansion of the organization and for defense of Nationality and to establish Republic. Inaugurated in Kathmandu on 1st December the march then started from the most eastern part of Nepal Mechi has now arrived to the far-western Nepal. The League has planned to conclude the march reaching the very western

boarder of Nepal in Tanakpur on last week of January. In course of the campaign, the League March team has examined the boarder areas encroached by the Indian state. The League team visited these places along with the local civil society, intellectuals, journalists and affected locals. The March team reached those kinds of five encroached spots in the

eastern and central Nepal and various places including Susta (Nawalparasi) in the western Nepal. In one of the incident, the Indian Boarder Security Force has mistreated the League activists while they were visiting the en-



YCL cadres marching in Susta where Indian State has encroached Nepali territory

croached spot in Kanchanpur district. The YCL central committee has demanded the Indian state to stop the boarder encroachment immediately and return back the Nepali territory.

The YCL central committee calling a press meet in Kathmandu last week informed the journalist, its mid-term progress of the youth march. The YCL

president Ganesh Man Pun said that the march is continue with huge enthusiasm and inspiration and is sure to gain the success. Pun issuing a press statement on the occasion gave the detailed report of what league activist

has done during the march. Those include march-past, mass-meetings, public hearings, interactions, public awareness programs, demonstrations, protests, garbage management, felicitation of the martyr's family, trainings and etc. And they are holding similar kinds of activities as they are heading towards the far western Nepal.

The League felicitated the

kin of the martyrs who were fallen in Gaur (Rautahat, a central eastern Terian district). Last week it organized a program to felicitate the kin which was even the part of the march. Last year; the vigilante of the Madhesi forum had massacred 29 Maoist and YCL cadres attacking a public meeting. Most of the killed were YCL cadres. Krishna Bahadur Mahara, spokesperson of CPN-M attended the program and distributed the relief materials. League also remembered the world proletariat leaders during the march. The League teams during the march celebrated the birthdays of two great communist leaders Mao Tse-tung (Dec-26) and J V Stalin (Dec-20). Interactions, seminars, sports activities etc were organized on the occasion all over Nepal.

As the youth march is running with huge success, the YCL has not decreased its mobilization in the capital city. The YCL activists are engaged in managing the garbage gathered in the streets of Kathmandu, reducing traffic jams, widening the narrow roads and running public awareness programs. This week, the YCL widen

the narrow roads in Koteswar and played important role in reducing the traffic jam there. But a sad incident occur in the initial phase of the youth march in Kathmandu, a League activist Navraj Pandey, fell off a truck carrying garbage and died in Kathmandu.

Youth and students have always played vital role for the change in Nepalese history. In the 70 years of Nepalese history, Nepalese leftist and progressive youths walk in the frontline and sacrifice for the revolution. In the 10 year long revolutionary war led by the CPN-M, most of were the youth out of 11 thousands who sacrificed. Now about 30 thousands People Liberation Army, the youth of the nation, are in the cantonments with a lot of difficulties, caused by the Nepali state. Likewise, more than half a million of the youths, leaving aside their academic career, job opportunities and material luxuries, are contributing their most fruitful years of their life for the sake of the nation, to defend nationality and to establish Republic in Nepal. Aren't they quite nice than those 'youth' who are absorbed in their own selfishness, running blindly after the worst western culture and dying for migrating to the foreign countries? ■

PLA Celebrates its Seventh Anniversary

■ Red Star Reporter Chitwan

The People's Liberation Army (PLA) celebrated its seventh anniversary on 24th November at Shaktikhor cantonment site in Chitwan district. The 3rd division and its divisional headquarter had made impressive planning to celebrate it. Simultaneously, the week long sports activities that saw the participation of soldiers from the first division at the Chulachuli cantonment site in Ilam to the seventh division Masuri cantonment site in Kailali. The PLA headquarter reported that more than one thousand guests had attended on the occasion in Chitwan including 490 sportsman.

The PLA was officially formed on November 24, 2001, almost six years after the launch of the people's war in February 1996 and the respective initiative to build a People's Liberation Army. A central convention was held on October 2001 in Rolpa which decided to form the

People's Liberation Army. The declaration of the organization had come along with the historic raid in Dang district headquarter along with the then Royal Nepal Army bat-

political training, formulation of the future plans of the combatants and camp management among others. The PLA have been inviting general public to attend the

freely roaming around the cantonment site while many took this opportunity to familiarize themselves more with the PLA. The people were particularly benefited

people of the area could come to take free medical services provided by them, the hospital spokesmen added.

On the first day of the week-long celebration on 24th November, party president and Supreme Commander of the PLA Comrade Prachanda accompanied with senior leaders Mohan Baidhya, Baburam Bhattarai and Ram Bahadur Thapa were the special guests. The only surviving founding member of the Communist Party of Nepal, founded in 1949, Nar Bahadur Karmacharya was also present as a special guest.

The event was inaugurated by Comrade Prachanda by hoisting the PLA flag and kickstarting an entertaining football game where two teams were trying to score goals in posts named Democratic Republic! The PLA artist performed songs in between. There were march-past parades, a mock camp raid conducted by 18 PLA special commandos and a lot more. ■



Women PLA soldiers performing march-past parade during the inauguration ceremony

talion camp for the first time.

The week-long program included sports, entertainment, cultural program,

program through various media. Consequently, there was large mass participation. Tens of thousands people were

by the free medical services provided by the PLA. Since they have become familiarize with the cantonment site, the