

# Maoist led govt in Nepal by next week: Prachanda

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**Kathmandu** Former prime minister Prachanda on Sunday claimed that the current political deadlock in Nepal will end within a week and a Maoist-led national "consensus government" would be in place by dissolving the ruling CPN-UML led coalition, formed through "unconstitutional means".

"A way out will be found from the current deadlock within a week," Prachanda said talking to journalists in southern Nepal's town Birgunj. The Maoists will show maximum flexibility to allow the endorsement of the budget for the current fiscal year, he said.

"It is essential for the dissolution of the present Madhav Kumar Nepal led government, formed through unconstitutional means, to bring about political consensus," he added. "The new government will be formed based on national consensus and that will be led by the Maoists."

Maoists are ready to be part of the high level political mechanism to draft the constitution and to take the peace process to the logical end as proposed by Nepali Congress President Girija Prasad Koirala and everything should be dealt within a package.

Prachanda said that his party is not hungry for power. "I could have been the Prime Minister three months back, if I had wished for that," he claimed.

Prachanda's remarks came at a time when there were media reports that the NC and the CPN-UML leaders are making efforts to bring the country under presidential rule by dissolving the 601 member Constituent Assembly.

The allegation made by CPN-UML leader Ashok Rai, has been dismissed by NC. Nepali Congress general secretary Bimalendra Nidhi has, however, ruled out the possibility of forming a Maoist led government at the moment.

As the NC party, the second largest party in the Parliament, has not withdrawn support from the coalition, it is not possible to form a Maoist led government.

The Maoists have been blocking the Parliament and organising protest rallies in the capital since Prachanda suddenly resigned as Prime Minister on May 4 after the President Ram Baran Yadav reinstated General Rukmangad Katawal, the Army Chief dismissed by Maoists supremo.

The former rebels have been accusing government of blocking the political transformation of the country and demanded "civilian supremacy" be [re]stored.

Meanwhile, Prachanda also delinked the Nepalese Maoists from the Indian Maoists. We had personal contacts with them during the decade long "People's War", which does not continue at present, He also dismissed media reports that the Nepalese Maoists had supplied weapons to the Indian Maoists.

There is no arms and training exchanges being taken place between the two, he said.

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