CPN-Maoist tells wings to intensify anti-govt protests

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KATHMANDU, JUL 29 [2012] -

The CPN-Maoist has directed its party organisations to launch a number of protests to "expose" the wrongdoings of the government and to create a wave of agitation in sectors including educational institutions, hotels and industries.

The party has issued a circular to its sister organisations to launch "aggressive protest programmes" to widen its influence. One leader said students had already begun protests by shutting down schools and burning their buses.

The circular, issued by the Central Committee to all party organisations, stated that the party should focus on village-level activities as other parties are busy in Kathmandu.

The party has completed forming and revamping organisations across the country and, leaders said, the protest against the government and foreign interference will begin in the first week of August.

The new party will launch a wall painting campaign across the country criticising the government's decision to sign the Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement with India and the government's preparations to hand over the management of the Tribhuvan International Airport to an Indian firm. Cancellation of agreements and treaties with India and the issue of national independence are high on the agenda.

"We, by means of demonstrations, will unseat PM Bhattarai and spread awareness among the people about the anti-national decisions and activities of the government," said Central Committee member Bharat Bam. He added that foreign interference in Nepal's internal affairs was another agenda of the party.

Leaders said the party will join the movement launched by the Nepali Congress, the CPN-UML and other parties. The CPN-Maoist has also aligned itself with 12 fringe parties to launch anti-government movements.

One top leader said that the deepening constitutional and political crisis in Kathmandu will create fertile soil for them to launch programmes at the grassroots level.

Posted on: 2012-07-29 08:25

[From: <u>http://www.ekantipur.com/2012/07/29/national/cpn-maoist-tells-wings-to-intensify-anti-govt-protests/357883.html</u>]