The conflict has held for nearly four months, the royal appointed government was specifically mandated to oversee the bureaucratic and labor sector development, the country is cash-rich, but development-poor?

**Weekly Internet Poll # 86. To vote go to:** www.nepalitimes.com

**Q. How do you assess the pace of the peace talks?**

**Q. Do you think the agitation by the parties will end?**

**The irony is that the country’s macro-economic situation has never looked better. Buoyed by remittances from Nepalis abroad, the economic situation has never looked better. Despite the ceasefire, the ground situation in the districts is still from normal.**

**Ground realities: The Kabhre DDC, for instance, hasn’t yet taken a single development decision. The Ministry of Agriculture is a busy place these days. Up to Rs 700 million is being released every week as development expenditure (agriculture, transportation, health and education sectors). But significant expenditure is still unspent. Donors, who foot three-quarters of this money, are getting worried about the government’s inability to spend the development budget, Shankar Sharma of the Development Budget Office. “There is certainly a bottleneck there,” says economist Dilli Raj. “The lack of development is not caused by lack of money, but by a lack of policies. The government has to give up its role as an administrator and take on the role of a development agency.”**

**But donors are taking time to wait and watch. “We have been patient but now we are getting nervous,” the Danish Charge d’Affaires, Gert Meinecke, says. “There has to be a political solution so that the government can do the job.” There is certainly a bottleneck there.”**

**Editorial: “There has to be a political solution so that the government can do the job.”**

**Sticking to the status quo is not an option. The government has to give up its role as an administrator and take on the role of a development agency.”**

**The Kabhre DDC, for instance, hasn’t yet taken a single development decision.**

Still standstill...
Reconciliation roadmap

King Gyanendra must trust the mainstream parties and get them to imagine a New Nepal.

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Reconciliation roadmap

King Gyanendra must trust the mainstream parties and get them to imagine a New Nepal.

The government of Nepal and all its political parties and forces are at a fork in the road. The nation cannot afford to follow a victorious but lost path of blind slaughter, as we have seen in the dark days of the past. We need to avoid that path. There is a new day dawning. It is the day of the new opportunity and new commitment.

The认清现状并制定新道路

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The road to the New Nepal is a complex one. It requires a commitment to the values of democracy, peace, and reconciliation. It is a road that must be traveled with care and caution.

The Nepalese people have suffered from years of conflict and instability. The Maoist insurgency has caused untold suffering and loss of life. The government and the Maoists must now work together to end the conflict and build a future for all.

The government must take the lead in this process. It must demonstrate a commitment to the values of democracy and reconciliation. The Maoists must also play their part. They must accept the will of the people and work towards a peaceful resolution.

We need to think about the future of Nepal. It must be a future that is inclusive and reflective of the wishes of the people.

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POWER PLAY

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**Ground realities**

**Foreign intervention**

In response to yet another attempt to engage in dialogue with the Maoists, the Nepalese government announced that it would consider the situation to be a matter of national security. The announcement was made following a meeting of the government with representatives of the Maoist insurgents. The government reiterated its commitment to bringing the conflict to an end through negotiations, but also stated that it would not allow the Maoists to continue their armed struggle.

The government's stance has been met with criticism from some quarters, who argue that the military option is not viable and that a political solution must be found. However, the government maintains that it has no other choice but to continue its military operations against the Maoists.

The situation in Nepal remains tense, with both the government and the Maoists continuing to engage in armed conflict. The international community continues to monitor the situation closely, with concerns being raised about the impact of the conflict on civilians and the prospects for a peaceful resolution.

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**Great expectations**

Everest climbers have already confirmed that the summit attempt at the event in Kathmandu, many chose to climb the mountain instead. But the weather this week has been stormy with snow forecasts. Everest climbers have already confirmed that the summit attempt at the event in Kathmandu, many chose to climb the mountain instead. But the weather this week has been stormy with snow forecasts. Everest climbers have already confirmed that the summit attempt at the event in Kathmandu, many chose to climb the mountain instead. But the weather this week has been stormy with snow forecasts. Everest climbers have already confirmed that the summit attempt at the event in Kathmandu, many chose to climb the mountain instead. But the weather this week has been stormy with snow forecasts. Everest climbers have already confirmed that the summit attempt at the event in Kathmandu, many chose to climb the mountain instead. But the weather this week has been stormy with snow forecasts. Everest climbers have already confirmed that the summit attempt at the event in Kathmandu, many chose to climb the mountain instead. But the weather this week has been stormy with snow forecasts. Everest climbers have already confirmed that the summit attempt at the event in Kathmandu, many chose to climb the mountain instead. But the weather this week has been stormy with snow forecasts. Everest climbers have already confirmed that the summit attempt at the event in Kathmandu, many chose to climb the mountain instead. But the weather this week has been stormy with snow forecasts.
**Love your neighbour**

Most Nepalis speak better Hindi than former Indian prime minister HD Dewa Gowda.

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**Countercharge**

A month after a Street Food Factory classified the kills of the Balding War as “unprovoked”, the office of Nepal prime minister has broken their silence. Government officials and media reports have denied the warhol as a “false report” and a “false story”.

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**Honouring women**

Last week, the Ministry of Women’s Development observed a month of Women’s Month. It is a period to celebrate the role women play in development and the role that women play in their own society.

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**Slippery issue**

Ghee manufacturers are up against a tough challenge this year. They are trying to beat the ban imposed by the government on ghee exports. The ban, which was imposed in March, is expected to reduce the country’s ghee exports.

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**Why do we need tanks?**

Nepal does not need, nor can it afford, to buy tanks and other military equipment.

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**Money matters**

Is India ready for full currency convertibility?

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**Is money ready for full currency convertibility?**

With a growing number of economies embracing full currency convertibility, India is also considering the possibility of adopting it. However, full currency convertibility is a complex issue and requires careful consideration.

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**Nepal's head for greener ridges pastures**

Nepalese head for greener ridges pastures.
Druk trek

ROBERT PEIRCE

Trekking in Bhutan is largely an off-the-beaten-path adventure. The classic Bhutanese trail towards the ancient Kingdom of Druk Yul, which means "land of the Thunder Dragon," is not for the faint of heart. It's a rugged and demanding trek that tests one's physical and mental limits. The trail is scenic and challenging, offering breathtaking views of the Himalayan mountains and valleys.

Bhutan is a land of extraordinary beauty and cultural richness. The Kingdom is home to a unique blend of Buddhist culture and traditional values. The trekking here is both physically demanding and spiritually rewarding. The journey is not just about physical endurance but also about self-discovery and cultural understanding.

The trek begins in Paro, where you will be met by your guide and driver. The first few days are relatively easy, with gentle uphill walks. As you progress, the terrain becomes more challenging, with steep inclines and declines. The final leg of the trek is the most challenging, with a steep ascent to the summit of Jhomolhari, known as the "Thunder Dragon's Nest."

The trail is well-marked with cairns and signs, but you should always be prepared for unexpected changes in weather and terrain. The trek requires a high level of fitness and endurance. It is recommended for experienced hikers and trekking enthusiasts.

Bhutan is a land of many surprises, and the trekking experience is no exception. The journey is a mix of challenges and rewards, offering a unique perspective on the beauty and culture of the Kingdom.

Thimphu is noted for its restaurants, but there is no need to be afraid of the local cuisine. It is generally safe to eat, but always be mindful of personal hygiene and sanitation.

A majority of Bhutanese homes have running water and electricity. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a roof and walls. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a door. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a window. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a floor. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a stove. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a latrine. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a toilet. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a bathroom. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a kitchen. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a dining room. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a living room. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a bedroom. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a study. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a garage. The majority of Bhutanese homes have a workshop.

Bhutan is a country rich in natural beauty, cultural heritage, and religious traditions. The Kingdom is home to a unique blend of Buddhist culture and traditional values. The journey is not just about physical endurance but also about self-discovery and cultural understanding.

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DIARRHOEAL DISEASES

- Estimates of children’s deaths and mortality are from the World Health Organization.

**The epidemic scoreboard**

**Diarrhoea**

- 2.7 BILLION NEW CASES A YEAR
- 3-5 MILLION NEW CASES A YEAR
- 2 MILLION DEATHS A YEAR
- 250,000 DEATHS A YEAR

**Tuberculosis**

- 8 MILLION NEW CASES A YEAR, AND CLIMBING
- 1 MILLION DEATHS A YEAR
- 10-15 MILLION CASES A YEAR

**Hepatitis B Virus**

- 1.26 million a year.
- Vaccine can block chronic infection, but its high cost prevents its widespread distribution in poor nations.

**AIDS**

- 3.1 MILLION DEATHS A YEAR
- 5.5 MILLION NEW CASES A YEAR
- 42 MILLION PEOPLE ARE HIV POSITIVE

**DIARRHOEAL DISEASES**

- 1.9 MILLION DEATHS A YEAR
- Mostly infants and young children
- 2.7 BILLION NEW CASES A YEAR

**Tuberculosis**

- 8 MILLION NEW CASES A YEAR, AND CLIMBING
- 1 MILLION DEATHS A YEAR, 2005 ESTIMATE
- 10-15 MILLION CASES A YEAR

**Hepatitis B Virus**

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- 42 MILLION PEOPLE ARE HIV POSITIVE

**Vaccines to prevent 1 million deaths a year**

**Poor monsoon forecast**

**Delta depressurises in NWP & NE**

A forecast more than that of federal ministers, the weather bureau has downgraded its prediction of an above-normal monsoon to just below normal. This means it is likely to be 95-96 per cent of the long-term average, whereas previously the figure was 97-98. This is a significant drop in expectations as the previous estimate was 5 per cent higher than normal. The government is likely to have a bitter stomach as the monsoon has been a key issue in recent elections.

The Indian meteorological department has already lowered its forecast of the monsoon, which is normally considered to be 97 per cent of the long-term average. This means the monsoon is likely to be below normal, with the deficits likely to be worse in certain areas. The forecast is based on the Indian Ocean Dipole, which measures the difference in temperature between the eastern and western parts of the Indian Ocean. It is expected to be below normal, indicating a weak monsoon. The Indian Ocean Dipole has been in a negative phase since the beginning of the year, suggesting a weak monsoon. The forecast is also influenced by the El Niño Southern Oscillation, which is expected to be weak in the coming months. This means that the monsoon is likely to be weak, leading to poor agricultural production and livelihoods. The forecast is also influenced by the Indian Ocean Dipole, which measures the difference in temperature between the eastern and western parts of the Indian Ocean. It is expected to be below normal, indicating a weak monsoon. These factors are expected to result in dry conditions in the coming months, which could affect agricultural production and livelihoods. The forecast is also influenced by the El Niño Southern Oscillation, which is expected to be weak in the coming months. This means that the monsoon is likely to be weak, leading to poor agricultural production and livelihoods. The forecast is also influenced by the Indian Ocean Dipole, which measures the difference in temperature between the eastern and western parts of the Indian Ocean. It is expected to be below normal, indicating a weak monsoon. These factors are expected to result in dry conditions in the coming months, which could affect agricultural production and livelihoods.
One week into his solitary confinement, BP Koirala in his prison diary written in English, is no longer had friends and is homesick. He also realises that he has become more sensitive about human suffering, and whether this is because of old age or incarceration. A picture of his wife, Sushila, is kept inside, and BP writes that he gazes at many times a day.

BOOK REVIEW

Mao by the book

Required reading for every angriest school dropout in Nepal duged into believing that dictators is a necessary condition for utopia.

paradoxical.

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Armaan

Armaan is a film about hope and the simple joys of life in modern India. It tells the story of an innocent young boy, Armaan, who dreams of becoming an engineer despite the odds against him. Directed by Arunarakshan Arora and released in 2003, Armaan explores themes of hope, determination, and the power of梦想.

The narrative follows Armaan as he navigates the challenges of his family's poverty, school, and dreams of a future that seems out of reach. Despite the hardships, Armaan remains optimistic and continues to pursue his passion for engineering, demonstrating that dreams can be realized with hard work and perseverance.

The film is a touching tribute to the resilience and determination of the human spirit, inspiring audiences to believe in the power of hope and the importance of following one's dreams. Armaan is a must-watch for anyone seeking a heartwarming and uplifting cinematic experience.
How they knocked the bastards off

by Kunda Dixit

Transcripts recently declassified under the Freedom of Information Act finally give us a historical perspective on the first ascent of Mt Everest 50 years ago and lay to rest the big question of who got to the top first: Hillary or Tenzing. It has been well documented that after he came down from the mountain, Ed Hillary told John Hunt: “We knocked the bastard off.” What we didn’t know was that Sir Ed was habitually profane. The following transcript of his conversation with Tenzing as the two approached the summit on 29 May 1953 was discovered at the Royal Geographical Society. The contents are rated ‘R’ and we will impart all unaccompanied minors at the point to run along outside and play on the swing for the duration of this column:

TENZING: (Muffled, through oxygen mask) Sir, can I call you “sir”?

HILLARY: Not yet, “Zing my man, wait till we knock the $%^#@! virginity off this $%^# mountain first.

TENZING: Here we are at the Grade Six bit of vertical rock on the South Ridge, sah’b, we’ll need to rope up and I’ll cut some steps. Can we name this the Tenzing Step?

HILLARY: Me first. I hereby name this bugger the Hillary Step after myself.

TENZING: Oh. OK.

HILLARY: I’m so $%^#@! tired. Tenzing, why don’t you rustle up some rum and coke while I try to establish the highest ever urinal in human history, that is if I can open my $%^#@! zipper.

TENZING: I’d check the wind direction first if I were you. Rum n’ coke coming right up, sir.

HILLARY: Bilbo of blustering barmy the $%^#@! thing is frozen solid as soon as it comes out, I’ll have to break it of off myself over the Tibetan plateau.

(Later that day, as the summit comes into view.)

TENZING: You realise, don’t you sir, that we are setting some kind of world record here?

HILLARY: Yup, 50 years from now I’ll be on a New Zealand $5 note and on the cover of the $%^# National Geographic. When there is already someone on top of it. Sounds like a desk from the Mountaineering Ministry as well as wants to inspect our climbing permit and the receipt for the $60,000 royalties.

TENZING: You go on ahead, Tenzing. I’ll take little nap right here.

TENZING: No, no, it’s getting late, we’re nearly there, sir.

HILLARY: Here, let me carry you.

(Tenzing, heaving Hillary on his shoulders, stands on the summit of Mt Everest, etc.)

This secret transcript clearly proves that while Tenzing was indeed first to set foot on top, Hillary by virtue of being on his shoulder actually reached a higher altitude above mean sea level. The Nepali government had a point to knock down the bastards off, while the Nepali government commissioned Dharam Rai Thapa to compose a famous folk song which goes:

“Ekdum Live! come alive, stay alive

Tickets @ Rs. 100/- (for Kathmandu)

Promotion code: 011+0. 99+0. 09+0. 00

All the proceeds/revenue generated from the concert will go towards MViA@08 programming in Nepal. Tickets for the Ekdum Live Concert that have been purchased earlier remain valid for use.

http://www.mva08.com

For more information, call 9841109209, 9841109209

Kushal Deuba, President of the Nepal Tourism Board, www.nepal.com

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