

## INSIDE

"I am my party's candidate for prime minister of a consensus government."

-Baburam Bhattarai



**Keep power politics out of power policy**

Interview with Energy Minister Gokarna Bista

Comment by Gagan Thapa

p6



p14-15

# "Looks don't count..."

# "...but good looks attract attention."



**JOHN PLAYERS** Premium men's wear from Surya Nepal  
**gift voucher on yearly subscription of Nepali Times.**  
 We know, you sometimes like the attention.

TERM	YOU PAY	YOU SAVE <small>on newsstand price</small>	+ YOUR ASSURED FREE GIFT
1 Year	Rs. 1,350	Rs. 210	John Players gift voucher worth Rs. 500
2 Year	Rs. 2,500	Rs. 620	John Players gift voucher worth Rs. 1000
3 Year	Rs. 3,500	Rs. 1,180	John Players gift voucher worth Rs. 1500

For subscription, SMS: 9818476422 or call 977-1-5250845, 5250333 to have our subscription agent visit your home/office.



+



## ASSURED SUBSCRIPTION GIFTS



# JOHN PLAYERS

*Premium men's wear from* SURYA NEPAL



**FREE SUMMER**

**MONSOON CHECK - UP CAMP**

Vijay Motors Pvt. Ltd

"For a special journey called life"

For Opel, Chevrolet and Subaru customers.  
From 7<sup>th</sup> August- 7<sup>th</sup> September  
customer@vmpl.com.np

Contact us for bookings: 4433205, 4414625

**LAVAZZA**  
ITALY'S FAVOURITE COFFEE



Hotel Clarion - Jawalakhel  
Nima & Hager - Maharajgunj  
For Business Inquiry: 9841505390

**CONSTELLATION**



**THURAYA XT**  
The most rugged satellite phone in the World!

www.constellation.com.np  
Tel: +977-1-5549252

**HP Pavilion g4-1037TU Notebook**  
Brilliance Always Has A New Beginning



**CAS CAS TECHNO SALES PVT. LTD.**  
Address : Putalisadak, Kathmandu  
Phone : 977-1- 4440271, 4440272  
E-mail : amar@cas.com.np

**Ultimate Decor**  
fino furniture



www.ultimatedecor.com.np • Tel: 4672997

**KENNETH COLE** NEW YORK  
MAKE A STATEMENT



DURBAR MARG | CITY CENTER | BLUEBIRD  
Ph: 4221451

## What are they waiting for?

The Big Three had agreed on a 5-point deal in order to avert the void on 28 May. But from the moment it was signed, it was a no-deal because it was never clear who was going to be responsible to implement it.

So, as we enter the final weeks of the extended CA term, the parties that sat on their hands refusing to budge an inch for the last ten weeks are now frantically engaged in a face-saving exercise.

Last month, when the Maoist party was threatened with a serious rift we said the internal three-way squabble within the largest party was holding the nation hostage. But soon, what began as an internal

struggle for democratic space within the Maoists opened up a rash of fissiparous tendencies in every major party. As the politics failed, peace and constitution took a backseat. All this was reflected in the impunity and breakdown in law and order.

"In the last three years, all we have done is quarrel and look where we stand," says Maoist leader Baburam Bhattarai, whose internal battle against his boss was the reason for the latest delay.

In an interview with Nepali Times, Bhattarai (whose party has fielded him as prime ministerial candidate in a consensus government) reiterates his belief that majoritarian rule will consign the country into protracted limbo (see interview, p6).

Every media poll has shown that the people also know that a unity government is the only way forward. Political leaders all say in public they back consensus, but carry on back-stabbing each other in private.

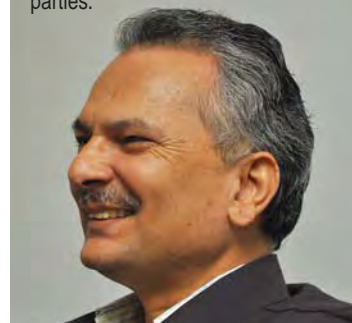
But this time an intense exercise for a consensus government has begun even before the Khanal government has resigned. A new government with the Maoists, NC, UML, and Madhesi Front seems the only way to break the log-jam, and Bhattarai is the candidate towards whom most political leaders have the least objection (except perhaps his own boss, Pushpa Kamal Dahal).

So, what are they waiting for? 🇳🇵

### Exclusive Interview p6

Nepali Times: Who will be the consensus candidate after the PM resigns on 13 August?

Baburam Bhattarai: As the largest party in the CA, naturally UCPN (Maoist) claims leadership in a national unity government. Our party has unanimously nominated me as prime ministerial candidate but who would lead the government will be decided after consultation with other parties.



DIWAKAR CHHETRI

## THE TAKE TWO OFFER

Get **20% off\*** on the purchase of a set of 2 Featherlite or Newport bags.

Offer available at : Jamal 4244856; Putchok 5524812; Kupandote 5526989;  
Mad About Bags, T3, City Center 4011623; New Road, Pokhara 061-421841



\*Condition apply.



# THE URGENCY OF THE ENERGY EMERGENCY



BIKRAM RAI

In the transition from war to peace, from revolution to mainstream politics, our politicians seem to have forgotten that power no long comes out of the barrel of a gun. It comes out of the turbine at the end of a penstock pipe.

As the Jhalanath Khanal government prepares to step down as agreed in the five-point agreement, the best outcome now would be that his government will be replaced by a consensus cabinet of all main parties. This would offer a better chance to overcome the political hurdles that have deadlocked the peace process and governance for so long. We cannot afford another cliff-hanger at midnight on 31 August. The people need

reason to hope that things will be different this time, and that can only come about if they see the parties seriously working together.

The Khanal government has come under a lot of criticism for sins of omission, and there are so many on our list that we've lost count. Many "sins of commission" were also committed with arbitrary, irrelevant decisions that wasted money and time. If it is true that the Maoist tourism minister unilaterally sanctioned

the dangerously daft proposal to turn Lumbini into a Buddhist themepark, it needs to be investigated. The Finance Minister announced a distributive budget that pandered to patronage politics, was incoherent and could not prioritise.

But, it has to be said, there are bright spots. One of them is Energy Minister Gokarna Bista and the no nonsense style with which he has gone about tackling the country's crippling energy crisis. Bista represents a new breed of Nepali politicians who are motivated, professional, take advice from experts, prioritise and get down to work. (Pictured is Bista shutting off power this week to a government department that didn't pay its bills.) He is a do-er who wants results. And unlike party seniors who are always out to undercut rivals,

Bista works across party lines with similarly committed young leaders within the NC and Maoists.

In this issue, we make a realistic assessment of the country's power crisis and come to the conclusion that winter power cuts will be debilitating for at least the next three years (p14-15). The reason is that successive governments after 2006 did not give the energy emergency the urgency it needed, or they played politics with it.

Bista is working from the recommendations of a preliminary White Paper issued by the Parliament Committee on Natural Resources of which the NC's Gagan Thapa is a member. For a document prepared by politicians, this is surprisingly cogent and solution-oriented. It points to a four-fold path to energy security including:

- Political consensus on future strategy
- Generate enough power to meet domestic demand for value-added industry and only then export
- Immediately commission a reservoir project in each development zone
- Unbundle transmission and distribution, address inefficiencies, corruption, pilferage in the NEA

Politicians and CA members get a lot of bad rap these days for not doing enough to get the peace process moving. But there are young turks in all political parties who are equally frustrated with this paralysing inertia, and should not be tarred with the same brush. They understand performance legitimacy and know that their constituents will judge them by their deeds, not words.

Nepal has a very dark future unless we, among other things, tackle the energy crisis. Which is why we must applaud politicians like Bista and Thapa, may their tribe increase.

## ON THE WEB

www.nepalitimes.com

### MAOIST KHANAL

After reading your editorial 'Maoist Prime Minister Jhalanath Khanal', #567 I felt communist regimes survive only as long as there is poverty. So it is in the party's interest to keep people poor. If people are well off, who will support them? Communists lose their vote bank. The lowest section of the population are better off in democratic countries than in any communist states at any time in history. Liberal democracy with social and economic justice is the call of the hour. Imposter parties like UML must change their names. And Maoist have no place in the 21st century. This doesn't mean the NC is any better, as they are lead by deadwood. Cull the present leadership to begin with.

Gole

- Western countries, following the Indian lead, promoted the Maoists and gave them legitimacy and power. They exonerated their atrocities.

Sharma

- So, Editor, you are completely stuck. No hope of unleashing the Nepal Army because the PLA is still there. No way for the hopelessly split anti-Maoist parties to win any election. But your own objection to any agreement as 'fatally flawed' can only result in an election that the Maoists will win. Naturally you are upset. So upset that you now blame 'Maoist Khanal' for the inevitable results of the obstruction you support. Blaming Maoists for anti-Maoists being stuck is done so often that you probably don't even see how silly it makes you look. You will end up demanding the election you are afraid of.

Arthur

### MOVEMENT IN MADHES

Nepali nationalism dominated by Pahadi mentality will never accept that the



minorities have been wronged in this semi-feudal brahminical Kingdom turned Republic. All we are asking for is a little bit of respect. ('Wounds that won't heal', #567) The post revolution Nepal might have ensured some laws in place to address this issue but it is not enough to change the way people are treated in society. Civic sense has to prevail within the constituency that has so far been exclusionary in its practice.

Riaz Ansari

- Thank you for bringing this out loud and clear.

Paramita

- Now Anurag Acharya wants a Madhesi prime minister too? Ever thought of going to Bihar?

Pemma

- What about the plight of Pahadis in the

Tarai? Why are they migrating out of the plains? Census 2011 is sure to reveal migration trends. The wounds that will not heal, cuts both ways. And it will have far-reaching consequences for the country.

KK Sharma

- It wasn't so bad in Kathmandu before 1996 because people in the capital knew the importance of Madhesi. It was after people fled the Maoist war to Kathmandu that the way we treated fellow-Nepalis began to change. It brought racism and we began to regard everyone we didn't know suspiciously. People were scared to talk to new people, and it's just got worse now.

Kamdar

### COOPERATIVES

Most cooperatives in Nepal target the top-poor instead at the bottom-poor. ('Rethinking cooperatives' by Thouraya Bahri, #565). Grameen-type institutions serve the poor, but to serve the ultra-poor households special programs like BRAC's Targetting-the Ultra Poor (TUP) are needed. Micro-finance alone cannot alleviate poverty in developing countries, you also need basic health services, entrepreneurship and enterprise development programs to reduce poverty.

Ram

- Very encouraging story ('Earning from nature to pay for its upkeep' by Kunda Dixit, #565) from Pokhara of how cooperatives are thriving and lifting living standards while the central government is defunct. Your article should be in Nepali so more people read about the success of the Rupa Tal Fisheries Cooperative.

Jens

### MONSOON IN POKHARA

Pokhara Lakeside is one of the most beautiful

places in the world ('Pokhara in the monsoon', #567 by Cai Yun). It just a matter of time before more people find out about it. A little rain is nice because it keeps the air clean and you can be sure tourist appreciate clean air and water. <http://pokharalakeside.com>

David

- Pokhara must diversify its tourism to turn into a honeymooner's paradise for newly married couples. Pokhara must hand over all administrative work and facilities to women including the security, operation of hotels and trekking. The military and the police forces must be only women, and also the hotels should be staffed by women. Only then will Pokhara will be safe for tourists.

Dan

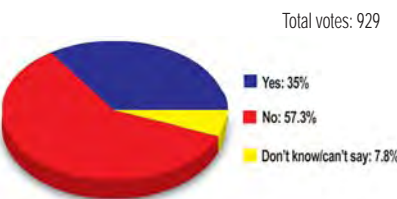
- Pokhara is indeed a perfect holiday getaway. It is now easily accessible and visitor numbers are growing. The initiative taken by the private sector is appreciable, despite the lack of government assistance and policies. But much more needs to be done if Pokhara is to increase domestic tourists by 50 per cent.

Sabin and Meena



nepalnews.com Weekly Internet Poll # 566

Q. Will he resign after August 13th or not?



Weekly Internet Poll # 567. To vote go to: [www.nepalitimes.com](http://www.nepalitimes.com)  
Q. Baburam Bhattarai for Prime Minister



Nepali Time on Facebook  
Follow @nepalitimes on Twitter

Publisher and Editor: Kunda Dixit  
Editorial Staff: Anurag Acharya, Dewan Rai, Paavan Mathema, Rubeena Mahato | Photographers: Min Ratna Bajracharya, Bikram Rai  
Published by Himalmedia Pvt Ltd | Chief Operating Officer: Sunim Tamang | Hattiban, Godavari Road, Lalitpur | GPO Box 7251 Kathmandu  
editors@nepalitimes.com | www.nepalitimes.com | www.himalmedia.com | Tel: 01-5250333/845 Fax: +977-1-5251013  
Design: Kiran Maharjan | Marketing: Arjun Karki, Surendra Sharma rachanas@himalmedia.com | Advertiser/Features: Ram Krishna Banjara | Subscription: Santosh Aryal santosha@himalmedia.com  
Printed at Jagadamba Press | 01-5250017-19 | www.jagadambapress.com







BY THE WAY

Anurag Acharya

The final days of the extended Constituent Assembly is fast approaching once more, and the smell of street protests is in the air again. The tents have returned to their familiar spots in New Baneswor, and bitter political power struggle is slowly giving way to nervous signs of cooperation before the deadline expires on 31 August. We are approaching yet another anti-climax.

But something is different this time. The hint of guilt and remorse that we saw in the run up to 28 May have vanished, as the leaders audaciously claim "we may be losers, but you've got no choice". Forget about the peace and the constitution, in the last three months, the leaders could not even agree to work together on kick-starting governance. We've been witness to bizarre scenes where fellow members have collected signature to unseat their own leaders in the party and in the CA.

Every major political actor in Nepali politics today is a victim of what the Game Theorists call 'prisoner's dilemma', where individuals look to maximise their own payoff with utter disregard of that of the other, thereby leading to Mutually Assured Destruction. The failure of Madhav Nepal government, 17 rounds of elections and the humiliating attack on the Jhalanath government from his own party are a proof that Nepali politics is a zero sum game where one party has gains at the collective loss of all others. No one has learnt the lesson, we are on the verge of yet another majoritarian government.

Fear of the NC and the

larger-than-life ego of the Maoist chairman is leading the nation down a spiral. Although the UML might have lost interest in cashing in on their divide this time, the Madhesi front is looking to score brownie points by entering into a deal with NC. Even the school kids who sat in front of the CA building for weeks with their hands tied to one another in a futile attempt to drive in sense of cooperation among the leaders know that so long as we follow a majoritarian culture in a bitterly divided nation, we are all losers.

This time, the power deadlock has stopped baffling, enraging, angering, provoking and even amusing us anymore. Ours is a generation that has grown up in the shadow of violence. The decade long violence and half a decade of painful transition is clearly taking its toll on Nepali society. The lack of physical and social security has led to growing desperation among the youth who are losing faith in the state. They do not fear this weak transitional justice system. We are experiencing

# Another anti-climax

Nothing can be more dangerous than a society that loses faith in politics

what happens when the future of the nation manifests itself as a violent present.

The unseemly political cock-fight for power is leading this nation towards not just political and economic crisis, but social upheaval. Perhaps the power clogged brains of our rulers

can't understand that the anarchy and impunity that prevails in the streets today will come to their doorsteps tomorrow.

The public's faith in politics is now largely eroded. Nothing can be more dangerous than a society that loses faith in politics,

because what reigns then is uncertainty. In a dire attempt to keep hopeless hope alive, let us hope that sanity prevails and the institution of politics saves itself for the day. It does not require a herculean effort, just a bit of common sense and more assertiveness from a younger generation of leaders in all major political parties with a cross-partisan approach to nation-building. 🇳🇵



# “A moment’s sanity for consensus...”

Maoist vice-president Baburam Bhattarai, the most likely consensus prime ministerial candidate spoke to Nepali Times on Thursday about the formation of a national unity government and progress on the peace process. Excerpts:

**Nepali Times: Who will be the consensus candidate as the PM is all set to resign on 13 August?**  
**Baburam Bhattarai:** It is up to the parties to decide. As the largest party in the CA, naturally the UCPN (Maoist) has been claiming leadership in national unity government. Our party has unanimously nominated me as prime ministerial candidate, but who would lead the government will be decided after consultation with other parties.

**The parties all seem to have their own candidate for the prime minister. How is consensus possible?**  
The experiences of the past three years have shown, majority governments failed to move the peace and constitution writing process forward. We made a mistake by forcing majoritarian politics over the politics of consensus. It has been my consistent position that there is no alternative to consensus to bring Nepali politics back on track. This time I hope everyone agrees. It’s the only way peace and constitution writing process can be moved forward.

**Are two days enough to forge a consensus?**  
(The prime minister) was supposed to resign even if there is no consensus as a part of the five-point deal. You can fight for infinity, but you need one moment of sanity for consensus. The selection of the prime minister becomes a protracted process in Nepal. It took almost seven months for a new government to come in place after the resignation of Madhav Kumar Nepal last time. We should learn from our past mistakes. It will be stupid if we keep repeating them. We need to form a national unity



BIKRAM RAI

government and form it quick.

**How long will it take to reach a consensus since the major issues of PLA integration has not been resolved?**  
There is more or less consensus on the number to be integrated. Now we have to finalise the modality of integration, its norms, rank harmonisation and package deal for rehabilitation. Based on these, the process of regrouping will be started. But this should not obstruct the formation of a national unity government. On the contrary, it is this unity government which will implement the agreement and move the peace process forward.

**With 20 days left for the CA deadline, is it possible to complete all these tasks?**  
As I said earlier, we only need a moment of rational thinking to forge a consensus. Political parties should first agree on these issues in principle, we have enough time in hand for an agreement. If there is an agreement, the national consensus government will kick-start the process that has been stalled for so long. Yes it will take time to implement all the deals, for which we need extension of the CA but then at least we would have a basis for one.

**Why should people believe that political parties are serious about it this time?**  
Three years of going around in circles has proved that there is no alternative to consensus. Making majority governments and sticking to party positions will take us nowhere. I know it sounds ironic, but all political parties have realised this fact.

**How will the new government be formed?**  
There are three tasks ahead: integration, constitution and national unity government. All three should be dealt with in a package. You cannot insist on any one. It is not important which party took which stand in the past. It is time to look ahead and find a common ground to get there. Once that is sought, a national unity government comprising of the Maoists, NC, UML and Madhesi parties will be formed to take the peace and constitution writing to its logical end.

**Who will take the responsibility if and when this deal is reached?**  
When one party is in the government and the rest oppose, there is no deal. That is why we need a national unity government so that everybody takes a collective responsibility.

## By-passing the public

Nepal has the highest international call rate in the region



The way the government’s newly set up Crime Investigation Bureau (CIB) is cracking down against illegal call bypassers is so uncharacteristically ruthless, one can’t help but wonder where this rare resolve stems from. Is there more to the story than meets the eye?

Why this sudden vindictiveness when it comes to dealing with VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) calls? The draconian measures include objectionable surveillance to detaining Internet Service Providers (ISPs): very unlike the lax and lackadaisical attitude to other far more serious crimes

The government is missing the point here. The laws of supply and demand have ensured that international calls via internet is impossible to control. The real reason consumers opt to break the law is that Nepal has



one of the highest rates for international calls in South Asia. For an international termination call to Nepal that should not cost more than 1 cent per minute, telecom operators here charge up to 14 cents.

As with the American prohibition, the question must be asked why not legalise VOIP? This would allow one-fifth of the population working and living abroad to make cheaper calls home, expand telephony to rural areas thus spurring business and trade, attract investment and entrepreneurship

and eliminate the telecom mafia that controls the illicit sector. Why should this be a problem?

The government’s argument is that it is losing billions in revenue to illegal internet calls. So, let’s get this straight: revenue is more important than providing an affordable service? Nepalis abroad pay through their noses when they call home, wasting their hard-earned riyals and dollars. Any government worth its salt would lower international call rates, license internet calls, and try to make money from the increase in volume of calls and taxes this would unleash.

Instead of devoting outrageous amount of money, resources and expertise in nabbing by-passers and snooping on unsuspecting subscribers, the wiser thing to do would be to legalise inbound VOIP calls. But while the government is less than willing to forego revenue it earns from international calls, illegal VOIP operators themselves don’t want their service legalised and are exerting pressure.

Some big names are involved in the illegal VOIP business, and despite their denial some ISPs are involved in providing them bandwidth. Keeping it illegal benefits the operators, allows telecom companies to keep their rates up and allow SIM cards to be used for bulk bypassing. The only losers are Nepalis making international calls. “In all our operations we found that most of the ISPs and telecom operators are involved in the scam. Without their support, call bypassing is not possible,” Rajendra Singh Bhandari, DIG at the CIB told me this week. Police complain organised crime is

being carried out with calls made through VOIP because they are hard to trace.

VOIP has been legalised in many countries in the last decade and the Nepal Telecom Authority (NTA) is also considering distributing VOIP licences to qualifying ISPs with coverage of at least 25 districts and 13,000 VDCs. There is however fierce opposition from within the telecommunication sector and even the CIB to this move.

Bhandari questions the motive of those pushing for the legalisation of VOIP when he says 99 per cent of all call bypassing has plugged and billions of rupees added to the state coffers.

However, even more suspicious is the motive of those who want to keep VOIP illegal. While the fear that few big shots would corner the market once VOIP licenses are distributed is valid, there is no alternative to opening up this market and allowing competition to lower rates and improve services better.

Ultimately, cheaper and better technologies always win out no matter what the restrictions. After all, customers should be king. 🇳🇵



# In Harford's words

## Making failure a step to success



**STRICTLY BUSINESS**  
**Ashutosh Tiwari**

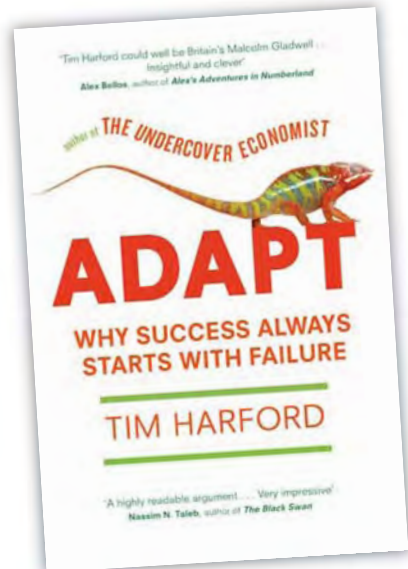
Success always starts with failure. This is both a subtitle and the premise of Tim Harford's enjoyably readable latest book *Adapt*. But what kind of failure is helpful for success?

Harford starts out by pointing out how complex and fluidly changing the world around us is. He uses the bread toaster as an example. If you were to start making a toaster from scratch today, at your own house, the task would be next to impossible.

The workmanship, the logistics and the materials needed for a toaster are all so maddeningly complex -- and the knowledge about what makes a toaster a toaster is dispersed among so many different people -- that is impossible for any one person to actually build it.

If the simple task of understanding how a toaster is made is so complex, what makes us think that, with a few degrees and few experiences, we can really understand the world at large? On the other hand, if the world is so complex, how are we to come up with successful products and services? Harford offers three interlocking views.

Expertise is overrated: The flip side of this view is 'Consult experts, but think for yourself'. Experts are best understood as people who have better maps of a particular territory. But having such maps is no substitute for actually walking up and down the



changing territory.

Experts routinely underestimate how complex the world is for them to understand, and overestimate the explanatory powers of their own maps and mental models. Schooling, after all, is only one among many small ways to understand how the world works. When experts were tracked for the accuracy of their predictions, it was found that they were only marginally better than amateurs. Better, then, it is to think for oneself, and learn from mistakes.

Try new small things, and survive failures: When no one knows for sure what works and what doesn't, it pays to try new things, but in small doses. Trying out new things will invite failures, to be sure. But those failures, Harford notes, tend to be survivable failures, which help make the final product better. In other words, do not try new big things, only to fall flat on your face, but try new small things,

which you can gradually improve to make it a success.

This is one view that Nepal's aid industry needs to take to heart: Most so-called pilot interventions fail because even the pilots are so over-planned and over-designed -- at least on paper with all the good intentions and expertise -- that there is no mechanism to adapt to the inevitable but survivable failures when the plan comes in contact with reality. Making a good enough plan with a view to adapt to changing realities is not a move that risk-averse aid officials make.

Learn from feedback: software programmers know this intuitively. If a program doesn't run, that's a feedback that some code is amiss. Sportspeople know that if the way they are playing is not good, they need to change tactics. But in life, inertia sets in. Most of the time, we are reluctant to seek out and learn from feedback. Instead, we spend more time defending our past mistakes and errors instead of learning from what doesn't work, and going along with what works.

Written in a style reminiscent of Malcolm Gladwell (i.e. a question followed by a story followed by what academic researchers say before reaching a surprising conclusion), the book's strength is that it backs up its views with numerous examples and studies. Though the book is useful for managers, it underestimates the level of resistance one is likely to encounter at workplace to try new small things, make mistakes to deliberately learn from them, and iterate one's product line to success. 🇳🇵

### BIZ BRIEFS

#### Free service

Vijay Motors is organising a Free Summer Monsoon Checkup Camp for its Subaru, Chevrolet and Opel customers. The camp will be held until 11 September, Sunday to Friday, at the respective service centers. Discount is available on accessories and spare parts.

#### Kitchen gadgets

Samsung's authorized distributor, Him Electronics, has introduced its new series of Solo, Grill and Convection microwave ovens. It has also brought in 23 different models of double door and side by side, priced at Rs 17,990 to Rs 1, 54,990.

#### Return gifts

Maruti Suzuki is celebrating its 25 years in Nepal by offering discounts and special schemes on their cars. Maruti 800 is being priced at Rs 995,000 and financing facilities are available at 0 per cent interest for higher Maruti 800 models.

#### Real winner

Dayaman Bajracharya has won an all expenses paid Quality Tour to Real Factory in Simra and Pokhara for two



under Dabur Real's Real Quality Tour Contest. The bumper prize of

the SMS based contest is a tour for two couples to Singapore.

#### New room

SB Furniture bedroom set is being priced at Rs 99,999 at its Pani Pokhari showroom. The set consists of a bed, a wardrobe, a dressing table and a night table.

**TOSHIBA**  
Leading Innovation >>>



REGZA  
www.regza-asia.com

NOW WATCH TV  
**NONSTOP >>>**  
EVEN DURING **LOAD SHEDDING**

1<sup>ST</sup>  
TIME IN  
NEPAL

With the new Toshiba Regza Power LED T.V., you can watch your favorite program without any interruption.

PS1E 24 inch REGZA Power TV

(Rs) **51,550**

Marketed By:  
**EOL PVT. LTD.**

**CG Digital Pvt. Ltd.**  
(Multi-Brand Showroom) AC Complex  
Chabahil, Kathmandu, Nepal | Tel: 01-6205707

Available in three variants including LED screen.

**12** Months  
Warranty **True 0% Finance** TOLL FREE NO. **16600100211**

Upgrade Your Life

**POWER TV**

Full HD 1080p, AutoView, PC Input, HDMI

BATTERY  
OPERATED

LED





ROSHANI KAPALI

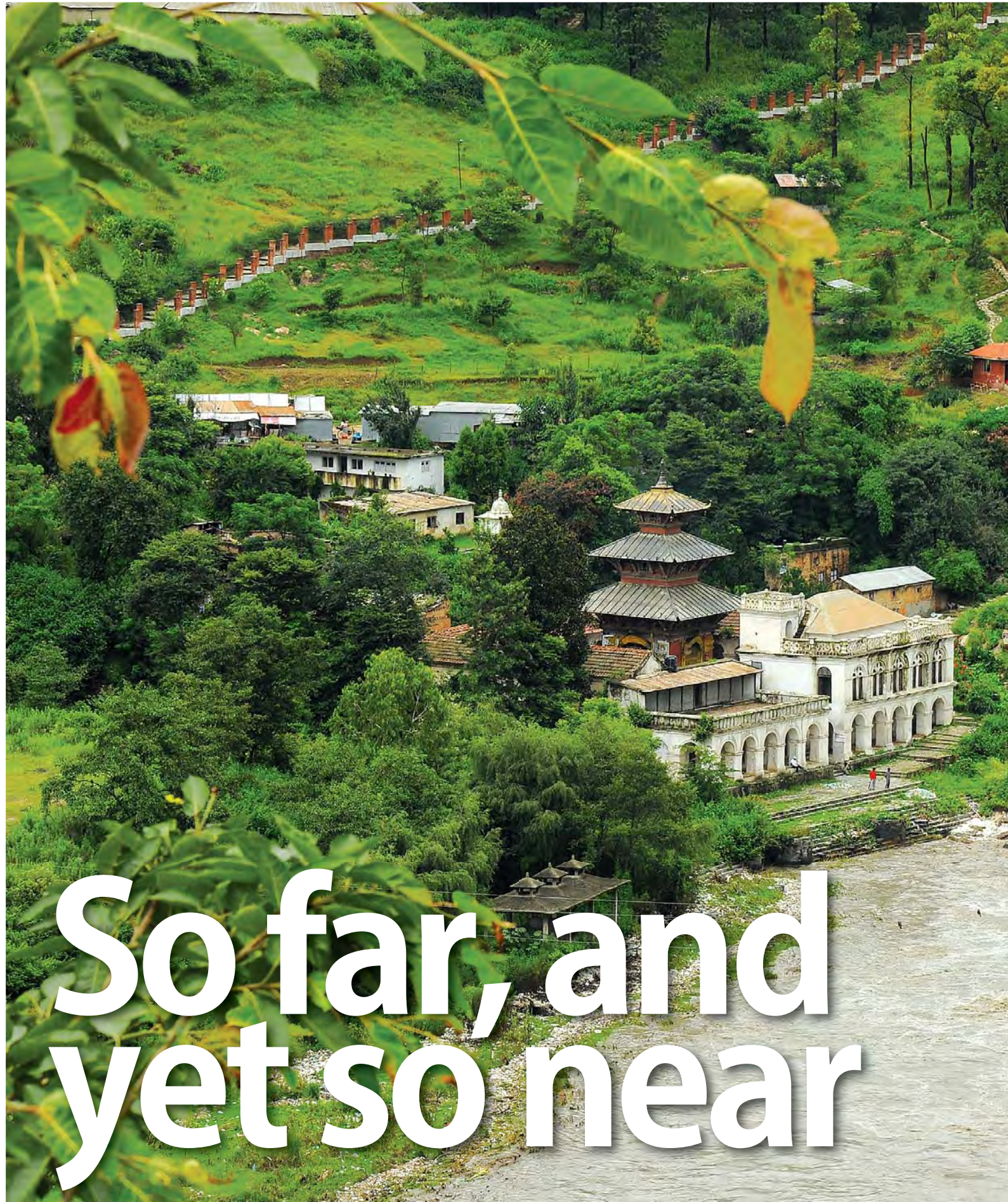
There are plenty of getaways around Kathmandu, ideal for mini excursion if you know where to look. Just 6km from the busy city and walking distance from Patan is the scenic and historic hilltop settlement of Chobhar. It overlooks the Bagmati where it exits the Valley through a gorge cut by Manjushree.

On the hill is the 15th century Adinath Lokeshwor Temple dedicated to Rato Machhindranath with an astounding array of metal pots, pans and water containers hanging from the roof, donated by newlyweds to ensure a happy marriage. Also known as Karunamaya, the deity is revered by both Hindus and Buddhists as incarnations of Shiva and Avalokiteshvara.

A carnival is held here from full moon of Dasain to Tihar. According to legend, as recounted by temple priest Rajesh Shakya a local cow herder found the statue of Adinath Lokeshwor in the nearby Nakkhu River and established it in the temple on top of the hill. Since then, every year the Kalash from the temple is filled with water from the Nakkhu River and is offered to the god.

Women perform a five day fast known as 'Nirjala', drinking only the holy water from the temple after they have visited and taken a ritual bath in five holy spots. There is a belief that such harsh fasting settles any kinds of dispute between the married couple and ensures a happy married life.

Another attraction



# So far, and yet so near

of Chobhar is a bathing ceremony held the first day after Ghode Jatra in May in the presence of the priest. The figure of the god is carried in a chariot by four members of Nemkul family to Nani Tole where the statue is bathed with milk. A line of priests belonging to the Shakya family have been serving the temple for

generations.

Chobhar is a quiet and tranquil village which overlooks Kathmandu city, but could as well be far away in time and space. It is a photogenic place, and a perfect venue for photographs of the Valley and the mountains beyond when the monsoon ends. The route to Chobhar is also

great for bicycle enthusiasts, and an annual mountain biking championship is held in the cement quarry on the other side of the hill.

The simplicity and cheerfulness of the locals, and its rustic old world charm gives Chobhar an added draw. An early morning trip to the hilltop town offers amazing views

of the sun rising from behind Gauri Shankhar in the northeast, as the Valley wakes up slowly from slumber.

Chobhar, so far and yet so near. 🇳🇵

**nepalitimes.com**  
The swollen Bagmati at Chobhar

A tranquil hilltop village close to Kathmandu is the perfect destination for those who crave a little time out







PICS: BIKRAM RAI




**Monsoon Ma(d)thematics**  
**1+1=3**

Buy **2 Heineken** and get **1 Heineken** for **FREE**.

This Monsoon, it's definitely raining Heineken at the No.1 Address in Kathmandu.

**From 15 July - 31 Aug 2011**

**500ml @ Nrs. 350/-**  
**330ml @ Nrs. 250/-**  
(Service Charge + VAT extra)

**Hotel Annapurna**

For more info: **THE COFFEE SHOP** **A B B B B B B B B**

+977 1 4221711 P.O. Box 185, Dharbar Marg, Kathmandu, Nepal [www.annapurna-hotel.com.np](http://www.annapurna-hotel.com.np)

**DECC**  
SERVICE WITH HEART

Opens **banquet services**

- wedding
- birthday
- corporate parties

business meetings seminars events workshops exhibitions

**Direction Exhibition & Convention Center**  
t : 4117102, 4117135 f : 4117105, e : seminar@deconline.com  
4th Floor, United World Trade Center, Tripureswor, Kathmandu

[www.deconline.com](http://www.deconline.com)

**Element** Auto-coding™  
Blood Glucose Monitoring System

- Automatic code Setting (No manual coding required)
- Painless with only 0.3µl Blood sample
- Only 3 seconds measuring time
- Meal/Exercises/Medication Setting (Glucose control per daily routine)
- Alternate Site Testing (for frequent test user: Taken from Arm, Thigh, Palm...)

For free demonstration and home delivery call: 4436928/29/30 Rajeena/Sunita or mail at [meditron@srd.com.np](mailto:meditron@srd.com.np)

Available at:  
R.K Pharmaceuticals  
SRD Building, New Plaza, Putalisadak  
Tel: 4415227  
and leading Chemist Shops

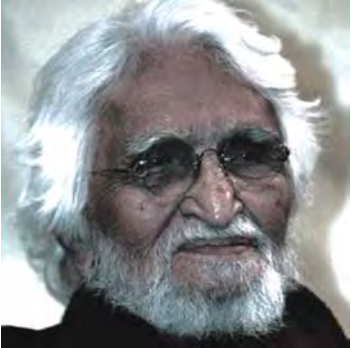
Marketed By:  
Meditron International  
Putalisadak, Kathmandu.  
Tel: 4436928/29/30  
E-mail: [meditron@srd.com.np](mailto:meditron@srd.com.np)

काम सानो ठुलो भन्ने हुँदैन । पसिनाको  
कुनै रङ र जात पनि हुँदैन । काम  
गरेर खान लजाउनु पनि हुँदैन ।  
चोरेर, ढाँटेर, छलेर, लुटेर खान पो  
लजाउनुपर्छ । जो जहाँ रहेर जुन काम गर्छ  
ऊ त्यसैमा रमाउनुपर्छ गौरव गर्नुपर्छ र  
समर्पित भएर गर्नुपर्छ । काम नै शक्ति हो,  
भक्ति हो र मुक्ति हो । कामको इज्जत  
गरौं, पसिनाको सम्मान गरौं ।

**नेपाल सरकार**  
**सूचना तथा सञ्चार मन्त्रालय**  
**सूचना विभाग**



EVENTS



**Tribute to MF Husain: Journey of a Maestro**, an exhibition of serigraphs and drawings, opening remarks by Sangeeta Thapa and Sujan Chitrakar and a talk program by Dr Geeti Sen. 12 to 14 August, 5.30pm, Siddhartha Art Gallery, Baber Mahal Revisited, 4438979

**Group Art**, exhibition of works by Nepali and foreign artists, organised by Unique Strokes. Till 12 August, 10am to 5pm, Park Gallery, Pulchok, 5522307, parkgallery.wlink.com.np

**Little Voice**, an exhibition of artworks by Sarita Dongol and Mamoru Hosoi. Till 15 August, 5.30pm on opening day, gallery hours: 10am to 5pm, Newa Chen Art Gallery, 5535532



**Lyrics from the Junkyard**, junkyard sculptures from Meena Kayastha. 19 August to 9 September, from 11am to 6pm, Baber Mahal Revisited, 4438979



**Staging of Bukhyacha**, a Nepali adaptation of Italian play About Face. Till 3 September, every day except Mondays, 5.30pm, Arohan Theatre, Gurukul, Old Baneshwor, 4466956



**Faces: A portrait photo workshop**, conducted by photographer/filmmaker Gorakh Bista. 13 to 20 August, 11am to 3pm, Fee: Rs 1500, Sattya Media Arts Collective, Jawalakhel

**Organic Farming training**, training on bio intensive farming, organized by Eco organic Nepal. 14 August to 4 September, 10am to 4pm, EON farm at Mahankal, Fee: Rs 4000, 9849685808, dipu\_al@yahoo.com, www.ecoorganicnepal.org

**2nd annual Gaijatra International Pride Festival**, Blue Diamond Society is staging Nepal's pride march for the country's sexual and gender minority. 14 August, Bharatpur, Chitawan

**Nepal Gem & Jewellery Expo 2011**, organised by Nepal Gem & Jewellery Association(NEGJA). 19 to 21 August 2011, 11am to 6pm, Soaltee Hotel, Megha Malhar Hall, Soalteemode

**Nepal Real State Expo 2011**, organised by Nepal Land and

Housing Association of Nepal. 25 August to 28 August, 11am to 6pm, Bhrikuti Mandap, Kathmandu

**South Asia & China Trade Fair 2011**, with Dashin Bazaar. Organised by Nepal China Executive Council. 15 to 19 September, 11am to pm, Bhrikuti Mandap, Kathmandu



**School Sanitation: the neglected development link**, a photo exhibition to spread awareness on school sanitation, organised by Water Aid. Till 13 August, 3pm on Thursday and 5pm on Saturday, Nepal art Council, Babar Mahal

**Organic Market**, a weekly organic market where along with picking the fresh organic produce for home you can enjoy brunch. Every Saturday, 1905, Kantipath

**Nepal Cine Symposium**, a South Asia focused international film network and promotion platform for cinema which includes a film festival

'Something like a film festival' organised by DocSkool. Till 22 November, Submission open until 30 August, www.cinesymposium.org, amanyu@cinesymposium.org, 4471104

MUSIC



**Album Launch of Hamro Desh**, sixth album of Robin and the New Revolution. 13 August, Attic Bar, Lazimpat, 9808011015

**Youth-Stand up for Peace**, concert to mark International Youth Day along with workshops, meetings and cultural events. 13 August, noon onwards, GAA Hall, Thamel

Animated junk



While painting exhibitions are a dime and a dozen in Kathmandu, there is one unique perspective on sculpture that opens on 19 August at The Siddhartha Art Gallery. 'Lyrics from the Junkyard' is an amalgam of primitive art form and contemporary sculpture by Meena Kayastha that will take visitors' breath away with its sheer audacity and dreamlike forms. Kayastha has grafted

life-forms from the junkyard with imaginative figures and native earth tones. Not only do you see haunting anthropomorphic figures lurking within each piece, you also hear the music that the mechanical sculptures sing. Kayastha says she began fiddling with the idea of moulding pieces from scrap heaps five years ago, the idea incubated in her sculptor's mind until the actual work started taking shape two years



Meena Kayastha recycles objects which have outlived their usefulness to society

ago. Paintings appealed less to her at art school, and she was drawn more to sculptures recycled from objects which had outlived their usefulness to society. The 25 pieces, are worked on progressively without a preconceived promise to enchant viewers. Meena uses paper mache, mud, discarded junk pieces, her own jewelry and even human teeth in her sculptures that are toned with primitive and traditional hues of tera sigillata, mud brown, whites and smoke black. The structures have been welded, modified and reminds one of African art forms, or the exaggerated



figures of Brancusi and Marcel Duchamp. Kayastha's boldly dada-esque approach distinguishes them and give them a breathtaking originality in the evolution of modern Nepali sculpture. Having participated in a number of group exhibitions, this is Kayastha's first solo. "I see process work as more intriguing than the conceptual one, process work lets you discover while you work and feelings are added to it in those moments," she

explains. "A life form shapes itself progressively, and that is what I have tried with these pieces...I have added life to it." True, a preview of the exhibits evoked a sense of awe and wonder at how Kayastha has made inanimate junk animate. Lyrics from the Junkyard By Meena Kayastha 19 August -9 September The Siddhartha Art Gallery, Baber Mahal Revisited www.siddharthaartgallery.com





**Upstairs Cafe**, a delicious range of Vietnamese cuisine to sample. *Maharajgunj, near the US embassy*

**Délices de France**, special menu with duck 3 courses, including Duck jambonet with its vegetable garnish or Duck breast with its mangogarnish. *Friday 12th, Saturday 13th and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August, dinner @ Rs 1400 plus taxes, Ganesh Man Singh Building, 2nd floor (above Illy Galeria Cafe), Booking is necessary (limited offer), call 4260326*

**Cinnamon Grill Lounge**, offers delicious food and good music, added bonus- live performance by Ciney Gurung every Saturday. *Jhamsikhel*



**Singma Food Court**, for the best Singaporean and Malaysian cuisine in town. *Pulchok, 5009092 and Bhatbhateni, 4411078, foodcourt@wlink.com.np*

**9th Annual Wine Festival**, Kilroy's monsoon wine festival will feature 15 varieties of exquisite wines from six different countries. *Till 15 September, Kilroy's of Kathmandu, Thamel, 4250440*

**Ghangri Café**, a quiet place with comfortable sofas and a lovely courtyard, perfect for those sunny afternoons. Although famous for their open sui mai, they offer a few other great dishes as well. *Pulchok*

**Buddha Bar**, has been an establishment since the days of the hippies and offers a warm and cozy space for intimate conversations over a large selection of drinks. *Thamel, 9851053235*



**1905 Restaurant**, feast on roasted delights within this converted aristocratic residence. Walled ambience and green surroundings make it an oasis within the city, *Kantipath, 4215068*

**Krishnarpan**, a specialty Nepali restaurant at The Dwarika's Hotel,

6 to 22 courses, an authentic Nepali meal. The Dwarika's Hotel, *Battisputali, 4479488*

**Le Bistro Restaurant & Bar**, the outdoor dining area invokes a great atmosphere for a night of drinks with friends and family. While they serve a plethora of dishes, it is the Indian food they pride themselves on. *Thamel, 4701170*



**Bhojan Griha**, traditional Nepali restaurant that serves up great local food with folk music and dance. *Dillibajar*



**Organic Café and Salad Bar**, hearty breakfasts and healthy salads while you catch up with your reading or emails in the heart of Thamel. *Chakshibari Road, Thamel 4215726*

GETAWAYS



**Monsoon Madness at Hotel Shangri-la, Pokhara**. See Pokhara as never before, monsoon package at Rs 4999 for 2 nights and 3 days. *Till 30 September, Shangri-la Village, Pokhara, call 4412999 for booking*

**Monsoon Getaway at Gokarna Forest Resort**. *Till 31 August, Gokarna, 4451212*

**Park Village Resort**, Saturdays and Sundays combo package with swimming, lunch and a bottle of beer. adults and Rs 800 for children, call 4375280 for reservations



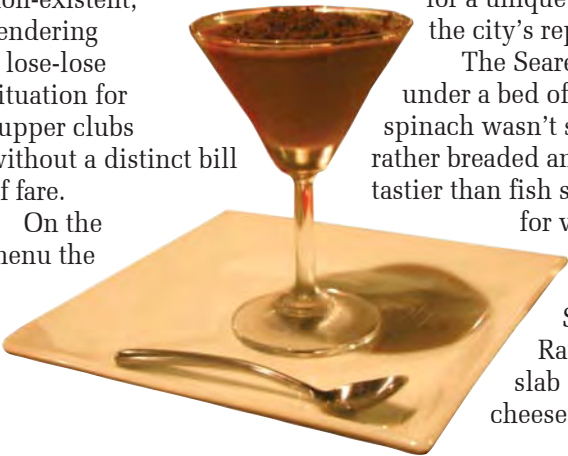
SOMEPLACE ELSE

With its industrial interior, khaki overalls and pop décor à la Warhol, The Factory in Thamel is thematically consistent, so much so that even its cookie-cutter fare seems mechanically processed. More club, than supper, The Factory is almost always empty before dusk, and for good reason. Its westward-slanted menu, replete with edible descriptions like the Spicy Beef Sliders (which are apparently never available), is what makes American chains a dime a dozen. But at least, US diners are known

The Factory

to glut late-night, knocked-up cravings. Generally, supper clubs are profit-making ventures that huckster the ‘one-stop-shop’ mantra: dine and dance without having to shift. But these fair-weather schemes often over stress superficial details and end up slacking off on the more important gustatory appeal. And as the moral police continue to spoil the party in Kathmandu, nightlife is essentially non-existent, rendering a lose-lose situation for supper clubs without a distinct bill of fare.


On the menu the



Rainbow Couscous salad sounded like an ethereal, bright starter but came out as a heap of bland semolina. A disappointment, the Beef Burger was more comparable to a baked meatloaf sandwich than a chargrilled hunk. On the same page, the Steak and Mustard Sandwich was sadly served on a stale loaf, that if toasted and dressed up like a Philly or even au jus for French dipping would make for a unique addition to the city's repertory. The Seared Bakti under a bed of creamy spinach wasn't seared, rather breaded and fried but tastier than fish sticks. And for vegetarians, the Cottage Cheese Steak with Ratatouille, a slab of packed cheese topped with



a tomato slurry and roasted veg, is too much for a main fare and better ordered as a sharing entree. The evening's only salving grace in terms of grub was the Buffalo Wings, a finger-licking snack that calls for a cold brew, and the silky Chocolate 'Kahlua' Mousse. The treats, along with the mutton sekuwa sticks, hint on The Factory's selling point as a happy hour hangout. Priced at standard Thamel rates (add 10% and 13%), the mediocrity of The Factory's victuals isn't worth the tab. Come for the music, setting,

or as its slogan suggests, 'conversation', but certainly not for food.  **Marco Pollo**

*Turn into Mandala Street from Thamel Chowk, first set of stairs on the left and two flights up.*

Space	★★★★
Bread 'n water	★★★
Service	★★★★
Deal-icious	★★★
Rep-eat?	★★★





# Gosainkunda illness



**DHNAVANTARI**  
**Buddha Basnyat, MD**

Some years ago I observed a congregation of 7,000 pilgrims at 4,300 m above sea level ready to pray to Shiva at the magnificent holy lake of Gosainkunda north of Kathmandu. Many were in no mood to pray. They were stricken with altitude sickness in its various forms: acute mountain sickness, high altitude pulmonary oedema, and high altitude cerebral oedema.

The initial symptoms of acute mountain sickness (headache and nausea) are warning signs that need to be heeded. Alas, many

pilgrims climb too high too fast (from Kathmandu at 1,300 m to the lake in two nights) and totally disregard initial symptoms.

Recent studies have shown that acute mountain sickness is rampant in this population of pilgrims to Gosainkunda and that many are dehydrated because they are fasting. Women are so serious about the Gosainkunda ritual they do not even drink water as they ascend.

There is a belief that the sickness they experience is caused by the scent of the flowers and alpine vegetation that grow on the wayside. This is akin to what Jesuit travelers in the early 18th century also thought when they were crossing Himalayan passes. The scent of the flowers as the cause of altitude sickness does not make

sense, as I am fond of reminding the pilgrims, because invariably the patients improve significantly on descent, even though the flowers are still giving off their scent.

One study postulated that the visions that these high altitude pilgrims often report may not actually be divine revelations but just hallucination caused by the cerebral oedema. The pilgrim community may not favour this rational explanation for what is believed to a spiritual experience.

Pilgrims face other problems besides altitude. I have seen obese men and women, who can barely climb up stairs in their homes, undertaking high altitude pilgrimages on helicopter and horseback. Usually they decide to do this on the spur of the moment as a famous "guru" is going to lead them.

This year the annual Gosainkunda festival is 13 August 13, the fullmoon day of Janai Purnima. Hopefully the Himalayan Rescue Association and the Mountain Medicine Society of Nepal at Dhunche will have been successful in convincing the pilgrims not to go too high too fast, to listen to their bodies, drink adequate amount of clean water, and use medicines if necessary. Although the drug acetazolamide (diamox) prevents and treats altitude sickness, ascending gradually with proper acclimatisation is the best precaution.



**WEEKEND WEATHER**  
by NGAMINDRA DAHAL

This satellite radar composite shows heavy precipitation along the Bay of Bengal coast. Also seen is a monsoonal eddy swirling back from the Tibetan plateau towards eastern Nepal. This is what brought us heavy daytime showers on Wednesday and Thursday. Expect some after effects of this to persist through the weekend, with most of the rain staying on in the plains but the hills. The plains will enjoy some respite from the rain, although localised heavy showers are still possible.



FRI	SAT	SUN
28-17	27-17	25-17

**RANGOLI EASY CLEAN**



NO दाग  
NO धब्बा



**Berger**  
RANGOLI EASY CLEAN

No Daag - No Dhabba, Only Beautiful Walls



BIKRAM RAI

**BACK HOME:** Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal meets the press at Kathmandu airport Wednesday, on return from Malaysia. With him on the flight were board members of the Asia Pacific Exchange and Cooperation Foundation (APECF) who want to develop Lumbini.



KRISHNA SINJALI

**RISKY LOGISTICS:** In absence of a bridge, local traders use a boat to transport buffalos and food from India's West Bengal to Jhapa across the Mechi River on Thursday.



BIKRAM RAI

**HI-FI ACCESSORY:** A young Tharu woman at a cultural parade organised to celebrate the 17th International Indigenous Day, outside City Hall, Kathmandu, on Tuesday.

**EPSON**  
EXCEED YOUR VISION



**WORLD'S No.1 PROJECTORS**  
10 Years Running 2001-2010  
Source: FutureSource Consulting

**OFFICE AND HOME PROJECTORS**

**Best Selling Projector\* 2001 to 2010 Consecutively!**  
\*Based on FutureSource

**Convenient Connectivity for any Projection Environment**



**Small, Smart and Stylish**

**Multimedia Projector**  
EB-S9 SVGA / EB-X9 XGA / EB-W9 WXGA

**USB 'Plug and Project'**  
connectivity for quick projection on the spot.



**EASY & SPEEDY USB DISPLAY FUNCTION**  
Simple Connectivity  
Instant projection is possible by simply connecting the projector to a PC using the USB cable, included with the EB-S9/EB-X9/EB-W9

**Support for Smoother Presentations**  
Control of the mouse and/or "page control" function can be achieved easily with the remote controller that is included with the EB-S9/EB-X9/EB-W9

**Front Exhaust**  
The exhaust is intelligently positioned in the front so that it will not affect the audience at the side of the projector.



**EB-S9: SVGA**  
**EB-X9: XGA**  
**EB-W9: WXGA**

A highly versatile schools and business projector  
White Light Output: 2500 lumens,  
Colour Light Output: 2500 lumens









**MERCANTILE OFFICE SYSTEMS**  
Hiti Pokhari, Durbar Marg  
Kathmandu, Nepal  
Tel: 4440773 / 4445920  
E-Mail: market@mos.com.np

**KATHMANDU VALLEY**  
**Star Office Automation** Putalisadak 4266820, **Max International** Putalisadak 4415786, **Interactive Group** Newroad 4227854, **Flash International** Newroad 4222384, **Esquire TV**, Newroad 4242727  
**OUTSIDE VALLEY**  
**Birat Infotech** Biratnagar 021-538729, **Megatech** Biratnagar 021-532000, **Enet Solutions** Chitwan, 056-572096, **Computer Service Center** Butwal 071-542699, **Himalayan Trading House / HOA** Pokhara 061-521756, **Smart Link electronic suppliers** Dang 082-561022, **Manakamana Hitech Nepal**gunj 081-521473, **Ugratara Trading House** Dhangadhi 091-523601, **Dinesh Computers** Dhangadhi 091-521392, **Dinesh Trading house** Nepalgunj 081-527092, **Ugratara Technical Goods** Mahendranagar 099-523872, **Advance Computer** Banepa 011-660888, **Star Computer System** Hetauda 057-523333, **Gagan Enterprises** Birgunj 051-531921, **Quality Computer** Birtamode 023-540150



# London calling



**KALAM**  
Rabi Thapa

The Big Smoke is in serious danger of reclaiming its industrial-era sobriquet. London had, in the last couple of decades, become synonymous with ancient history wedded to booming commerce – the Royal Wedding and the Olympics in successive years testifying to a juxtaposition befitting the world's leading tourist destination.

In the last week, all this has gone up in the smoke obscuring fuzzy videos of hooded rioters running amok across the city. Before the disbelieving eyes of residents (let alone those of us who think Tottenham's just a football club), the fallout from the death of Mark Duggan has spread far beyond the north London suburb to other British cities across the country. Where will it end, and what does it mean?

The answer to the latter question is best left to those more familiar with British youth, crime, and the impact of the economic downturn. I'm more interested in what it might mean to Nepalis, and our youth in particular.

First off, what is London to Nepalis, beyond being everything that Kathmandu and the rest of the country is not (among other things the seat of a working constitutional monarchy)? Clearly it's a destination of choice for students, though many end up working sooner rather than later, along with a motley mix of other Nepalis more or less qualified, from investment bankers to kitchen boys.

Once in London, ground realities quickly obscure the glitter on the dreams of the less fortunate. Especially if they're marking time serving up curry and lager in the subcontinental enclaves of Hounslow (west) or Plumstead (east), far from the faddy crowds of Leicester Square (centre). But limited as their peregrinations may be, Nepalis in London know that the city is more than Notting Hill, Camden Market, Westminster, Chinatown, and the royal parks.

Their perceptions of the rougher neighbourhoods ringing the glamorous centre of London will have been hardened by the recent events. It's clear from the reactions of Londonepalis on Facebook that they don't



This time it's us watching them, but maybe Nepal should be more worried about its own youth

approve of what is going on. In this, they are one with many London residents who feel that if there was some justification for the 1981 Brixton riots, this time a police shooting has been used as an excuse, plain and simple, to go wild and pick up a flatscreen TV in the bargain.

But there is no disputing the fact that, heinous as it may be to destroy the very communities in which you live, at least some of the young rioters have a problem with the state, or the state in which they live.

One commentator labelled the rioters 'the products of a crumbling nation, and an indifferent political class that has turned its back on them', another characterised the 'shopping riots' as a rebellion against a consumerist system 'that denies its bounty to them'. Shift contexts, and we may speculate how the youth in Nepal, with far fewer opportunities that their British counterparts, may respond to much more of a 'crumbling nation' where 'bounty' is increasingly marketed yet remains out of reach.

There's no doubt the political class in Nepal has turned its back on the youth of Nepal, except when it needs to employ the more criminally inclined among them. Our decade-long conflict itself was fuelled by disaffection with the establishment, never mind the irony of Maoist youth fighting the more 'secure' youth in the army and police. With the end of the conflict, labour migration is the new pressure valve, with over 1000 youth leaving the country every day. But with no progress on anything that

matters to the Nepali people – including jobs, service provision, and security – there is no telling when and how the youth will respond to their growing frustration.

Rising criminality is inevitable, and we have already seen the evidence of this in urban centres across Nepal. It's likely the continuing failure of the political parties will precipitate increasingly violent street protests in the months to come, some of which may not even be instigated by the parties. The politicians won't have to worry much about dealing with looters; the Nepal Police won't be as reticent as the Met. On the other hand, they should perhaps worry about what could happen to them once the Nepali youth decides it cannot tolerate their looting – of the state exchequer – any longer.

As London has shown, however, the articulation of the inarticulate through rioting more often than not, ends up harming the vulnerable as much, if not more than the ostensible targets (the rich and powerful). It's in the interest of everybody in Nepal, rich, poor and in the middle, to try and understand the motivations of those who spontaneously decide against the rule of law, and work together to ensure we don't get to the point of no return. 🇳🇵

## A greener way to fly...



We at **Yeti Airlines** share your concerns about climate change and are doing our little bit to help the world grow into a greener place. So, in partnership with our Dhangadi GSA, RAAIKA Tours and Travels, **Tiger Mountain Karnali Lodge & Camp** and District Road Support Programme, we have launched our pilot Green Project. For every passenger flying on the Kathmandu-Dhangadi-Kathmandu and Kathmandu-Nepalgunj-Kathmandu sector, we will plant a suitable tree in one of the chosen community forests in the various rural areas of Nepal. Rs. 20 from the air fare of each passenger will be set aside for the tree plantation program in the above mentioned sectors.

Come fly with Yeti Airlines and help us make the world a little more greener.

**Yeti Airlines Domestic Pvt. Ltd.**  
Corporate Office: Tilganga, Kathmandu  
Tel: 4465888 Fax: 4465115 Reservations: 4464878 (Hunting Line)  
Kathmandu Airport: 4493901  
Website: [www.yetiairlines.com](http://www.yetiairlines.com)  
E-mail: [reservations@yetiairlines.com](mailto:reservations@yetiairlines.com), [eticket@yetiairlines.com](mailto:eticket@yetiairlines.com)



## "Flying is not the only thing we do"

As part of our Social responsibility, Yeti Airlines donates Nrs.4 per flight ticket to the following Four Social Organizations, involved in various social activities.



CWIN works for the advocacy, protection and promotion of the rights of the child through lobbying, campaigning and social concretization. It also directly works with children at risk for their rescue, support, socialization, education, empowerment and social reintegration.



The United Mission to Nepal (UMN) seeks fullness of life for all Nepalese, and works towards this in partnership with Nepali organisations, addressing the root causes of poverty, pursuing for peace and justice for all, and empowering communities to meet their own needs.



CVICT is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that rehabilitates victims of torture and trauma (domestic violence, witchcraft related violence etc.); advocates the eradication of torture and promotes human rights in Nepal.



Save the Children's 'Every One' campaign has raised voice for the rights of healthy life of children below 5 years of age.

- If a newly born baby having his/her weight less than the normal is kept attached naked to his/her mother's chest then it helps in increasing the weight of the infant.
- Registering your child's birth at the earliest ensures his/her every right as a citizen of the country.
- Washing your hands properly before touching your baby, will reduce the susceptibility of infection.

**Bhadrapur** 023 455232 **Biratnagar** 021 536612 **Janakpur** 041 520047  
**Bharatpur** 056 523136 **Pokhara** 061 464888 **Bhairahawa** 071 527527  
**Nepalgunj** 081 526556 **Dhangadhi** 091 523045 **Tumlingtar** 029 575120





# Keep power politics out of power policy

Power cuts here to stay into the 2020s unless corruption and politicisation are checked

SAROJ DAHAL

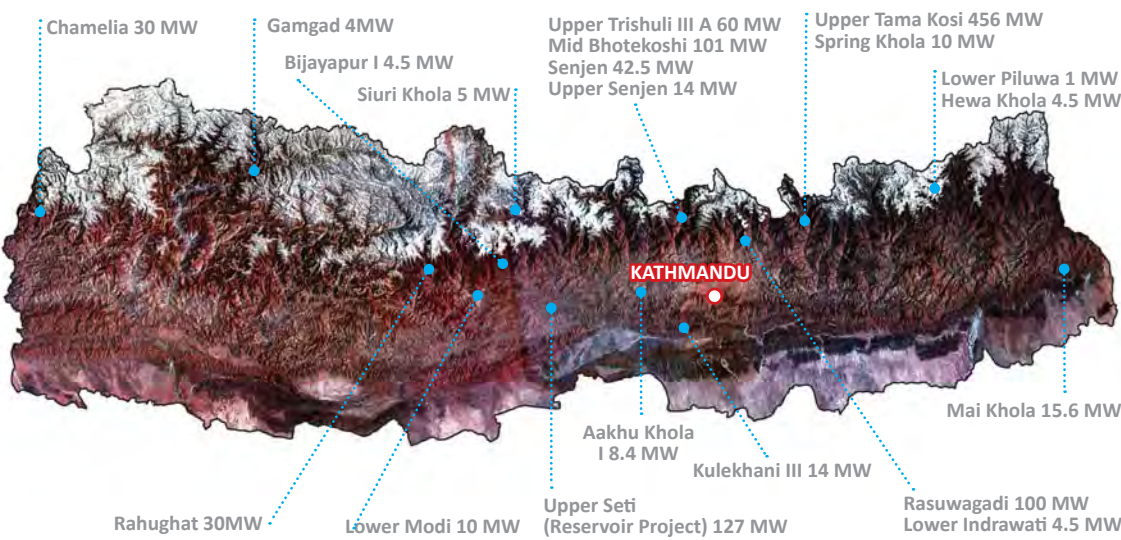
Nepal faces a power deficit of 200MW during peak hours in the dry season. The total installed capacity of 648MW is misleading because most hydroelectric plants in Nepal generate electricity to their full capacity only during the monsoon.

Power demand is highest when the generation is lowest in winter. There are no reservoir projects to store monsoon water to generate power in the dry season, hence the mismatch between demand and supply. Expect electricity rationing at least till 2014.

The rising demand for power has attracted dozens of domestic and foreign private investors who have already acquired licenses but are being hampered by local obstruction. Even so, several small scale projects are already in the construction phase.

The Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) alone has five projects with total installed capacity of 560 MW in the pipeline. The private sector has 17 projects with total installed capacity of 112 MW at various stages of construction (see box). If current roadblocks are removed, most projects can be completed within five years. Another 27 projects totaling 1,093MW are waiting to start construction.

The critical factor is for the government to remove bureaucratic and financial hurdles and to address local opposition in its prestige projects like Upper Tama



CURRENT CAPACITY		
Producer	Number of Projects	Installed capacity
NEA	27	473 MW
Private Sector	23	175 MW
Total	50	648 MW

UNDER CONSTRUCTION		
Contractor	Number of Projects	Installed capacity
NEA	5	560
Private Sector	17	112
Total	22	672

Kosi, Chamelia, Kulekhani III, Senjen and Upper Trishuli. Although private investors have appreciated the troubleshooting approach taken by new Energy Minister Gokarna Bista (see interview, below), they acknowledge he has his work cut out.

“Only by changing the work culture of the NEA will it be able to attract more investments in hydropower,” says Subarnadas Shrestha of the Independent Power Producers Association (IPPAN). NEA is the sole authority for transmission and distribution and most generation, but has amassed

an accumulated loss of Rs 30 billion. Private investors are skeptical that NEA can ensure timely payment for the electricity they supply to the grid in future.

It seems even Minister Bista has given up on NEA ever being reformed, and has proposed an Electricity Development Board. But experts say that unless there is change in the way institutions are run, nothing is going to work. There has been little change in electricity tariff in the past 10 years. NEA buys costly dollar-denominated

electricity from private producers but has to subsidise the tariff bearing a loss of Rs 2.5 for every unit it sells.

If NEA offers an attractive price to private producers and revises distribution tariff, it can gradually make up for the losses incurred. But if it can’t for political reasons, experts say it ought to hand over transmission and distribution to the private sector as well.

The government could also entice the financial sector to invest in hydropower. But under current rules an investor has to make the rounds of nine ministries and 35 departments. At best, it takes 88 days to complete Power Purchasing Agreement (PPA). Sometimes a project is faced with retroactive regulations half way through the process.

NC leader Gagan Thapa who heads the taskforce that is preparing a report on Water Resource Development under CA’s Committee on Natural Resource says, “If only we pass two resolutions stuck in the parliament, we can

ensure effective generation, transmission, distribution and tariff regulation.” (See overleaf)

Nepal’s private sector is capable of producing more than enough electricity the country needs into the future. But in order to harness this capability, the government must first make changes in regulations that work at cross purposes and correct contradictory policies. The private sector is convinced that with better pricing and fast-tracked bureaucracy at least 1700MW can be generated in the next seven years.

Nepal’s energy crisis is sum total of corruption, mismanagement and politicisation of NEA and its lack of accountability. Successive prime ministers and home ministers have abused the NEA’s resources and other officials use it as a cash cow. Up to 20 per cent of power is lost through leakage, mostly stolen. Political patronage ensures that thieves and those involved in kickbacks and mismanagement walk scot free.

If the government is serious about addressing the energy crisis, he first steps is the depoliticisation of NEA and its better management. Then, if it can only ensure a stable policy and keep politics out of the power sector there will be no power cuts after 2015. If not, load shedding is here to stay into the 2020s.

[nepalitimes.com](http://nepalitimes.com)  
No light at the end of the tunnel # 541

**Nepali Times: What is different in your approach to energy development?**  
**Gokarna Bista:** For the first time, the executive head of NEA has been selected on competitive basis and I have initiated the process to scrap the provision of minister heading the NEA. Apart from this, I have overseen establishment of a company to invest in the hydropower development, initiation of big project like Upper Tama Kosi, the preparation of a master plan for the extension of transmission lines and prioritisation of reservoir based projects.

**But we’ve heard all this before, haven’t we?**  
I was not a part of governments that produced only 600 MW in 100 years. I am determined to leave a mark in hydropower development. I understand well that without augmenting production, we cannot end load-shedding.

**But the private producers are not happy with you?**  
I am ready to listen to their complaints but if

## “Things will change”

Interview with Minister for Energy Gokarna Bista

they want us to revise PPA of old projects then they are being unreasonable.

**Why can’t the government offer revise all PPAs?**  
How many times should we amend the PPA for the same project? We are ready to listen to legitimate demands, but they can’t have everything their way.

**Why have you initiated the idea of new Board instead of improving NEA?**  
In order to improve the NEA’s financial condition, there is a need to eliminate existing malpractices. This will take time. But in

order to tackle the power crunch, we need to extend transmission lines immediately. In the last ten years, NEA has extended only 127 km of transmission lines, we need thousands of kilometers. A new company would meet this challenge.



BIKRAM RAI



# Electric future

An end to power cuts is not just desirable, it is possible



COMMENT  
Gagan Thapa

Anyone who looks at the figures should be worried. Nepal produces only 600MW of power and demand is 800MW. Since most projects are non-storage type, generation capacity depends on the flow of the rivers. Even in the monsoon, the rivers generate only 692 MW, and with energy demand rising at 80 MW a year, power rationing is here to stay for at least three more years. In fact, there may only be power for three hours a day in coming winters. Load-shedding is no just a nuisance to consumers, the fall in productivity and increase in diesel imports is ruining the economy.

The government has declared an energy emergency up to December 2015 during which period it hopes to fast track projects to generate 2,500 MW of additional power, including from reservoir projects. Parliament's Committee on Natural Resources, of which I am a member, has just completed a detailed study and has made some recommendations in a preliminary report.

At present, hydropower development is stymied by inadequate incentives for domestic and foreign investors, poor governance at the regulating agencies and line ministry. Politicisation of the NEA has now reached unprecedented levels: there are 13 unions affiliated to various parties in the NEA. Even if there is enough generation capacity, there isn't the transmission capacity to take



the power to consumers. NEA's monopoly in generation, transmission and distribution has hindered competition and hampered efficiency. Some projects are being delayed because their environmental impact assessment isn't complete.

**The preliminary report makes the following recommendations:**

- Draw up a 50-year National Energy Security Plan and a medium term National Energy Plan within 12 months
- Forge a national consensus among political parties about a five-year National Hydropower Development Plan.
- Urgently draw up a data base of survey licenses for various projects

- Set up an all-party mechanism to remove obstacles for completion of projects undertaken by NEA, domestic private sector and foreign investors
- Launch construction of West Seti, Budi Gandaki reservoir project with new company and line up financing
- Provide government security and prevent strikes and shutdowns at power generation sites
- Address demand side issues like cutting pilferage and instituting institute time-of-day and seasonal tariff
- Expedite 10 projects of up to 25MW, for immediate relief from power cuts, fast track Upper Tama Kosi
- Make special request to five of Nepal's

partner countries to build a project of more than 100 MW each

- Repair and operate 59MW of thermal capacity in Biratnagar, Duhabi and Hetauda
- Set aside 7 per cent of the budget for the next ten years for hydropower development, secure financing from international creditors
- Set up a National Transmission Company and draw up a grid masterplan
- Set up a National Power Trading Company
- Priority should be to meet base load before exporting power

The rate demand for energy is growing and hydro power is not able to keep up, thus increasing this country's dependence on imported fuel. Nepal's future development is only possible with hydropower, and the development of other renewables will help us attain self-sufficiency in energy. Each development zone should have a reservoir project to meet demand during the dry season. Energy from the cost-effective investment in hydropower should be invested in industry and processing should spur rural development.

Multi-purpose projects must provide irrigation to boost agriculture production. Most important all, given the importance of hydropower for the country's development, there is an urgent need for political consensus and continuity to future development of this sector. We have lost a lot of time, we cannot afford any more delays. 🇳🇵

*Gagan Thapa is a NC member of parliament's Committee on Natural Resources and has been involved with the draft report on water resources development.*

# See the world differently this morning.

The best global and local news, in one simple package.

Subscribers will get free access to NYTimes.com

Call : 4268656      subs@myrepublica.com





# Maoists must lead

Interview with the Maoist's Barsaman Pun and NC's Gagan Thapa in *Kantipur*, 7 August

## BARSAMAN PUN

**Kantipur:** Is the party dispute settled?

**Barsaman Pun:** Most of the differences have been resolved. The ideological debate is ongoing.

**Why are parties mired in internal disputes when there are other national priorities?**

There is debate within each party about whether or not to move ahead in a new direction. There is still debate within the NC regarding federalism, secularism and republicanism. There is similar debate inside the UML as well. Even within the Maoists there is a debate on whether to continue with the line of revolt or to institutionalise the achievements we have made so far.

**What about the differences between the parties?**

The major difference concerning the integration of combatants has nearly been resolved. Everybody has agreed on forming a separate force under the Nepal Army. There is a near consensus on at least 8,000 combatants to be integrated. The parties have also agreed on norms depending on education, marital status and age of the candidate. But the parties are yet to agree on the total number of this mixed force, its duty and the number of personnel to be brought in from other state forces.



**What about the issue of rank harmonisation? When will that be resolved?**

It's a technical issue and will be resolved after mutual negotiation, probably within a week. By 27 August, those to be integrated, rehabilitated and those seeking voluntary retirement will be grouped separately.

**Your chairman has said a consensus government must be formed immediately, will this lead to stability?**

Put it this way: in spite of peace process moving ahead, this government has to make way for consensus government after 12 August. It may be led by Khanal, NC or us, but it will be a new government.

**Who will lead the consensus government?**

We have proposed our vice chairman Baburam Bhattarai as the consensus candidate as per the party's decision.

**But NC president has proposed your party chairman as a consensus candidate.**

I thank NC President for the proposal, but it is our party's internal decision as to who should lead the party in the government and we have already made our choice.

## GAGAN THAPA

**Kantipur:** What has delayed the peace process and constitution drafting process?

**Gagan Thapa:** Every party has to bear the share of blame. Internal dispute within the Maoists and CPN-UML as well as failure of NC to ensure implementation of 5-point deal are largely responsible. But the prime minister's political dishonesty is also to blame for the protracted stalemate.

**Don't you think the NC is too engaged in power sharing as opposed to peace and constitution?**

We should have agreed upon a national consensus in a package. Lack of clarity has wasted two months of the extended CA period. Peace and constitution can only be achieved through national consensus.



**How can you have a consensus government when there is difference among the parties about who leads the consensus government?**

We have made it clear that the PM has to resign and the NC can't accept Maoist leadership until they take concrete steps

towards the peace process. The NC has to take the initiative and convince the other parties and win their trust. The Maoists are free to take initiative so long as they are able to take the NC into confidence by fulfilling the conditions we demand. Unless one of the above happens, this deadlock will not be resolved.

**The NC's role after 28 April has not been constructive. Is the leadership at fault?**

I don't think the NC has done anything wrong because it has mostly been a mute spectator to internal disputes within the Maoists and the UML. But failure to play a constructive role itself amounts to a mistake. All we did was complain. And this is not just an individual's failure. This is a collective failure of the party leadership. The party must take initiative to rid the nation of Maoist paranoia and UML's dubious role of cashing in on nation's divided politics. We cannot shy away from our responsibility fearing internal rifts over power.

**What will happen after 31 August?**

As long as the present coalition continues with NC's role limited to the opposition, the stalemate will prolong. There has been no official debate on what happens after 31 August. So instead of worrying about it, the NC must be clear about the direction in which the nation is headed at this moment.



# Corrupt cases

Jeevan BC in *Naya Patrika*, 8 August

नयाँ पत्रिका

Six leaders are facing trials in court on charges of corruption after failing to establish the sources of their property. They were given clean chit by the Special Court initially but the anti graft body CIAA (Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority) filed petition against the ruling in the Supreme Court. NC leader and ex-Minister Chiranjivi Wagle is the only leader who was slapped a jail term by the Special Court after being held guilty of corruption.

MPs are also in the line to face court action. UML MP DB Karki, who was caught red handed, accepting bribe, is fighting a corruption charge in the Special Court. MJF lawmaker BP Yadav and Nepal Janta Dal MP Gayatri Sah are also under trial in the Special Court for selling their diplomatic passports.

1. Khum Bahadur Khadka (NC)  
Unverified property worth Rs 23.6 million
2. Govinda Raj Joshi (NC)  
Unverified property worth Rs 39.3 million
3. JP Gupta (Madhesi Janadhikar Forum)  
Unverified property worth Rs 20.8 million
4. Rabindra Nath Sharma (Rastriya Prajatantra Party)  
Unverified property worth Rs 49.5 million
5. Kamal Thapa (RPP Nepal)  
Unverified property worth Rs 9.718 million
6. DB Karki (MP, UML)  
Arrested while taking a bribe of Rs 400 thousand
7. BP Yadav (MP, MJF)  
Accused of selling diplomatic passport
8. Gayatri Sah (MP, Nepal Janta Dal)  
Accused of selling diplomatic passport
9. Naradmuni Rana (MP, UML)  
Accused of selling diplomatic passport



**Box: Peace and Constitution  
Basket: Constitution Assembly**

अन्नपूर्ण पोष्ट Basu Kshitiz in *Annapurna Post*, 6 August

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“I will never forget Nepal. It was the most unforgettable assignment of my 35 year diplomatic career”

Indian Ambassador Rakesh Sood during his final diplomatic meeting with Prime Minister Jhulanath Khanal on Tuesday.

# उज्यालो 90 नेटवर्कमा

## आर्थिक खबर

हरेक दिन बिहान ७:०० बजे

**Communication Corner Pvt. Ltd.**  
Kupondole, Lalitpur, Tel: 5546277

**Ujyaalo 90 Network**  
Sanepa, Lalitpur, Tel: 5551716

Fax: 977-1-5549357, P.O.Box:6469, E-mail: info@unn.com.np, URL: www.unn.com.np



# Immortal memorial

On the first anniversary a new school and stupa at Agni Air crash site



NEPALI PAN

Dorji Tsering Sherpa

The Agni Air Dornier had taken off during a torrential downpour from Kathmandu on the morning of 24 August. It was bound for Lukla with 14 passengers from Nepal, UK, USA and Japan, and of the three crew members one was my daughter Sarah Sherpa, the flight attendant. Fifteen minutes after takeoff, Capt L P B “Lucky” Shah and Co-pilot Sophia Singh decided to return to Kathmandu due to poor visibility enroute.

Soon after, the plane’s primary and backup generator failed, then the standby battery ran out. It is thought that without power, the cockpit instruments must have malfunctioned disorienting the pilots in heavy clouds. The aircraft came down about 20 miles south of Kathmandu in the village of Shikharpur of Makwanpur district. There were no survivors.

My wife Anju and I have lived and relived the memory



of that devastating morning, and as the first anniversary of the crash approaches next week we are once more numbed by the loss of our precious Sarah.

Shikharpur is a bumpy three hour jeep ride east of Hetauda populated by subsistence farmers. In the past year, we have visited Shikharpur and decided to turn our sorrow into support for the people of the little village. At their request we have built a stupa at ‘ground zero’, which is only 20 metres away from the school that is also being upgraded.

My wife and I have been amazed by the outpouring of support and goodwill from

friends, relatives and even those we don’t know. Howard Fallon, father of 18-year-old Kendra Fallon who was in the same flight, initiated the project and has also set up an endowment at Asna Orphanage in Lamatar where his daughter had volunteered for two months before setting off on her trek.

Misa Hayashi’s only son, 19-year-old Yuki, also died in the crash. The Hayashi family is now an ardent supporter of the project, helping financially to build the school. Yuki’s 78-year-old grandmother is coming to Shikharpur for the inauguration of the stupa and school next week. Our children left us, but we want



to cherish their memory by helping the underprivileged children of the village they came to be joined with that fateful morning a year ago.

All of us lost fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters and friends. We had raised Sarah with lots of love and affection, we invested all we could in her education. Now, she is only a memory. But it is a memory that we hope will live on in the hearts of the children of

Shikharpur as they grow up.

We have also received help from many friends. Agni Air’s Sudip Basnyat has offered to contribute for Shikharpur’s education fund through a portion of every air ticket. We were hoping that the embassies of the nationals who died would chip in for the school expansion, but that hasn’t materialised yet.

The new SKY building (named after Sarah, Kendra and Yuki, *pictured left*) is coming up and will have new spacious and bright classrooms. The stupa is complete, and the village is getting a drinking water supply.

No one is immortal, but we can contribute to the future by investing in children. We hope that the stupa will be around for a long time to come to remind us of those who left us. 🇳🇵

Shikharpur Buddhist Monument and  
Bakiya Thakur School Committee  
+977 9851018820  
dtshepa@ntc.net.np

nepalitimes.com

Hotel Echo’s last minute, #518

SONATA

NEW THINKING.  
NEW POSSIBILITIES.

## SURPRISING SPACE WITH AMAZING COMFORT

Whether you are behind the wheels or in the back seat, Sonata's elegant interior provides generous space and exceptional comfort. Leg, head and even shoulder-room in both front and rear seats exemplify its roominess which makes Sonata a nice place to be in.

[www.laxmihyundai.com](http://www.laxmihyundai.com)

aptitude/L17-11

#### Showrooms

Thapathali, Tel: 01-4101556, 4101557, 4101558, Fax: 01-4101569, Bijulibazar, Tel: 01- 4785800, 4785181, Fax: 01-4783046

#### Dealers

**Pokhara:** L.L. Motors – 061-537426, 537526, **Birtamod:** Auto Plaza – 023-541495, **Birgunj:** Auto Wheels – 051-531086, **Bhairawa:** Baba Motors – 071-525675, **Damak:** Auto Plaza – 023-580215, **Dharan:** Nau Durga Motors – 025-533651, **Biratnagar:** Nau Durga Motors – 021-462109, **Narayanghat:** Pinnacle Trading – 056-526276, **Butwal:** Vinayak Motors – 071-543638, **Dang:** Metro Auto World – 082-563277, **Hetauda:** Auto Wheels – 057-525332, **Banepa:** Standard Automobiles Pvt. Ltd. – 011-661405, **Bhaktapur:** Bhadgaon Automobiles Pvt. Ltd. – 01-5092468, **Nepalgunj:** Rajbhandari Enterprises – 081-551248

#### Hyundai Service

Basundhara, Tel: 01-4355430, 4355431, Fax: 01-4353743, Bijulibazar, Tel: 01-4780407, 4780289

**HYUNDAI Laxmi**
  
 SOLE DISTRIBUTOR OF HYUNDAI FOR NEPAL





Dare the drabness  
you see in thy world



ROYALE PLAY

change the rules

For more information email us at [royal.play@asianpaints.com.np](mailto:royal.play@asianpaints.com.np)

asianpaints

# From lame duck to dead duck

Now that Lujendra has discovered water on Mars, maybe the Department of Drinking Water and Sewerage should invite him back to Nepal to see if he can find it in Kathmandu too. We will need a diviner here, and it may as well be an **ex-patriot** Nepali. If he can find it in outer space, he can find it anywhere. Kathmandu may have run out of water, but it is the most happening place in the solar system, there is lots happening even though nothing ever gets done.



The most happening announcement by the **Gobblement of Nepal** this week was not the promulgation

of a new constitution a week before the deadline, but the banning of smoking in public places. One thing about this **grovelment**, it sure has its priorities right. There is a sword hanging over the prime minister's head and he still has time for life-and-death issues like fining people for smoking. As far as rules and regulations go we must have some of the finest on the planet. At this rate KTM will be a "fine" city just like Spore. The only diff will be that here we will have to fine people for flushing the toilet and wasting water.



JN's mentor Comrade **Caesar Maximus** has also got his

priorities all figured out. At a time when integration is stuck and the constitution deadline is a week away, he's air-dashing off again to Malaysia with his left hand man, Com Bagman ("50 karod") Mahara. And just to quell speculation about whether the Asia-Pacific Exchange and Cooperation Foundation (APECF) actually exists, this time PKD brought the entire zingbang back with him on his plane from BKK. Last time journalists went to check out the Gloucester St office address of APECF in Wan Chai, they found a textile factory. Anyway, this is the organisation that has a grandiose plan to turn Lumbini into Mecca or

Vatican or whatever, and has both Prachanda Pratapi and Paras Bir Bickram as members of its advisory panel. Another member who got in with Awesome on the same flight on Wednesday was Steven Rockefeller. Now, how did a fourth generation Zen Buddhist **rock-a-fellow** get roped into a dubious Chinese quango that wants to turn Lumbini into a Buddhist Disneyland? APECF's website is still "under construction", and that will probably be the fate that awaits Lumbini, too.



No one it seems has time to think about such things when internal feuding among kangresis, eh-maleys

and baddies is reaching a crescendo. The worst is yet to come in the PKD vs BRB saga. Awesome is ticked off JN offered to resign on Saturday under pressure from the kangresis, because that would make it easier for BRB to cobble together a consensus govt. But for lame duck JN to be a dead duck, the kangresis will first have to resolve the SBD vs RCP power struggle, and you can be sure PKD will try his best to drive a wedge there. SBD gave BRB a public dressing down in Gorkha last week calling him "fork tongued", must have been to make PKD happy so he will anoint him PM?



So, to recap, the plot so far:

1. The PKD faction wants SBD as PM just so BRB doesn't get the chance
2. The BRB faction wants the NC to come on board in a consensus govt headed by him
3. Jhusil Da would rather have PKD as PM because a consensus govt will mean either SBD or BRB as PM
4. RCP wants a consensus govt led by him and not by BRB
5. JNK knows that even if he resigns none of this will be sorted out and he can remain in Balu Water for the unforeseen future
6. The KPO faction of the UML wants JNK out even if it means a kangresi-led govt



If you think your head is spinning, look at what it has done to the prime minister. All the excitement has been too much for him and he is down again with a viral fever that doctors suspect is an E-KpOli infection.



**BEST EVER  
SB FURNITURE  
OFFER  
IS BACK**



**S.B. FURNITURE**

**BEDROOM  
SET OFFER**

**Rs. 99,999/-**

Grazia Bed + Meudon Wardrobe + Grazia Dressing Table + Alto Night Table

Offer valid till stocks last.



**S.N.JOSHI & SONS COMPANY PVT. LTD.**  
Lalitpur Showroom: Patan Hospital Road, Lagankhel, Lalitpur  
Tel: 5004047, 5523864, Fax: 5524697  
Panipokhari Showroom: Near Japanese Embassy  
Tel: 4006640, Fax: 4006643  
E-mail: [sbfurniture@snjoshi.com.np](mailto:sbfurniture@snjoshi.com.np)

**OUR SERVICES**

Free Delivery Free Installation Free Consultation

The expert for your ideal living from **THAILAND.**

**WE USE ONLY EUROPEAN STANDARD CLASS 1 MATERIALS BECAUSE WE CARE**



**GET NOTIFIED ABOUT OFFERS**

Like us on **facebook**

[www.facebook.com/sbfurniturenepal](http://www.facebook.com/sbfurniturenepal)