





# SEPARATION OF STATE AND TEMPLE

Nepal's self-opinionated like to think that when Delhi sneezes Kathmandu should catch a cold. Just goes to show how little we think of ourselves that we bestow outsiders with such vast powers over us. The same thing happened in the aftermath of the astounding victory of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the ascension of Narendra Modi: when it rained in Delhi, insecure politicians in Kathmandu unfurled their umbrellas.

Nepal's public sphere is still resonating with speculation about a rollback on secularism, Nepal being declared a Hindu state or even the restoration of the monarchy. It doesn't seem to matter that the Nepali people post-2006 have opted for a federal, secular republic. Just because a certain religious-right party has swept elections in a neighbouring country why should that influence our political evolution?

To be sure, if Nepalis themselves decided in a possible future referendum to shun secularism and declare the country a Hindu state (as the fourth-largest party in the Constituent Assembly, the RPP-N wants) so be it, but not because of political trends in another country.

Unfortunately, Prime Minister Sushil Koirala himself set the trend by bequeathing a silver Shiva *linga* to Prime Minister Modi when he went to Delhi last month. We haven't tried to find out what the other South Asian leaders gifted, but this was Koirala pretty brazenly establishing a religious basis for India-Nepal relations. In the aftermath of the Modi victory, Nepali Congress leaders have started saying publicly that secularism may have to be re-evaluated.

The swing to the right is even evident in the Maoist party, with Pushpa Kamal Dahal telling BJP chairman Rajnath Singh that his party "made a big mistake" by abandoning the Hindu state.

Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, regarded as a moderate within the BJP, on a recent visit to Kathmandu met all top leaders of all top parties and went on to ask the Nepal government to stop prosletysation. It wasn't a

When it rains in Delhi insecure politicians in Kathmandu unfurl their umbrellas.



NT ARCHIVE

coincidence that six days later, the Minister of Women, Children and Social Welfare, Neelam KC echoed the same sentiments at a temple gathering outside Kathmandu.

It is clear that Nepali politicians, like politicians everywhere, find it too tempting not to mix temple and state. When joblessness, lack of investment and a stagnant economy keep the youth disillusioned and angry, stoking sectarian animosity is a way to divide and rule and keep the streets primed for control.

Needless to say this is a short-sighted and self-destructive strategy. "Secularism" is a word we imported from post-partition India and its need to steer clear of communalism. Nepal was never wracked by such violence, and even though the Panchayat tried to fall back on "the world's only Hindu kingdom," that was more to gain political legitimacy than to ram through a quasi-theocracy.

Conversion may have been banned and the Hindu ruling class did act superior during the Panchayat, but there was never a sense that all Nepalis should be Hindus. In fact, the 1957 constitution doesn't even mention religion. In that sense Nepal was "secular" long before it was formally adopted as a state ideology in 2006. The Hindu backlash we see now is largely due to inaccurate translation of "secular" into Nepali to almost mean "non-religious", when it should actually mean "religious pluralism".

In a country where 20 per cent of the population (in the 2011 census) call themselves non-Hindu, it is absurd to push for the country to be declared a "Hindu state." Nepal's national identity is defined by its cultural, linguistic, religious and ethnic diversity, not by its Hindu-ness. And we shouldn't change that just because the religious-right sweeps an election in the neighbourhood.

## YOUR SAY

www.nepalitimes.com

### THE 'F' WORD

The thorny issue of state restructuring ('The 'f' word', Editorial, #711) can be easily resolved if we take the opinion of people residing in the districts. Seven districts of in Tarai have Pahadi majority (more than 50 per cent) population. So some would like to retain their closeness with the adjoining hilly districts.

Danny

■ How about referendum on topics like education opportunities, right to citizenship, work, justice, dignity. As soon as there are ethnicity based divisions you will have a mini India/Pakistan type of system and whenever a non-native demands justice as a minority he will be asked to 'move' out. Just like Muslims complain about being treated like a Pakistani wannabe in India.

Namah

■ It would be so much better if Nepal's politicians just did their jobs honestly. Just give us water, energy to light our homes, jobs, law and order. We need to pass on the leadership from the present corrupt lot of crooks that are in power to a younger and honest generation to lead us. NC/UML/ Maobadi/ Morcha, all have few things in common. They are all corrupt to their bones, aren't ashamed of what they do, and are a disgrace to Nepal.

Narayana Prasad

### BACK TO SQUARE 1

The debate over dividing such a small country like Nepal into federal states wouldn't have become such a major issue if our past leaders had played by the rules of good governance. ('Pause, play, repeat', Trishna Rana, #711).

It is yet another attempt by the politicians to divide the country and rule as they wish. Our politicians keep on wrangling over the petty issues time and again while thousands of Nepalis are forced to leave for better opportunities abroad. It is high time we switch to commercial farming and encourage investments for hydropower. If Bhutan can do it, why not us? How long can the economy sustain simply on revenue from Nepali migrant workers.

Rjackson33

■ By the way: republicanism, secularism and federalism cannot be taken back at any cost because this is what thousands of Nepalis sacrificed their lives for. Instead of blaming the failed ideologies of the parties and politicians, why don't we think about creating a whole new system of governance and modality of development?

Nepali

■ The Maoists deserve criticism, but the other parties are not any more deserving of blame. Neither are they more democratic or concerned about the citizens than the Maoists. They seem no different at all in action. The difference is only in their speeches.

B

■ Once upon a time I used to be a regular reader of *Nepali Times* because it gave balanced views on all issues. But there has been a lot of unfair Maoist bashing in the past few years and Prachanda and Baburam Bhattarai have been constantly hounded. Politicians make mistakes all the time, let them do their jobs!

PK

### PRASHANT JHA

Suprised to see *Nepali Times* give so much space to a mediocre and heavily-slanted book ('Interview with Prashant Jha', #711). On the other hand, not really surprised because you have always coddled closet Maoists like Comrade Prashant who has never bothered to hide the fact that he is an Indian agent.

Singh

### FIGHTING FOR YARSA

It's not about natural resources ('Fighting for yarsa', Bhrikuti Rai, #711), rather it is about Nepal's government agencies colonial attitude towards remote areas and the people there. In case of Nar-Phu, it was the absence of Nepal Police which led to the massacre (villagers of Nar-Phu were actually forced to protect themselves against illegal harvesting for years, it was a matter of time for a major incident to happen). In this case it's the heavy handedness of the local administration who were used to

forcing their way, assuming the villagers have no way to protect themselves. Hopefully this will change now.

Michal

■ I don't like what's happening, but I appreciate being informed. When will men realise that shooting into the air means that there is a wild bullet that will come back down somewhere?

Barbara Clary

■ The Nepal Police are a bunch of criminals. The international donor community needs to evaluate the activities of the Nepal Police and bring sanctions against the government. The support and funding of Nepal Police needs to be suspended immediately.

Bhuwan

### RETURN OF THE MICROBES

A timely article ('Return of the microbes,' Sunir Pandey, #711) to fight against the scourge of Tuberculosis which has presented yet again in a new form. Prudent antibiotics prescription practice is necessary amongst the medical diaspora in Nepal. Physicians rampantly use Fluoroquinolones and Cephalosporin, and mostly when they are least required. I would suggest antibiotic protocol adherence is a must in countries like Nepal that may soon find itself engulfed in the arms of even more serious resistant infections.

Salil Pradhan

### TWO WHEELS GOOD

Bicycle courier ('Two wheels good,' Tsering Dolker Gurung, #711) inside

Ring Road? I am lying on my prayer mat in deep prayer for these sorry souls. Life expectancy 30 plus in light of the balmy air? I would rather finish a pack of cigarettes before breakfast.

Carl

### LUMBINI TAKES OFF

Some points in this article might confuse those who do not know Lumbini well ('Lumbini set to take off', Matt Miller, #711). Most temples in Lumbini were built representing their origin and traditions. Yes, there are a few which negligently violated the guidelines in the Kenzo Tange Lumbini Master Plan but that happened mainly because of the unclear guidelines. The writer says the Lumbini development area is already "overbuilt". Seems like he didn't see the massive concrete jungle being spread outside the area.

Sayalay Bhaddamanika

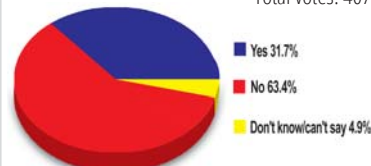
Times

nepalnews.com

Weekly Internet Poll #712

Q. Will Nepal take part in the football World Cup in the next 20 years?

Total votes: 407



Weekly Internet Poll #713  
To vote go to: www.nepalitimes.com

Q. What should be the budget's biggest priority?





# Least harmful future

The second CA will soon have to make some hard choices, and ensure minimum damage

Based on who you ask, you will hear different versions of what led to the failure of the first Constituent Assembly, but journalists worth their salt know what really happened in the frantic few hours before the CA was ungraciously dissolved at the stroke of midnight on 28 May, 2013.



**THIS IS IT**  
Rubeena Mahato

It was a collective failure on the part of our politicians and CA members, and of course everyone involved in the process has to take responsibility for the

fiasco. But what also remains clear is that when the consensus seemed to be finally building on the number and naming of states with proposed models okayed by the Maoists, someone somewhere pulled the plug.

Key players suddenly withdrew their support and we were left without a draft on D Day. With that, any hope that the nation could have a constitution, which is essentially a document of consensus, vanished.

The NC and the UML, incompetent, corrupt and easy targets that they were and are, took the blame from Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai. Rather predictably, they were accused of sabotaging the process so that the predominantly Madhesi and Janajati parliament would not have their way. But the truth is, the Maoist, Madhesi

and the Janajati coalition did not want a constitution either, at least not the kind that was going to be announced if the compromise that was agreed on had been honoured. They decided to let the CA collapse instead.

Airbrushed accounts of history might leave out this crucial piece of detail, but we would do well to remember this as we relive those same moments in the second CA. It is disheartening that the first CA failed and the same issues vex this one too. But the fact is that there is really no point in having a constitution if a sizeable political section, even if it is not the majority, feels unsatisfied with it.

We would only end up pushing the country into more instability and conflict. The Maoists, Madhesi and the Janajatis felt they were getting a raw deal and if we are to have any hope for a new constitution, it can only be done by taking them into

confidence, not by sidelining or overriding them.

It is important to reach a compromise on the number, names and delineation of future states this time around. Madhesi and Janajatis are concerned that the NC and UML's proposed federal arrangements would not grant real autonomy and identity, and the latter feel threatened by the new power dynamics that forced them to the fringes in the first CA. There is also a great deal of mistrust amongst parties about each others' intentions. But unlike what many would have us believe, consensus is not impossible. Both sides need to show a bit more confidence in the other and be willing to engage in give and take.


If one side is adamant that the names of states be based on ethnicity, then so be it. As long as all the ethnicities have equal rights and opportunities, names need not be a bone of contention, especially if it gives ethnic groups a sense of recognition. This is not the time to bring up the five development region model as an alternative to federalism either. This will only distance ethnicities who struggled to establish the federalism agenda and will remove what little trust remains between parties.

The Madhesi on the other hand will have to reconsider their demand for One-Madhes, which has not just alarmed hill communities but would be fiercely resisted by Tharus and other groups in Tarai. The current state of indecision cannot drag on for very long.

Sooner or later, we will have to make some difficult choices. The question is how to do it with the least amount of harm. How do we make sure not to make lasting damage to the relationships between communities or create new avenues for resource based conflicts amongst competing states in the future?

There is no

guarantee that things will be smooth after the conclusion of the second CA. We might discover that the model we finally settled for comes with more troubles than we bargained for, or we might end up delineating and re-delineating state borders.

Whether we like it or not, our problems will not go away with the new constitution. But having stakeholders feel ownership of the document will certainly make it easier to resolve these issues when they arise in the future. 

@rubeenaa



SILK also available in Illusion designs & eco-friendly Breathe Easy variant

Experience Silk  
Wall हरू बाट  
अब नजर हट्दैन

Berger Silk epitomises luxury for your walls due to its sensual finish, supreme lustre and exotic colours. Formulated with 100% acrylic binders to enhance scratch resistance, anti-fading pigments for those rich hues and bio-resistant additives for enhanced durability, Berger Silk is a treat of a lifetime for your walls.\* Experience opulent and luxurious walls with Berger Silk Luxury Emulsion.

www.experiencesilk.com  
SMS SILK to 3377\*\*

\*T&C apply. Under ideal test conditions.  
\*\*SMS charges apply.



## Out of this world

As Nepal's most-modern printing facility, Jagadamba Press ensures reliability, precision and speed with its state-of-the-art Mitsubishi Diamond 3000 press that can print five colours in 40" format with inline coating.



0017-19 | Fax: 5250027 | Email: info@jagadambapr.com | www.jagadamba.com





**नागरिक**  
 presents  
**ole, ole**  
**Futebol**  
**RECHARGE THIS WORLD CUP**  
 with exciting prizes upto  
**80,000**  
**Every Week**

**LAVA**  
An Asia Leading Mobile Brand

Together let's celebrate this world cup 2014,  
and win exciting prizes, so hurry up and get your copy  
of Nagarik or Republica and you just might be  
the winner of Rs. 80,000 every week

**CASH PRIZE** (EVERY WEEK)

**RECHARGE CARD** WORTH RS. 200/-  
FOR 20 PEOPLE EVERYDAY

**T-SHIRT & FOOTBALL GIFT**



**Nepal Republic Media**  
 Baagdurbār, Sundhara, Kathmandu  
 Toll Free No. 16600125555, Ph: 01-4265100  
 Biratnagar: 9845110734 | Nepalgunj: 9858029900 |  
 Pokhara: 9856022722 | Bharatpur: 9845151737 | Butwal: 9857010493

See Today's

**नागरिक**  
दैनिक

or

**República**





BASIL EDWARD TEO

# Hearts of gold

Manik Lal Risal's father and grandfather used to make intricate jewelry for Nepal's royal family. But when he emigrated to the United States 34 years ago, it was hard for him to get a job because few believed he had the skills since he came from a poor country.

But Manik impressed everyone with his art and skill, and got his big break making jewelry for the luxury retailer Tiffany's in 1994.

"Everything I learned, I learned from my father," says Manik. "My ancestors were all jewelers and they passed the skills down to me."


Fittingly, Manik (*in white*) taught his son Dharma (*in blue*) the art of jewelry crafting, and he is now also a designer for Tiffany's. Dharma followed his father to the US when he was 17 and actually studied jewelry technology there. He now combines that knowledge with traditional handcrafting skills passed down from his ancestors. "Combining the two sides helps me a lot," Dharma said during a recent visit to Nepal with his father.

Manik and Dharma don't design traditional Nepali jewelry for Tiffany's, but their ability to

craft by hand what is designed by computer is what makes them stand out in the world of jewelry in the US. Father and son make rings and multi-million dollar necklaces, as well as the famous Victoria bracelet which is Tiffany's most popular. "It is when I can do what computer designers are unable to that I am most proud," says Manik.

Manik's grandfather used to take him to the palace in Kathmandu during Dasain, and the royal family admired his family's discipline and craft. That was a very different upbringing from what his grandchildren now have in the Bronx in New York, but it is still a closely-knit family with Manik's six children and grandchildren all living in the same neighbourhood.

Manik's second son is an aerospace engineer, and his other children are not likely to carry on in the family business. "If you have a family, you have to watch out for them and put the young generation on the right track," Manik says, "that is the most important." He says one of the biggest mistakes Nepali immigrants make is not make enough time for family.

Manik has no plans of retiring, but he says he may want to pass on his knowledge and give opportunities to Nepali apprentices outside his immediate family. For someone who has been in the jewelry business for decades in the US, you would expect Manik to look ostentatious. Just the opposite, his simplicity, charm and positive attitude describe a man with much higher standards than gold.  **Matt Miller**

## EVEREST BANK BIZ BRIEFS



### Joint venture

Bank of Kathmandu has entered into an agreement with International Leasing and Finance, Shree Investment and Finance, and Nepal Express Finance for a merger. Once the merger is complete, the new entity will continue to operate as Bank of Kathmandu.

### Increased frequency

Turkish Airlines has begun operating daily flights from Kathmandu to Istanbul. The airline which began its operations last September with four roundtrip flights a week increased the number to seven from 14 June.



### Hassle free

International Money Express has introduced a membership card 'IME Customer Card' for its remittance customers. Once a customer has a registered customer card, he/she won't need to produce identification documents before conducting transactions.

### Rural banking

Himalayan Bank and Samriddha Pahad have signed an agreement to work together to facilitate micro credit facilities to deprived areas in the hilly and mountain region. As per the agreement the two organisations will jointly develop a set of screening criteria, format and processes to access potential cooperatives for wholesale lending. The non-profit, an initiative of the Blue Berry Hill Charitable Trust from the UK, has also entered into a similar partnership with NMB Bank.



### Personal tags

Qatar Airways has developed a new online system for passengers who wish to print their own baggage tags before arrival at the airport. 'My Q-Tag' enables customers to arrive at the airport and proceed directly to the web check-in bag drop counter, where a customer service representative will process the already labelled baggage.

### White pearls

Dabur Nepal has launched its new product Dabur Herbal Gel Toothpaste. The toothpaste which claims to be the first herbal gel toothpaste in Nepal is being endorsed by actor Priyanka Karki.



### Sale closing

Kunal Furnishing's 50 percent sale on its wide range of home interiors will end on 30 June. The store announced its grand discount scheme with the onset of the Nepali New Year.



Consistent, Strong & Dependable

well begun is half done - Aristotle

## Admission Notice 2071



Galaxy Public School opens admissions to **Class XI**

Science

Management

Registration Forms are available at school office during office hours.

**Scholarships are awarded to**

- Meritorious students
- Students excellent at sports
- Underprivileged students



www.galaxy.edu.np

4414584, 4411362, 9841398282

Forms available from 2071 Ashadh 1, For admission details contact us.

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### Administrative Director -1

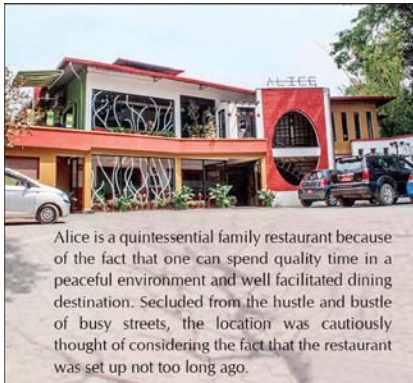
MBA with at least 3 years experience. Able to plan, organize, monitor and supervise the day to day running of the organization

Please attach your application and Curriculum vitae within 7 days.

### Spinal injury Rehabilitation Centre

Bhainsepati, Sanga, Kavre

Email: sirc.prakash@gmail.com



### Alice Restaurant

Gairidhara, Kathmandu  
Tel: 01-4429207  
Mob: 98049413523  
Email: alicegairidhara@gmail.com

Alice is a quintessential family restaurant because of the fact that one can spend quality time in a peaceful environment and well facilitated dining destination. Secluded from the hustle and bustle of busy streets, the location was cautiously thought of considering the fact that the restaurant was set up not too long ago.





# Modi-fying Indo-Nepal ties

Nepal has to move beyond subservient and sub-sovereign status

The buzz that followed the appointment of Narendra Modi as India's prime minister last month is only going to get louder with the announcement that he will visit Nepal in August.



**THE DEADLINE**  
Damakant Jayshi



Modi was in Bhutan this week and in his address to parliament seemed to think he was already in Nepal.

Not since IK Gujral has India had a prime minister more interested in the South Asian neighbourhood.

But when it comes to Nepal, there will be intense speculation and debate on the usual issues that vex relations between Delhi and Kathmandu. The political party leaders in Nepal can be expected to behave predictably: to look for personal, party and

national interest – in that order.

An official from India's Ministry of External Affairs told a visiting Nepali journalist earlier this year that every Nepali prime minister visiting India – with the exception of Krishna Prasad Bhattarai and Manmohan Adhikari – bad mouthed their personal and party rivals while there. So it does look like the two Maoist prime ministers we've had doth complain too much about "Indian hegemony" in Nepal.

Baburam Bhattarai recently brought up the subject of Nepal's "unequal" relations again. His exact words: "India should stop micro-managing Nepal through its intelligence agencies (RAW) and bureaucracy, and maintain relations with Nepal at the political level." This, coming from a politician who during the height of Maoist insurgency in Nepal, was mostly in cahoots with Indian spooks from the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) and

Intelligence Bureau (IB). It goes without saying that he offered the same reason RAW has offered through its own Nepali channels: it is "necessary to engage with all actors."

If Bhattarai has had a change of heart about the pitfalls of engaging with Indian handlers then it is commendable. This still begs two questions: is he sincere in raising this or has he fallen out of favour of the Indian establishment?

The second question is why do our politicians need to engage with the security agencies of friendly countries at all? Isn't that in itself a proof of an "unequal" relationship? Why can't the leaders in Nepal gradually work towards a situation where they talk, discuss and negotiate with their political and government counterparts? India says it respects Nepal's sovereignty and wants political stability. Is interference and micro-managing to ensure that?

This is not just because most layers in the Indian establishment want sub-sovereign countries in their immediate neighbourhood.

A lot of it has to do with the subservience of Nepal's politicians and those running the government. By rushing to seek India's support on matters related to inter- and intra-party rivalries, and even petty personal requests, they open themselves up for manipulation.

The task of engaging with the Indian political class is long overdue. I am sure most Nepali leaders have the good of the country at heart. But there is a tendency to seek support from outside for inside struggles for power. The political leaders in Nepal need to resolve to not seek personal and party advantage at the cost of the national interest.

Working for equal status requires strength, will and self-confidence. This is easier said than done. Moreover, it could attract hostility, or at least annoyance, from some quarters in India. But the start has to be made and made soon.

In journalism, we wait for a peg to write a story that has always been there. We have that peg now – a new, decisive government in India whose prime minister acts more like an executive president and wants to leave a stamp of authority. Who knows, he might even see merit in an assertive Nepali leadership.

It may be futile, but I would be happy to be proven wrong. @damakant

## Your every rupee earns a million smiles!

**FLY**  
ON TIME

It's easier to make a difference when you have friends with faith in you. We would like to thank all our passengers for being such friends to Yeti Airlines. With every flight ticket you purchase, Yeti Airlines sets aside Rs. 4 to donate on your behalf; Rs. 1 each to a few select social organizations. With your small but significant contribution, our donations to the social organizations listed below now exceeds NPR 12,317,856 and counting! Keep flying Yeti, keep giving!

**At Yeti Airlines, you always come first.**



Our CSR Partners:



**Yeti Airlines**  
You come first

Yeti Airlines operates 7 Jetstream-41 advanced turbo prop aircrafts catering to widest network sectors every day.

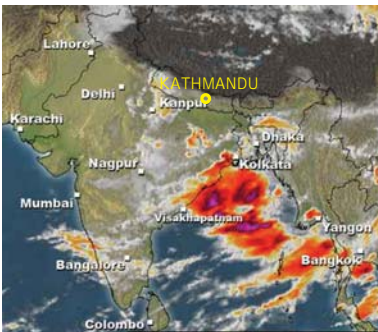
www.yetiairlines.com

Yeti Airlines Domestic Pvt. Ltd. Corporate Office: Tilganga, Kathmandu, Tel: 4465888 Fax: 4465115 Reservations: 4464878 (Hunting Line), Kathmandu Airport: 4493901 Email: reservations@yetiairlines.com Sky Club: 01-4487020/4465888 (223/418) Email: skyclub@yetiairlines.com •Bhadrapur: 023-455232•Biratnagar: 021-536612•Tumlingtar: 029-575120•Janakpur: 041-520047•Bharatpur: 056-523136•Pokhara: 061-464888•Bhairahawa: 071-527527•Nepalgunj: 081-526556•Dhangadi: 091-520004

For any service suggestions, call 977-1-4465888 (Ext. 621) or email us at feedback@yetiairlines.com

Like us on: www.facebook.com/yetiairlines www.twitter.com/FlyYeti www.youtube.com/FlyYetiAirlines





QATAR

AIRWAYS

القطرية

World's 5-star airline. [qatarairways.com/np](http://qatarairways.com/np)

# SETOPATI'S ONE YEAR

Success of digital-only portal indicates that online media has attained critical mass in Nepal

KUNDA DIXIT

PICS: KUNDA DIXIT

The biggest surprise about a news portal a year after it started is not that it has 400,000 users per month, but that it is a shoestring operation run out of an improbable hole-in-the-wall office in Jhamsikhel.

When asked how many people are logged in to setopati.com at that moment, founder editor Ameet Dhakal (*pic, right*) whips out an iPad to confirm that more than 465 people all over the world are reading the portal even as we speak. We notice that Dhakal's iPad has seen better days, its touchscreen is cracked and taped up.

"We don't have deep pockets, we have no pockets," quips Dhakal. "I could have bought a new tablet, but this one still works."

Indeed, in the brave new world of digital media setopati.com is turning everything on its head. It has shown that you don't need massive investment, there is no gestation period for startups and journalists can be their own bosses.

Dhakal had worked before at *The Kathmandu Post* and helped start *Republica* but quit after differences with publishers. He joined up with like-minded editors Narayan Wagle and Yubaraj Ghimire to launch *Setopati* on



1 April 2013.

Having seen the potential for online media in Nepal in their previous jobs, and convinced that they didn't want to work for anyone anymore, Dhakal and Wagle decided to start a Nepali news portal with serious, exclusive and investigative content in longform journalism format.

"If we had started a newspaper, we would never have got this kind of readership within one year," says Dhakal, "and all journalists need readers."

Whereas a popular story in the print media would be read by 20,000 people at most, *Setopati's* most read story by Kamala Thapa about her botched delivery at a maternity hospital got

325,000 readers and nearly 24,000 shares on Facebook. A profile of heart surgeon Bhagwan Koirala by Binita Dahal was read by 125,000 people in the first week of publication.

"I could never have got that kind of readership when I was working for *Nagarik*," Dahal said, who used to be a *Setopati* reporter and is now with *BBC Nepali*.

With the number of Facebook users approaching 4 million and 400,000 on Twitter, Nepal now has a critical mass of online users. Low startup costs mean that new portals are sprouting all over the place. Mainstream media also have digital editions, although in many cases their sites are just dumping ground for

**INSIDE NEWSROOM:** Ameet Dhakal with his technical manager at the Setopati office in Jhamsikhel earlier this month (*above*), Ameet Dhakal with his iPad (*left*).

print content.

*Setopati* has tried to ride this digital wave, and has managed to prove wrong a lot of assumptions about online media. Says Dhakal: "*Setopati* is proof that you don't need multimedia content or light sensational news to attract readers."

Even the readership breakdown indicates that *Setopati* users in the diaspora are more high-brow than other popular entertainment and gossip-driven portals. The Gulf countries and Malaysia are not among Setopati's top ten countries: it is Nepalis in the US, Australia, UK, South Korea and Japan who login most frequently.

The most pressing challenge for the portal is to make the venture sustainable. There is virtually no advertising on *Setopati*, including from Google Adsense since the portal is in Nepali. Dhakal is planning on launching an aggressive marketing drive to cash in on the eyeballs, and perhaps even a voluntary subscription model in the future.

He doesn't rule out accepting donor funding.

Says Damakant Jayshi of Panos South Asia and Dhakal's former colleague at *Republica*: "*Setopati* is refreshing, it is doing what Nepali language journalism sorely lacked: perspective and analysis. It is a must-read portal for me, but needs to expand its coverage."

*Setopati* spent its first year maximising readers, which it did successfully. The reason *Setopati* hasn't spent resources on augmenting content with video and images is because of low bandwidth in Nepal, Dhakal explains, but all that could change with the spread of 4G enabled mobile platforms. "We want to earn our readers, not buy them," he adds.

The name '*setopati*' (which means whiteboard) came about by chance as the original team was at a brainstorming retreat and discussing possible names for the portal, as it turns out, on a whiteboard.

But perhaps the most telling measure of setopati.com's success is not the surprising number of readers it has amassed so fast, but that it has so many copycats with names like 'ratopati' and the soft porn site 'nilopati'. Imitation, after all, is the best form of flattery. 🇳🇵

LAWN MOWER

Model : HRU197M1PDUA

Make : Australia (AUH)

## Helping People Get Things Done

HONDA

POWER PRODUCTS

When it comes to maintaining a beautiful lawn, nothing makes the cut like Honda HRU197M1PDUA Lawn Mower, where great feature and great performance meet great value.

Honda HRU197M1PDUA BUFFALO CLASSIC, MULCH AND CATCH LAWN MOWER ...

- Ideal for large lawns and the serious contractor.
- Powerful long-lasting 4-stroke 5.5hp OHV engine feature a durable cast-iron bore.
- Lightweight, easy to push, rustproof aluminium deck with 482 mm cutting width.
- Starts first time, every time with Honda's famous one pull easy start system.
- Smooth and easy to manoeuvre with 565 mm duel sealed ball-bearing wheel base.

**Syakar Trading Company Pvt. Ltd.**  
Jyoti Bhawan, Kantipath, Kathmandu  
Tel: 01 4163527, 4260021 Fax: 4226314  
Website: [www.honda.com.np](http://www.honda.com.np)



EVENTS



**Kathmandu kora,**

Join hundreds of cycling enthusiasts and ride for 50, 75, or 100 km to raise funds for a birthing centre in Pyutar, Lalitpur. 19 July, [facebook.com/kathmandu.kora](https://facebook.com/kathmandu.kora)

**Retrospective,**

a look back at the oeuvre of senior artist and cubism enthusiast Surendra Pradhan. Runs till 18 July, Park Gallery, Pulchok, [parkgallery.com.np](https://parkgallery.com.np)



**Rinpoche,**

chance to learn about Buddhism and meditation from the Dolpo Tulku Rinpoche, twice. Rs 1,000, 21 June, 2.30 to 5.30 pm, Pranamaya Studio, 9802045484

**Cha cha cha,**

learn one month's worth of Salsa in four days. Rs 1,000 for singles, Rs 1,500 for couples, Monday to Thursday, 7.30 to 8.30am/5 to 6pm/6 to 7pm, Salsa Dance Academy, Bhatbhateni

**City Museum Kathmandu,**

head down to Darbar Marg's newest gallery on the block for personalised guided tours. Tours run daily, accommodates up to 15 people, [info@thecitymuseum.org](mailto:info@thecitymuseum.org)



**Project Fight Back,**

Teaching women to take care of their own safety and fight back if necessary. Rs 500, 22 June, 10.15am to 12.15pm, Edushala, Pulchok

**Tuning Earth and Sky,**

a rare collection of the works of artist Jimmy Thapa. Runs till 21 June, Galleria Ishine, Kupandol Height, Sanepa

**Open house,**

featuring the work of artists Arpita Shakya, Ashuram Khaiju, and Palpasa Manandhar. Runs till 7 July, 11am to 6pm, Gallery Mcube, Chakupat

**Conversations,**

Seira Tamang talks to journalist Prashant Jha. 20 June, 4pm, Nepal-Bharat Library, New Road

**Birdwatch,**

head to Nagarjun to catch sight of Kathmandu's rare birds. 21 June, 6.30am, Raniban Gate, 9841330576

**Movie time,**

watch acclaimed films from Israel at the 9th Israeli Film Festival. 20 June, Russian Cultural Centre, 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.30pm

**Kickoff,**

Watch all the matches of the football World Cup live. Rox Bar, Hyatt Regency, Boudha

**Refugee stories,**

photo exhibition, film shows and talk programmes on the millions of refugees who have either found new lives or still yearn for home. 20 to 30 June, The City Museum, Darbar Marg

**On glamour,**

Rajan Nepal, editor of Shukrabar, will share his experience on women, media and glamour. 24 June, 3 to 4.30pm, Martin Chautari



**I feel free,**

Listen to poets Bikram Subba and Manu Manjil recite their poems. Rs 100/200, 28 June, 3pm, Gothale Theatre, Battispatali, (01)4469621

DINING



**Noyoz,**

this tiny little joint serves food that tastes like your mother's cooking. Bhatbhateni

**Mike's breakfast,**

huge breakfasts and an endless supply of coffee amidst a lush garden setting characterise this cafe, popular among tourists and locals alike. Lakeside



**Yak Restaurant,**

serves authentic Chinese food, try the mala tofu, chicken with fungus, and spicy pork spare ribs. Boudha, Kathmandu

**Chez Caroline,**

exquisite food, glorious sunshine and more. 9am to 10pm, Babar Mahal Revisited, (01)4263070/4187

**Lanhua,**

for the best of Chinese cuisine at great prices. Lakeside, Pokhara

**Golden Dragon,**

breathing fire, roasting duck. Jhamsikhel

**Mulchowk,**

the blend of culinary expertise and charms of a bygone era. Babarmahal

**New Tushita Restaurant,**

relaxing ambience and good food. Don't miss out on its penne with creamy bacon and mushroom sauce. Lajimpat, (01)44432957



**Dragon Chinese Restaurant,**

try the Kung Pao Pork if alone and the Mai Cao if with company. Lakeside, Pokhara

**Vootoo,**

the new home of Newari cuisine, as well as a continental menu for those who don't want an adventure. Lajimpat, (01)4005222

**Laskus Restaurant,**

welcome to the best taste your palates can get. Kathmandu Guest House, Thamel (01)4700800, [info@ktmgh.com](mailto:info@ktmgh.com)

**Ghar-e-kabab,**

serving the best of north Indian cuisine, with live Sarod recitals on some days. Hotel Annapurna, Darbar Marg

**Joy Beauty Quality**

**ChaChaWhee.. FunPark Resort**

*The most Kids-Friendly Family resort in Nepal!*

Gharipatan (Behind Airport), Pokhara | 061-466652, 9851054404  
[chachawheeresort@gmail.com](mailto:chachawheeresort@gmail.com) | [www.chachawhee.com](http://www.chachawhee.com) | [facebook.com/chachawhee](https://facebook.com/chachawhee)

Splash Pool

Kids Cars

Bungee Trampoline

Ferris Wheel

Flying Chair

Joy Train

3D Space Loop

Massage Chair

Arcade Games

Restaurant & Bar

Seminar Hall

Family Theatre

**Authentic Nepali Dinner With Culture**

**For Reservation:**  
**Lal Durbar Restaurant**  
**Hotel Yak & Yeti**  
Durbarmarg, Kathmandu, Phone No: - 977-1-4248999, Ext. 2999  
Email:-[reservation@laldurbar.com](mailto:reservation@laldurbar.com)

*Craft something Amazing today.*

**WOOD CARVING INDUSTRIES PVT. LTD.**  
Patan Industrial Estate, Lagankhel, Lalitpur, Nepal  
Tel: 977-1- 5521447, 5523768, Fax: 977-1-5527730  
email: [info@woodcarving.com.np](mailto:info@woodcarving.com.np), [www.woodcarving.com.np](http://www.woodcarving.com.np)



MUSIC



**Shastriya sangeet,**  
the best of Hindustani classical every new moon night.  
27 July, 4pm onwards, Battisputali

**Music at Manny's,**  
live Hindi and Nepali pop music with Shabnam Gurung and Dinesh Quartet.  
Manny's Eatery and Tapas Bar, Jawalakhel

**Starry Night BBQ,**  
catch Ciney Gurung live as you chomp on your meat stick.  
Rs 1499, 7pm onwards, Fridays, Shambala Garden Café. Hotel Shangri-La, (01)4412999



**Reggae night,**  
get a load of jah music from Chari Amilo Kala Samuha every weekend.  
Rs 200, 21 June, 6pm onwards, Base Camp, Jhamsikhel

GETAWAYS

**Waterfront Resort,**  
the lakeside hotel invites you for special barbeque dinners on Friday and lunches on Saturday. *Sedi Height, Lakeside road, Pokhara, (061)466303/304, www.waterfronthotelnepal.com*

**Better weekends,**  
good food and good company by the pool and jacuzzi to begin your weekends on the right note.  
Rs 1,800 excl. tax, 12.30pm onwards, Saturdays, The Cafe, Hyatt Regency



**Monsoon madness**  
get away from the capital this monsoon and beat the heat in Pokhara.  
Rs 5,555 for 2 Nights/3 Days, Shangri-La Village Resort, Pokhara, salessvr@hotelshangrila.com, hotelshangrila.com. (01) 4410051, (061)462222.

**Relax,**  
A special one night accommodation package for two, including breakfast, and spa.  
Rs 9,000, Hyatt Regency, (01)4491234

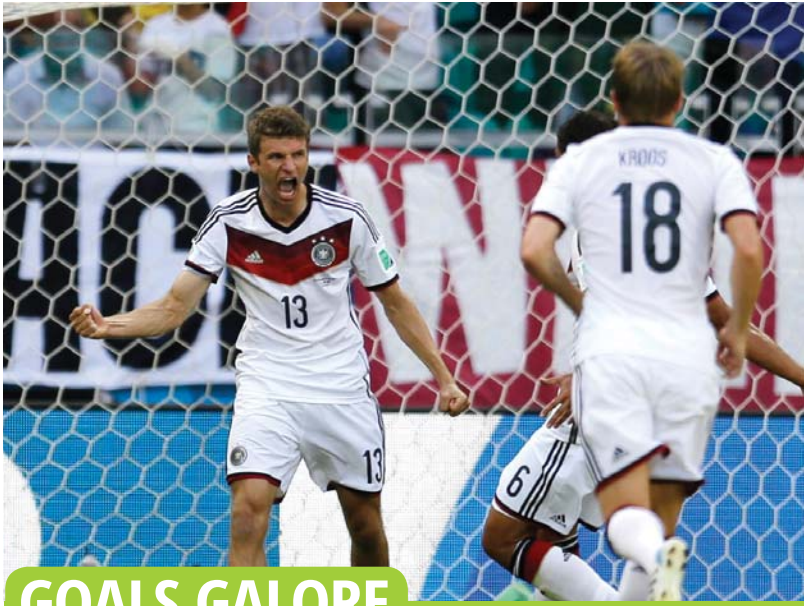


**Atithi Resort,**  
a perfect place to stay, nearby pool, massage, sauna, and delicious food of your choice.  
Shantipatan, Lakeside, Pokhara, (61)466760, (01)4002077

**Barahi Jungle Lodge,**  
the first eco-jungle lodge of Chitwan directly overlooks the Chitwan National Park, spa, boutique guest room, individual and two-in-one private villas, including a suite with a private swimming pool.  
Andrauli, West Chitwan, www.barahijunglelodge.com

**Shangri-La Village Resort,**  
set amidst peaceful surroundings with a breathtaking mountain view, landscaped gardens, water bodies and a relaxing ambience.  
Gharipatan, Pokhara, (61)462222, (01)4410051, shangrilavillage@gmail.com

**Mum's Garden Resort,**  
head out to Pokhara for a peaceful and comfortable stay in beautifully designed cottages surrounded by a lush green garden with great views of Phewa Lake and the Annapurna range.  
Lake Side, Pokhara, (061)463468, www.mumsgardenresort.com



GOALS GALORE

Date	Nepal Time	Fixture	Location
20 June	00.45 am 3.45 am 9.45 pm	Uruguay vs England Japan vs Greece Italy vs Costa Rica	Sao Paulo Natal Recife
21 June	00.45 am 3.45 am 9.45 pm	Switzerland vs France Honduras vs Ecuador Argentina vs Iran	Salvador Curitiba Belo Horizonte
22 June	00.45 am 3.45 am 9.45 pm	Germany vs Ghana Nigeria vs Bosnia & Herzogovina Belgium vs Russia	Fortaleza Cuiaba Rio De Janeiro
23 June	00.45 am 3.45 am 9.45 pm 9.45 pm	Korea vs Algeria USA vs Portugal Netherlands vs Chile Australia vs Spain	Porto Alegre Manaus Sao Paulo Curitiba
24 June	1.45 am 1.45 am 9.45 pm 9.45 pm	Cameroon vs Brazil Croatia vs Mexico Italy vs Uruguay Costa Rica vs England	Brasilia Recife Natal Belo Horizonte
25 June	1.45 am 1.45 am 9.45 pm 9.45 pm	Japan vs Colombia Greece vs Ivory Coast Nigeria vs Argentina Bos. & Herz. vs Iran	Cuiaba Fortaleza Porto Alegre Salvador
26 June	1.45 am 1.45 am 9.45 pm 9.45 pm	Honduras vs Switzerland Ecuador vs France Portugal vs Ghana USA vs Germany	Manaus Rio De Janeiro Brasilia Recife
27 June	1.45 am 1.45 am	Korea vs Belgium Algeria vs Russia	Sao Paulo Curitiba

Purity is the diamond of soul



**Nepal Pashmina Industry**  
PO Box: 1956, Soaltee Mode, Kathmandu, Nepal  
TEL: 977 1 4273 292 | FAX: 977 1 4270 092  
SHOWROOMS: Kalimati, Soaltee Mode: 4272 292  
Soaltee Hotel: 4270 947 | Tridevi Marg: 4410 947 | Thamel: 4264 775

Not a usual resort.....  
.....refresh yourself



Shanti Patan, Lakeside, Pokhara-6, Tel: 00977 61 466760  
Fax: 00977 61 466762, Email: info@atithiresort.com  
Kathmandu Sales Office:  
Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Tel./Fax: 00977 1 4002077/4002079  
www.atithiresort.com





**TSERING DOLKER GURUNG**

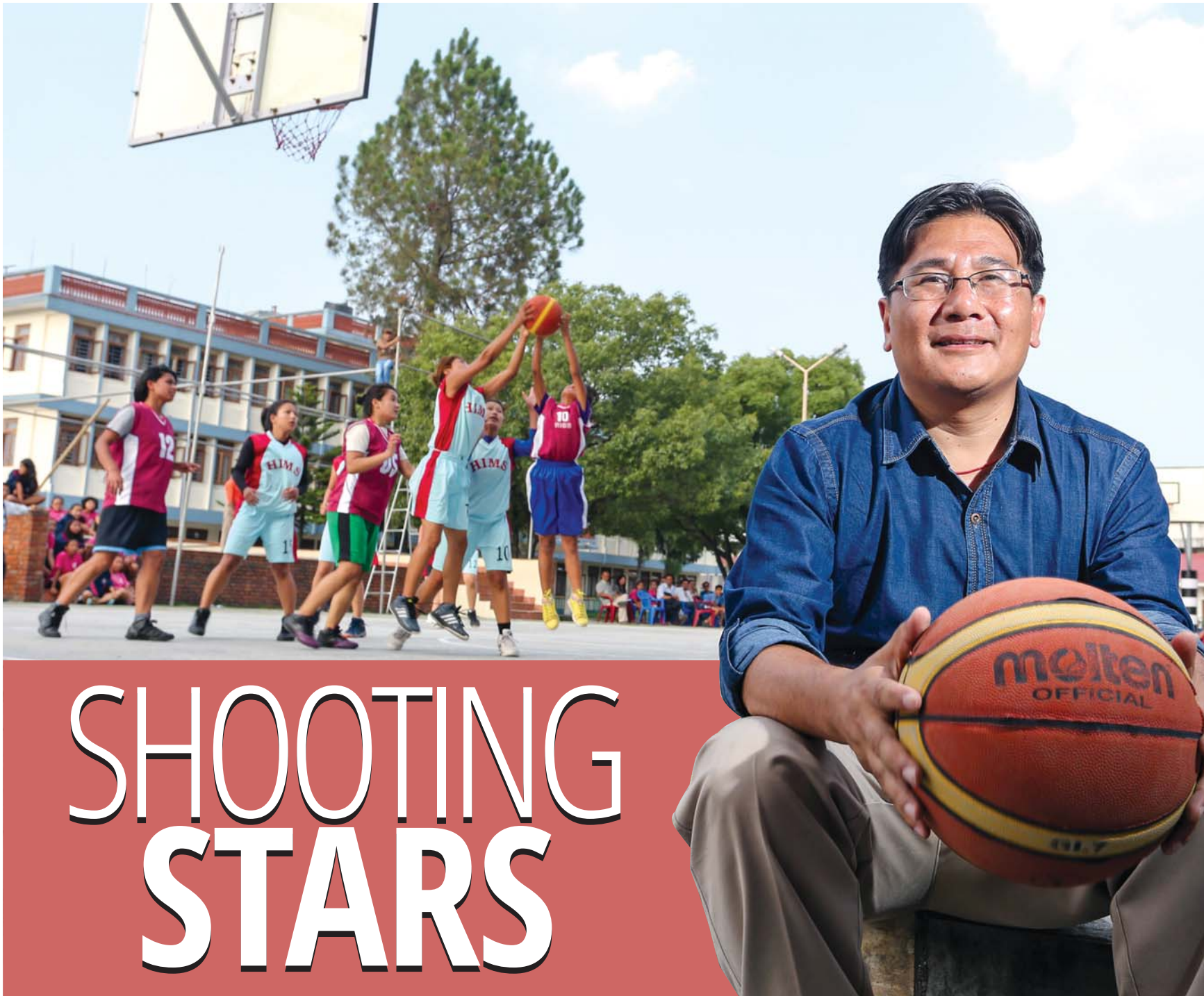
Their story has all the makings of a Hollywood sports blockbuster: a passionate coach, an underdog team, hordes of critics and finally, an unexpected climactic victory. Meet the girls basketball team from Gangyap, a village in western Sikkim near the border with Nepal.

The girls from Gangyap stole hearts and headlines when they won India's U-19 CBSE Basketball National Level Championship in 2011, becoming the first team from North East India to do so.

Formed by educator Siddhartha Yonzon (*pic*), the girls are all students of Eklavya Model Residential School, where Yonzon serves as the principal. The school, opened in 2007, is a part of the initiative of the Indian government to provide education to children from indigenous communities. Most of the school's students come from families who raise livestock and farm.

"Many people thought I was crazy to want to teach basketball to a group who had never heard, seen or played the game," says Siddhartha who along with the team was in Kathmandu last week to participate in the HIMS Basketball Tournament.

Basketball was a sport limited to Sikkim's privileged and to boys, and Siddhartha himself has no professional training in coaching and didn't play the game in school. But he loved the game and



# SHOOTING STARS

This girls basketball team from Sikkim went from herding yaks to winning basketball championships

started building a team around two of his players from his previous school. Among the first to be selected from Eklavya was team captain Nima Doma Bhutia whose natural talent for the game caught Siddhartha's attention.

"When you see her play, you know she was destined to play basketball," says the coach of his player who was named the MVP for two consecutive years at the U-19

National Level Championships in 2011 and 2012.

For years, the girls practiced on a pasture in the middle of a maize field with boards hung from tree tops. They got a proper court to play on only last year. But that didn't stop them from winning local tournaments. Aged 11-13, the girls beat teams with much older players in open-state tournaments and earned the monicker, "army of ants".

At the semifinal match against Saipal Academy at the recent tournament in Kathmandu, coach Yonjon was seen standing, jumping and screaming instructions at players, even though they had a double-digit lead most of the game.

While other competing teams - three of the best basketball girls' teams in Kathmandu - headed to

# Monsoon Madness

**2 NIGHTS/ 3 DAYS AT RS.5555/- PER PERSON**  
**on TWIN SHARING BASIS**

- \* Spend your coupons like mad on all the F&B outlets.
- \* Coupons are non-transferable and must be used within package duration.
- \* Extension night on pro rata basis.
- \* Extra bed Rs. 2999/-
- \* 10% Discount to card holder's of Himalayan Bank.

\* Valid from 1st May 2014 till 30th September 2014  
\* Valid for Nepalese and Expatriates only

**Buy a package for  
NRS. 5555/-  
per person  
And get back coupons worth  
NRS. 2999/-**

**SHANGRI-LA**  
VILLAGE  
POKHARA

हिमालयन बैंक लिमिटेड  
**Himalayan Bank Limited**  
THE POWER TO LEAD

Pokhara address:  
Gharipatan, P.O.Box: 333,  
Pokhara, Nepal  
Tel: (977 061) 462222, 460200  
Fax: (977 061) 463333  
Email: salessvr@hotelshangrila.com  
shangrilavillage@gmail.com  
www.shangrilahotel.com

For Instant Reservation Please Contact:  
Kathmandu Tel: 4412999 / 4410051

**smart  
pac**  
"Conservation"

Proud v  
**Surya Nepal Pvt. Ltd Asha S**

**CERTIFICATE OF**  
SURYA NEPAL PVT. LTD.  
SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR  
DO HEREBY  
SMARTPAC  
A TRUE HIDDEN HERO, FOR THEIR OUTS  
TO THE COMMUNITY AND COUNTRY  
THROUGH EXTR  
WISHING YOU MUCH SUCCESS IN  
MARCH

*Abhimanyu Poddar*  
MR. ABHIMANYU PODDAR  
MANAGING DIRECTOR  
SURYA NEPAL PRIVATE LIMITED

- Rain Water Harvesting
- Grey Water Recycling • W

**ONE PLANET  
SOLUTION**

**SmartP**  
GPO Box 1  
Patan Doh  
info@onepl





**DRIBBLE, RUN, SCORE (l-r):** Coach Siddhartha Yonjon started the Gangyap girls basketball team in 2007. The team went on to win several local level championships within its first year of formation.

Players of Team Gangyap practice lay-ups before their match against Saipal Academy at HIMS on Thursday which they won.

Team captain Nima Doma Bhutia tries to dribble past an opponent.

Yonjon points out errors and discusses tactics with his players during a time out during Thursday's match.

the canteen, Yonzon sat the team down. Individual errors were pointed out, another round of layups were demanded. There was no time for food.

For an outsider, Yonzon's coaching style might appear harsh and his passion easily confused with aggression, but the players don't think so. "He knows what we are capable of doing. That's why he's disappointed today,"

says Nima Doma Bhutia, the team captain. The other players nod in agreement.

Nima Doma is one of the five girls from the team who'll be graduating this year. Their visit to Nepal is a part of a fundraising effort organised by Siddhartha's friends, former schoolmates and collegemates to pay for the girls' college. The girls have plans to attend LNIP, a physical

education college in India.

A benefit dinner organised at Hotel Shambhala in Maharajganj, owned by one of Siddhartha's friends, managed to raise enough money to pay for the girls' college for two years. One of his friends has already offered to cover the remaining amount.

Although individual support has humbled the team, lack of support from the state of Sikkim

leaves Siddhartha surprised. The state's failure to get affiliation with the Basketball Association of India has hindered the girls' dream of playing for their state.

"Many coaches have approached me to let my girls play for other states, but I refused because of this sentimental connection with Sikkim. I want them to wear a jersey with Sikkim imprinted on the back," says

Yonjon. But with the association showing no interest in getting an affiliation soon, Yonjon worries if that day will ever come. His other worry is that five of the girls will be graduating soon.

Like many other players in the team, Nima Doma's ultimate goal is to play for team India. "That's been my dream since I learnt to play," she says. [www.emrsgangyap.com](http://www.emrsgangyap.com)

art  
ani

erve every drop"

winner of  
ocial Entrepreneurship Award

RECOGNITION

PRIVATE LIMITED ASHA  
REURSHIP AWARD  
Y RECOGNIZE  
NI PVT. LTD.

ANDING COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION  
BY BRINGING ABOUT POSITIVE CHANGE  
ORDINARY WORK.

N ALL OF YOUR FUTURE ENDEAVORS  
128, 2014

MS. LUNA SHEETHA THAKUR  
FOUNDING DIRECTOR  
CHANGEFUSION NEPAL

System • BioSand Filter  
aste Water Treatment System

ani Pvt. Ltd.

3989, Campus Marg, Chakupat  
a, Lalitpur, Nepal | +977-1-5261530, 5260506  
anetsolution.com | www.smartpaani.com

# स्वास्थ्यको जाँच हुनुहोस् पास

स्वास्थ्य जाँच गराउनुहोस्, स्वस्थ जीवन बिताउनुहोस्

Southeast Asia's No.1 Laboratory

**थकानले हैरान ?**

थाइरोइडको असन्तुलनले उदासी, सिथिलता, अविद्रा वा कपाल ढर्ने समस्याले सताउन सक्छ ।

**को तपाईंको मुटु स्वस्थ छ ?**

स्वस्थ रहँदा मुटुरोगको खतरा घट्छ ।

**निरन्तर व्यास र वजनको Loss ?**

आफ्नो ब्लड सुगर लेभलको जाँच गराउनुहोस् ।

**आफ्नो Lipids थाहा पाउनुहोस्**

आफ्नो Lipids को जाँच गराउनुहोस् । Lipids को असन्तुलनले मुटुरोग लाग्न सक्छ ।

**प्रजनन क्षमताको जाँच ?**

प्रायः सबै बाँझोपन वा प्रजननका समस्याहरू उपचार हुन सक्छन् ।

**Home Collection Services also available\***

तथा अन्य धेरै जाँचहरू...

हरेक समयमा आफ्नो स्वास्थ्य कस्रो छ मन्ने थाहा पाउनु धेरै राम्रो हो । नेपालको अग्रणी डायग्नोस्टिक संजाल एसआरएल डायग्नोस्टिक्सले तपाईंहरूलाई चाहिए अनुरूपका प्याकेजहरू उपलब्ध गराएको छ । अब सधैं स्वस्थ रहन तपाईं पनि आफ्नो प्याकेज खानुहोस् र सञ्जाल रगतको जाँच गराउनुहोस् ।

**SRL DIAGNOSTICS (NEPAL) PVT. LTD.**  
(Formerly Super Religare Reference Laboratories (Nepal) Pvt. Ltd.)  
Life Care Center, Maharajgunj (Opp American Embassy)  
T: 977 1 4721417/4721286, P.O Box No 4887, Kathmandu, Nepal  
website: [www.srlworld.com](http://www.srlworld.com); email: [info@srlagnostics.com.np](mailto:info@srlagnostics.com.np)

4721417, 4721286

सर्विसहरू उपलब्ध छन्: Nims Diagnostic Centre Pvt Ltd, 1/F A to Z building, Thapathali • Dibyanshu Healthcare Services and Sample Collection Centre, Mitra Park, Chabahal PHSS Pvt. Ltd., Baneshwor • Simran Diagnostic Centre, Imadol (Near Kist Medical College) • Pratyush Clinical Pathology Laboratories, Attarkhel, Jorpati (Opp Nepal Medical College) • Bhaktapur Wellcare Diagnostic, Dudhpati, Bhaktapur • Rays Diagnostic Centre, Kuleshwar

Outside Valley Center: Orchid Diagnostic, Bharatpur (Opposite Chitwan Medical College) • Mother Teresa, Alakhiya, Birgunj Ranisati Healthcare Service, Paropakar Medical Hall (Behind NTC building) Mahendra Pool, Pokhara • Aryan Health Services, Rani Sati Mandir Birgunj • Alpine Diagnostics, Chitwan (Infront of BPKMCH)

Outside Valley West: Marchawar Poly Clinic, Siddhartha Nagarpalika, Bhairahawa • Himal Pathology, Hospital Road (Infront of Banke District Court), Nepalgunj • Kanchan Pathology Service, Kohalpur, Banke • Kanchan Pathology, Kailali (Infront of Seti Zonal Hospital), Dhangadi Rakshit Diagnostics, P. Bir Hospital Complex, Hospital Line, Kapilvastu • LB Medical Services, Banke Lumbini Health Services, Butwal (Near Lumbini Hospital) • Kalika Pathology, Main Bazar, Dang

Outside Valley East: Subh Laxmi Enterprise, Jaleshwar, Janakpur • Unique, Jaycess Chowk, Damak (Opposite to Damak Pharmacy) • Advance Pathology Lab, Janakpur • Jalan Pharma Distributors, Station Road, Janakpur • Chetna Medical Hall, Mahendra Path, Oharan Super Health Care Centre, Rangeli Road, Biratnagar • Pardhan Diagnostic, Birtamode (Opp NBL) Suryodaya Health Care, Damak, Jhapa • Purwanchal Milan Laboratory Clinic, Biratnagar





# HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2

Animation is an art form. Hayao Miyazaki the director of some of the most classic animated film of all time like *Totoro* (1988), *Spirited Away* (2001), and *Princess Mononoke*



**MUST SEE**  
Sophia Pande

(1997) is regarded as a national treasure in his native Japan and his announcement that he would retire at the grand old age of 73 was met with dismay the world over.

In the past decade there have been some wonderful animated films such as *The Incredibles* (2004), *Ratatouille* (2007), and my personal favourite to date *Up* (2009). These films are as much made for grown ups as they are for children. The films have complex characters, tragic turns in the story line that are true to real life, nebulous villains who are not always that villainous but flawed rather, and yet of course there are also flights of fancy and moments of glorious beauty - an essential component of some of the most brilliant works of animation.

*How to Train Your Dragon* is another classic from DreamWorks. The first installment chronicled the story of a young Hiccup (voiced adorably by Jay Baruchel), a Viking boy who lives on an island plagued by dragons. Convinced that there is more to these creatures then just their fiery capacity to destroy, something his father Stoick the Chief (voiced with bombastic pleasure by Gerard Butler) is

convinced of, Hiccup sets about befriendng Toothless - a baby Night Fury dragon. As Hiccup and Toothless become fast friends and learn to fly together, Hiccup starts the impossible task of trying to convince his village that dragons are sentient, sensitive creatures and not the monstrous killers everyone imagines.

In this second film the entire village has been converted - everyone rides their own beloved dragons, who are more their friends than pets. But of course, disaster looms in the form of Drago Bludvist (Djimon Hounsou) a dragon hunter who captures and tortures his dragons to serve his vast dragon army.

As a grownup Hiccup struggles to reason with Bludvist he discovers a whole new world, animated with much detail and loving care. This second story offers some truly original new pleasures with the addition of some wonderful new characters, one of whom is voiced by the spectacular Cate Blanchett.

Toothless the dragon is one of the main attractions of the film even though he doesn't speak a word and undoubtedly one of the most loveable and intelligent creatures ever to be borne of animation. Aside from a few slightly too long maudlin moments in this film - it is a near perfect pleasure. Take your children but be warned, at the end of it you might be wanting a dragon of your own. 🐉

[nepalitimes.com](http://nepalitimes.com)

Trailer



Realise. More

**EPSON**  
EXCEED YOUR VISION

HEAT, HANDS OR HUMIDITY,  
EXTREME PRECISION  
SURVIVES IT ALL.

**Fade/Water/Rub resistance.  
Extreme durability. Extreme precision.**

The new Epson SureColor™ SC-T3070/T5070/T7070, for 61cm/91cm/112cm-wide architectural drawings/renderings, come with the extreme precision of the Epson Micro Piezo TFP print head, coupled with high-speed cartridge drive technology. And with Epson UltraChrome™ XD Ink - an extremely durable ink formulation that is not only water resistant but also lightfast and rub resistant, you can now get archival-quality, long-lasting prints that will build and grow your business and revenues well beyond the usual.

**CONTACT TODAY!**

**MERCANTILE**  
OFFICE SYSTEMS PVT. LTD.

Authorized Distributor  
Hiti Pokhari, Durbar Marg  
Kathmandu, Nepal  
Tel: 1-4440773/4445620

the week in pictures is brought to you by

**SHOE · A · HOLICS**  
Jamal 4225627 Pulchowk 5524812

**sale**

**Summer Sale**  
Deals too hot to miss

## HAPPENINGS



BIKRAM RAI

**THE LADY:** Burmese democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi arrives at Tribhuvan International Airport on Friday. She was in Nepal on a four-day visit.



BASIL EDWARD TEO

**MUST READ:** Former Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai, CA member Gagan Thapa, political analyst CK Lal and author Prashant Jha (*l-r*) at the launch of Jha's book *Battles of the New Republic* on Monday at the City Museum in Kathmandu.



BASIL EDWARD TEO

**RELIGIOUS DUTY:** A Buddhist devotee prostrates around Swayambhunath to mark the 15th day of the holy month of Saka Dawa on Friday.



DEVAKI BISTA

**UNHEARD PLEAS:** Senior citizens stage a sit-in protest to demand their rights at New Baneshwor on Monday. It has been 17 months since the group began their protests.



# PERFORMANCE ART

MATT MILLER

In Kathmandu it's easy to see who the stars of the World Cup are. Hundreds of Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo jerseys crowd the streets. But the dramatic performances of a majority of other players and nations are getting plenty of attention during the late-night broadcasts.

The first round of matches featured only a single scoreless draw. However the tournament is getting less notoriety for high-scoring and entertaining football, than an epidemic of play-acting, embellishment, flopping, faking, diving and cheating.

Setting the tone in the opening match between the hosts Brazil and Croatia, Brazilian striker Fred earned a penalty when he jumped onto his backside, kicking his feet high into the air like a cartoon character who stepped on a banana peel, after the Croatian defender between him and the goal grabbed his shoulder.

Fred's dive ranks as the worst in a tournament and sport where this is the norm because of its impact on the outcome of the game. Brazil took a 2-1 lead in the 71st minute of their eventual 3-1 victory,



and Croatia accused Japanese referee Yuichi Nishimura of favoritism towards the host nation.

It came at a crucial moment of the game, but Fred's theatrics had more than just one element of a quality dive that scores high with Olympic judges, and low with fans.

Dives are judged on a combination of elaborate and difficult techniques including: contorted facial expressions, hang time, jazz hands, knee and ankle grab positions, revolutions in the

air, tumbles, face clutching, volume and pitch of screams, and nation of origin.

US Olympic swimming and diving coach Drew Johansen told an Australian newspaper "Similar to the sport of diving, it's all about getting the judges attention. I think Fred's use of his arms really got the job done on that dive. I would score at 9.5 on the Olympic scale." Add to the fact that he plays for the home nation, that's probably a 10.0 performance.

The judges of each perceived dive are the millions of football fans who have taken to Twitter to air their grievances. Each game and kick of the ball is an onslaught of 140 characters or less, raking Diego Costa of Spain for a dive in the box, or equal numbers praising him or other nations' honour on the exact same play. Every play is judged with equal scrutiny.

The six penalties awarded in the first round of matches were to Brazil, Spain, Uruguay, Germany, France and Algeria.



It's not that all six penalties weren't earned, but save for Algeria, that who's-who of elite football nations certainly breeds suspicions. The first half penalties didn't help Spain and Uruguay from 5-1, and 3-1 thrashings however.

On the other hand, A *New York Times* article this week argued American values like honesty and battling through contact, more than their inability to dive, is the reason the valiant Americans don't dive in matches. Other American problems include making too much money, and having too much freedom.

In addition to earning a penalty earlier in the first half, 24 year-old German forward Thomas Muller groped his face, crumpled to his knees and yelled out after receiving a hand to his shoulder region from hot tempered Portuguese defender Pepe. His rash reaction to the theatrics earned him a red card. Ethical or not the performances earned Muller a hat trick, Germany a dominating victory over a 10 man squad from Portugal, and a highlight of Cristiano Ronaldo angrily chasing down an official, not playing brilliantly.

The most spectacular dive of the tournament wasn't embellishment at all, but a brilliant diving header from Dutchman Robin Van Persie against Spain. However most of the matches are a reminder that those watching at home playing the "Diving Drinking Game" will feel worse in the morning than the losing teams. 🇳🇱



The people who own the much loved OR2K restaurant in Thamel have been dishing up quality Asian fusion, Middle-Eastern and Israeli vegetarian dishes for over a decade now. They saw the demand that existed for the same type of food albeit of the meaty variety and thus a relatively new entrant to the eating out scene in Kathmandu came into being--Friends.

The place like the rest of the world has succumbed to the World Cup fever and the walls were emblazoned with flags of various nations while pennants and streamers waved a merry dance in the breeze of the fans. The furniture painted in bright primary colours and the cosy couches create an aura that is cheery and welcoming and it appealed to us immediately. The concept behind Friends was 'inspired by exquisite meals in the warm company of friends from across the world' and their menu clearly reflects that. Choices range from paella to pies, stews to shwarmas, hot pots, burgers to tortillas, and no Nepali restaurant worth its salt would be complete without momos.

The mint lemonade came replete with chunks of the freshly minced herb but required a good stir from time to time. Refreshing



and icy cold, it is the perfect drink to beat these summer blues.

The waiter recommended the chicken momos (Rs 250) and as he was so inordinately proud of them we decided to humour him, not expecting too much but to our great delight the momos were delicious- steaming hot, moist and delicately flavoured with just ginger. No pre-packaged momo masala atrocities were committed here. The pinchos (Rs 275), our other starter, was an assortment of toppings -- fried mushroom with goat cheese, aubergine with cheese, and salt-cured salmon with organic goat cheese -- suitably skewered onto toasted bread and made for a perfectly adequate snack.

The steak shaslik (Rs 550) at Friends is served with chimichuri,

which is originally an Argentinean sauce made with garlic, olive oil, parsley and vinegar, and is a must try. The barbequed chunks of perfectly grilled filet mignon (medium rare was my choice) was meltingly soft and just

delicious. The steak filet mignon (Rs 550) was as tasty, though the creamy mushroom sauce that accompanied it was bland and boring. The mince used to make the beef kebabs (Rs 475) had been kneaded well with a variety of spices that helped the meat absorb those flavours wonderfully but the end product was dry and wasn't capable of holding its own in comparison to the other two dishes we'd ordered.

The accompanying pickled cucumbers were delightful in their own right- crisp and sour and flavoursome. The beef kebabs were doggie bagged and brought home, sliced and tossed with tomatoes, cucumbers, coriander, yoghurt and stuffed into a chappati and made for a delicious lunch the next day.

The meal ended with an OR2K

favourite: Kiss from Zuri (Rs 295). A chocolate truffle with a cream-cheesy topping and chocolate sauce, it's decadent and sinful and just right for a meal that heavy and satisfying.

The service was satisfactory, the restrooms clean and stocked with tissue paper and water and individual little towels to dry your hands. The people who own Friends should congratulate themselves on creating this little haven that promotes lounging and eating and conversing: the elements that make for a memorable meal. I will definitely be going back because there are so many tempting dishes still to sample and meals to savour. 🇳🇵

Ruby Tuesday

*How to get there: In Thamel, enter Mandala Street that starts opposite Pumpernickel, and make your way past OR2K and The Last Resort office and Friends is on your right, up a flight of stairs.*



PICS: RUBY TUESDAY



## Great Food Deserves Carlsberg

That calls for a Carlsberg



# Physicians from Uppsala



Imagine going to watch a dissection of a human corpse in a small amphitheatre (*pic, above*) as an after-dinner event. This is exactly what the nobility of Uppsala, Sweden did in the Middle Ages.

The University of Uppsala in Sweden is renowned for its excellence in academia, but historically the most fascinating



**DHANVANTARI**  
Buddha Basnyat, MD

part of the university is the anatomical dissections. The church allowed only people who were executed by the hangman to be dissected. For prisoners executed by hanging, dissection was preferred, because then they would receive a proper Christian burial.

Human dissection was not for the faint of heart though. Although the dissection was carried out

chiefly for the sake of the medical students, the Uppsala nobility also attended. It was the thing to do. There was no embalming then, so the stench in the dissection hall was like a physical blow. Many handy supports were built for people feeling sick to hold onto, and the walls of the amphitheatre were painted a reddish colour so stains from people who became ill would be less prominent.

The amphitheatre, with its magnificent dome, is preserved today in a beautiful museum called the Gustavianum, next to the world famous cathedral of Uppsala.

The tradition of dissection in the amphitheatre was started by Olaf Rudbeck. He returned from Leiden, Holland around the 1650s after receiving training in human dissection. He wanted to establish a similar dissection environment as the one in Holland, so that medical students in his town could have the same learning experience.

Rudbeck's close attention to detail during dissections in the amphitheatre paid off. He

was able to discover the lymphatic system in the human body which, until this time, was unknown. He presented his findings to Queen Christina of Sweden in the spring of 1652, and she was suitably impressed and helped him in his career.

In terms of intellectual content, Rudbeck is not the only famous physician from Uppsala.

Physician and botanist Carl Linnaeus from Uppsala laid the foundations for the modern biological naming scheme in botany. He is

known as the father of modern taxonomy in botany, which is a way of classifying plants.

Linnaeus's classification was a challenge to memorise in pre-medicine training.

In the present era, another important person in medicine from Uppsala is Otto Cars. He has devoted almost his

entire career to research about antibiotic resistance (ABR). Long before the alarming World Health Organization report on ABR came out, Otto Cars in his self-effacing manner was always reminding the world of the potential threat of ABR.

The nearby Karolinska Institute in Stockholm associated with the Nobel Prize in medicine may be better known, but clearly some ground-breaking medical work has been carried out in Uppsala too. 🇳🇵

GIZMO by YANTRICK

## Dream Display

The World Cup is in full swing, and you are thinking of upgrading your 32-inch tv set. But the price tag of upwards of the Rs 700,000 mark many established tv brands put on their 65-inch televisions is threatening to derail your dreams of watching Cristiano Ronaldo dismissing defenders on a 65-inch HD slate. Thankfully, Chinese electronics giant TCL has recently launched its 65E5690 model. At almost half the price of Samsung, Sony and LG 65-inchers, it's easily the most affordable 65-inch ULTRA HD smart tv in the Nepali market.


The sixth-largest television producer in the world, TCL certainly knows a thing or two about manufacturing good televisions, and it shows with the 65E5690. With a stunning 65-inch panel adorning the front, and the matte-black finish, along with a thin bezel, a silver metallic frame and a sturdy hexagonal base frame the TCL 65E5690 looks the part right out of the box. Power it on, and you immediately realise what the Ultra High Definition (aka 4K) fuss is really about. Packing four times the resolution of a regular full HD tv, sharpness and clarity take on a whole new meaning when you are watching 4K content. It can only be described in one word, stunning. The 65E5690 boasts 2k-4k Conversion and Compatibility Technology. Simply, regular 1080p HD video on a 4k display produces better output than a 1080p display showing the same media. Being 3D-ready, TCL has also taken care of your 3D needs.



The TCL 65E5690 smart tv is powered by Android version 4.2, and runs on a dual-core processor, and a Quad Core GPU. This allows for smooth multi-tasking and seamless running of pre-installed apps like Twitter, Facebook and YouTube, with the option of installing additional apps via the App Store. TCL has also incorporated its Gesture Control


technology in the 65E5690, which intuitively controls the smart tv via hand gestures and body motion. Your connectivity needs are taken care of by the on-board two HDMI ports, two USB 2.0 ports, a USB 3.0 port, a SD card slot, an AV port, a VGA port, and a LAN port. Optional gaming and multimedia accessories like a wireless keyboard, wireless mouse Smart Pen Kit, sound bar and camera allow for further enhancement of your entertainment and connectivity needs. 🇳🇵


**Yantrick's Verdict: Retailing for approximately Rs 350,000, this beauty is by no means cheap. However, if you are in the market for a 65-inch Ultra HDTV, the TCL 65E5690 is definitely a bargain, an Ultra High-Definition bargain.**



"I recommend Sensodyne for all day every day sensitivity protection."

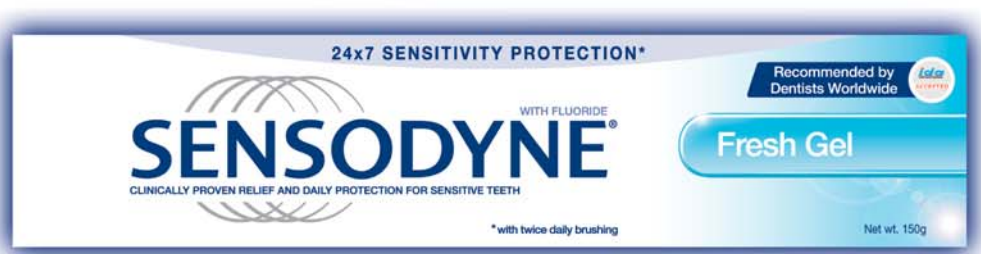
-Dr. Spiro Condos, dentist practicing in the US





# 24x7

## SENSITIVITY PROTECTION



**World's No.1 Sensitivity Toothpaste**

\*Brush twice daily for continuous protection

© 2014, GlaxoSmithKline Sensodyne is a trademark of GlaxoSmithKline group of companies.



# The beautiful mirage

It is unreasonable to expect a World Cup by itself to guarantee political and social change

**MARCELA MORA Y ARAUJO**  
in BUENOS AIRES

The eyes of the world, and especially those of South America, are on Brazil as it stages the World Cup in June and July. Even weeks before the event, football stories had been dominating the media, and not just in the sports pages. Advertisers cannot get enough of it; companies are altering production lines to cater to it; and politicians are postponing all but their most essential meetings until after the final.

Football's magnetic force has drawn supporters worldwide into intricate discussions over the validity of a goal, the intention behind a foul, or the missed opportunities of an attack. Such debates will be especially animated in South America's three main footballing countries – Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay – whose people view success on the field as signifying more than just sporting prowess.

"Football is the one area in which we can compete with the big countries of the world as equals," remarked Daniel Passarella, Argentina's former national coach. This is certainly true for Argentina and Uruguay; in the case of Brazil which has won the tournament more often



than any other country, it is, if anything, an understatement.

Latin American pride is justified. Uruguayans still derive immeasurable satisfaction from their soccer successes, including two World Cup triumphs back in 1930 and 1950, and a semifinal in South Africa in 2010. Argentina has twice held the trophy, and boasts two of the game's greatest players ever, Diego Maradona and Lionel Messi. And Brazil's roll call of heroes includes Pelé, Garrincha, Ronaldo, Ronaldinho, and Neymar, to name only a few.

However, the competition also has its detractors. People will talk of nothing else, while pressing social, economic and political questions are left to fester. Brazil's

highly organised anti-World Cup protesters hoped to divert some of the vast sums spent on the tournament into social programs. In Argentina, opposition groups worry that the government will use these crucial weeks to bury bad news.

While these concerns are undoubtedly valid, the broader question is whether protesting, boycotting or banning such events encourages or impedes social and political change. For example, Argentina's military dictatorship, which staged the 1978 competition, sought to bolster its own position by sharing in the host team's ultimate victory. But, with the world's media attention focused on Argentina, Dutch

journalists were able to publicise the plight of the Madres of Plaza de Mayo – the mothers of the disappeared – thus revealing to the world the regime's grotesque nature.

To separate political activism from love of the game is a false distinction. The two are often intertwined, sometimes in the most extreme circumstances. Opponents of the Argentine junta were still keen to know the outcome of matches, even when they were locked away in clandestine detention centers. Indeed, torture survivors recount eerie exchanges with their torturers about team formations and goals scored.

For today's activists, the choice may not be whether to support or oppose the tournament, but how to use it to further their ends. Surely, the unprecedented global attention must provide opportunities. The business community certainly understands the potential, given the masses of football-related consumer goods, high retail mark-ups on sportswear and blanket advertising both on and off the pitch. Non-governmental organisations working for social improvement can find ways to

draw attention to their campaigns through football.

At the same time, we should not overestimate the longer-run impact of football's "feel-good" factor in influencing political and social events. After all, Argentina's hated junta collapsed just four years after the country's World Cup triumph (following its military defeat by Britain). Although football victories have sometimes united bitter opponents, such truces have been all too ephemeral, and usually end soon after the final whistle blows.



It is tempting to seek greater social, political or economic meaning in football. But the fact remains that it is just a game – beautiful, escapist entertainment, but a game nonetheless. Great football may sometimes carry the narrative power of

a novel, the rhythm of poetry, ballet's mesmerising sense of wonder, and the adrenalin rush of a rock concert; but, unlike great art, it struggles for influence beyond its realm.

It is unreasonable to expect a World Cup by itself to generate lasting change. The tournament's ability to turn the eyes of the planet onto a single ball is truly impressive but ultimately meaningless. For the duration of the match, we are entranced; afterwards, everything returns to how it was. 🇨🇷

*Marcela Mora y Araujo is a football specialist, writer, and broadcaster.*  
[www.project-syndicate.org](http://www.project-syndicate.org)

www.dishhome.com.np

“ विश्वको नं. १ खेल हेर्न पिक्चर क्वालिटी पनि नं. १ नै चाहियो नि, त्यसैले I WILL WATCH ON DISHHOME'S HD SET. ”

अब उत्कृष्ट Picture Quality का साथ फुटबलको मज्जा DishHome HD मा

क्याप्टेन विजय लामा, कलाकार

HD HIGH DEFINITION CHANNELS

PRISMA - Q=14

SMART HD SET TOP BOX only at 5999/-

STANDARD SET TOP BOX only at 3999/-

SONY S HD

colors HD

Discovery world HD

HBO HD

TEN HD

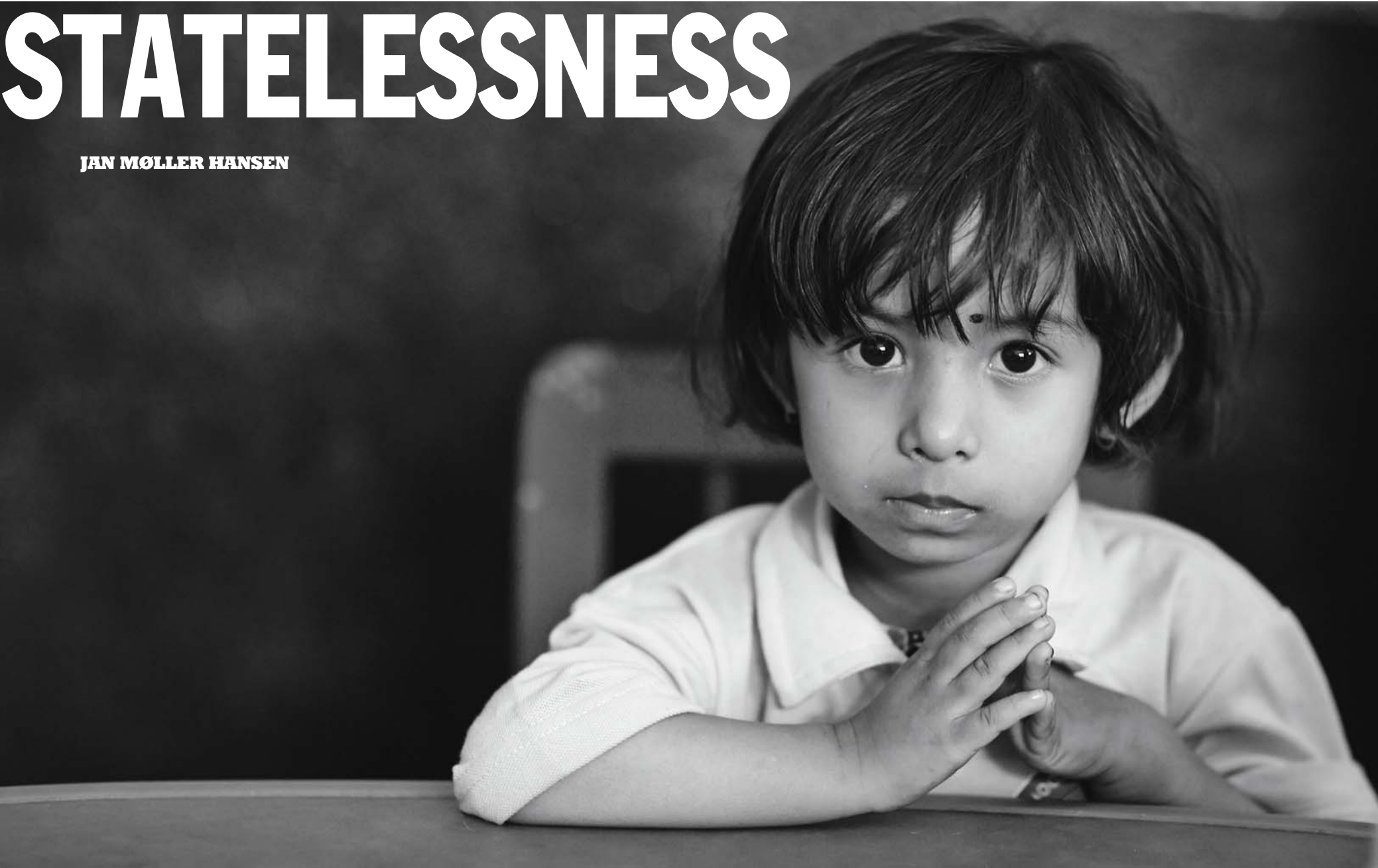
DishHome Delightful Lifestyle

TOLL FREE HELP DESK 1660-01-22000/1660-01-10101 FOR BOOKING 01-4479162



# STATE OF STATELESSNESS

JAN MØLLER HANSEN



A PAKISTANI REFUGEE ATTENDING SCHOOL IN KATHMANDU



FOURTH GENERATION OF TIBETAN REFUGEES



THESE TWO BURMESE REFUGEES LIVE WITH THEIR MOTHER IN A SUBURB OF KATHMANDU



TIBETAN REFUGEE STUDENTS PERFORM A CULTURAL DANCE AT A COMMUNITY SCHOOL

It is well known that Nepal is home to thousands of refugees from Bhutan and Tibet, but what goes unnoticed is the growing number of asylum seekers from trouble spots around the world. Many from Somalia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma and Iraq arrive here in the hope that the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) will facilitate third-country resettlement, or they are duped by human traffickers who bring them to Nepal with the promise of flying them to Europe from Kathmandu airport on forged documents.

UNHCR is taking care of at least 500 ‘urban refugees’, but the actual number is probably much higher. Nepal denies on-arrival visas to 11 countries, but many cross the open border from India. The Nepal government treats them as illegal migrants and they amass fines of \$6 a day for overstaying. There are only three exit strategies for urban refugees: repatriation to the home country, third-country resettlement or integration in Nepal.

Nepal has not signed the 1951 UN convention on refugees that would ensure legal and economic rights to those forced to flee their homelands, and the government is keen to discourage UNHCR from recognising and supporting more refugees for fear that Nepal could turn into a hub for human trafficking.

On World Refugee Day on 20 June, UNHCR presents a ten-day photo exhibition, Refugee Stories, with documentary film screenings and talk programs at the City Museum in Darbar Marg.



A PAKISTANI REFUGEE FROM THE AMADIYAA COMMUNITY




FOUR GENERATIONS OF NAMGYAL DOLMA'S FAMILY HAVE LIVED IN NEPAL



BURMESE REFUGEES FROM THE CHIN COMMUNITY

ALL PICS: JAN MØLLE RHANSEN

Some of the images of refugees from Tibet, Burma, Pakistan, and Somalia who live in Kathmandu by Jan Møller Hansen featured here will be on display.  *Sunir Pandey*

[nepalitimes.com](http://nepalitimes.com)   
Axis of Despair, #107



**REFUGEE STORIES**  
20-30 June  
City Museum  
Darbar Marg, Kathmandu  
[Facebook.com/unhcnepal](https://www.facebook.com/unhcnepal)  
[www.TheCityMuseum.org](http://www.TheCityMuseum.org)



# Refugees-in-waiting

With most Bhutan refugees resettled in third countries, some families are abandoned again

**GOPAL GARTOULA**  
in JHAPA

Debimaya Sarki remembers the chilly evening of 5 January 2010 well. She was in her hut in the Timai Camp for refugees from Bhutan, where she had been living for nearly 20 years after being forced out of her homeland.

A young woman and a teenage girl with a two-week baby pleaded to let them spend the night, saying they were from a village outside and night had fallen while carrying the sick child to the health post.

The three spent the night in Debimaya's Timai Camp Sector D5 Hut Number 46. Next morning, the two had disappeared leaving the baby behind. Debimaya named the baby Angela, (*pic, right*) and she grew up with her children Jipesh and Apsana.

Four years later, Debimaya's resettlement process is stuck because of that act of kindness. Her relatives have all been resettled around the world, but because of Angela, Debimaya's family cannot leave.

"I cannot abandon her again here, I raised her," Debimaya pleads, "but the sirs at UNHCR and IOM say I can't take her with me."

Debimaya's own daughter was two when Angela was abandoned in her hut, and she breast-fed the undernourished Angela along with her own daughter.

"She sleeps on my lap, I raised her, and did everything except give birth to Angela. She is my daughter," says Debimaya.

But UNHCR (the UN Refugee Agency) and IOM (International Organisation for Migration) say they are bound by rules that only refugees are allowed to be resettled. So far nearly 90,000 of the 120,000 refugees have been resettled in a process that started in 2008, mostly to the United States (*see map*).

Ram Bahadur Baniya, 30, of Sanischare Camp of Morang district also used to live in Timai Camp and was ready to leave for the US, but in April the Department of Homeland Security rejected his application for being

associated with a terrorist organisation. He had been caught extorting money from fellow-refugees eight years ago.

The other 27 members of Ram Bahadur's extended family, including father, mother, five brothers and four sisters have already been settled in Ohio.

After being prevented from leaving, Ram Bahadur's wife Purna Maya left him and lives separately with their son in the Camp, and their resettlement papers are being processed. Ram Bahadur himself married again and runs a provision store in the Camp.

There are an estimated 200 other refugees whose resettlement documents have been either rejected or are under



investigation. Among those is also Lilaprasad Bhujel, 31, a refugee from Bhutan who met Sita Bhujel, 27, from Heklang of Palpa district at a church. They got married in 2007, but by then Lilaprasad's first wife, Karna Maya, had already left for the US with their seven-year-old son. His father and mother have also been resettled in America.

"They say I am not eligible for resettlement until I can prove I am divorced from Karna Maya," says a dejected Lilaprasad. UN sources say most of those whose applications have been withheld have multiple marriages, have



GOPAL GARTOULA

criminal records, or have been found to be affiliated with "terrorist organisations."

There are some refugees who don't want to be resettled, but they are exceptions. Some 1,974 refugees without identity papers who had been rejected resettlement went on an 11-day hunger strike in 2012, and 1,800 of them were finally registered as

refugees. There are a hundred or more families living outside Beldangi waiting and hoping that they will also one day be included. 🇳🇵

[nepalitimes.com](http://nepalitimes.com)

Debimaya's daughter, #551  
Gross national Sadness, #551  
Huddled masses, #623

THE NEW FLAVOR OF FUN

एकदम नयाँ **Pleasure**  
The light 'n' zippy scooter

आकर्षक रंगहरूको नयाँ परिभाषा

OUTGOING ORANGE	VALIANT VIOLET	BOLD BLACK
BEAUTIFUL BLUE	RAVISHING RED	SPECTACULAR SILVER
GORGEOUS GREEN	WITTY WHITE	CANDY RED

मोबाइल चार्जिङ्ग सकेट

लगेज बक्समा बुटलाइट

दुयुबलेस टायर र एकीकृत ब्रेकिङ्ग प्रणाली

स्टाइलिश नयाँ कन्सोल

**Nepal General Marketing (P) Ltd.**  
Jyoti Bhawan, 1911 Kantipath  
PO Box No. 133, Kathmandu, Nepal  
Phone : 01 4248949, 4255565  
Fax : 01 4212415, Finance: 01 4261770  
Email : customercare@ngmhero.com  
www.facebook.com/ngmheromotocorp

**Hero** Always use genuine Hero spare parts.  
(Genuine Hero spare parts are available at very competitive prices)

ON EVERY PURCHASE Don't forget your **FREE HERO HELMET**

Always use genuine Hero **10W30 engine oil**

वर्तमानको **वारेन्टी**

**Kathmandu Valley** Balaju 4361786 • Balkhu 4281908 • Balkumari 5006184 • Banepa 661981 • Bhaktapur 6613112 • Buddhabari 4104540, 4104541 • Gattaghagar 6638444 Gyaneshwor 4428970 • Jorpati 4912006 • Kantipath 4225377, 4266517 • Kumaripati 5004103 • Putalisadak 4435155 • Swoyambhu 4289737 • Tinkune 4466886 • Trisuli 561421  
**Outside of Valley** Attaria 551244 • Baglung 520174 • Baratpur 526697 • Bardibas 550552 • Bhairahawa 523930 • Bhairahawa 524290 • Biratnagar 545227 • Biratnagar 463754 • Biratnagar 536896 • Birgunj 522772 • Birjunj 529667 • Birtamode 543248 • Butwal 542725 • Chandranigahapur 540739 Damak 581463 • Damauli 560477 Dang 560262 • Dangadhi 522484 • Dharan 526522 • Gaidakot 502399 • Gaur 521109 • Golbazar 540327 • Guleria 420608 • Hetauda 525386 • Inaruwa 561498 Itahari 580066 • Jaleshwar 521095 • Janakpur 523644 • Kapilbastu 550160 • Kawasoti 541001 • Lahan 560955 • Lalbandi 501628 • Mahendranagar 520745 • Mircharya 550803 • Narayanghat 532567 • Nawalparasi 521002 • Nepalgunj 551598 • Parsa 583199 • Pokhara 537333 • Pokhara 539389 • Pyuthan 460464 • Rajbiraj 523542 Sarlahi 521711 • Siraha 520442 • Surkhet 525196 • Tikapur 560426 • Tulsipur 520808 • Waling 440610



# Who’s where in Nepal

Ameet Dhakal,  
Setopati.com, 11 June

सेतोपाटी

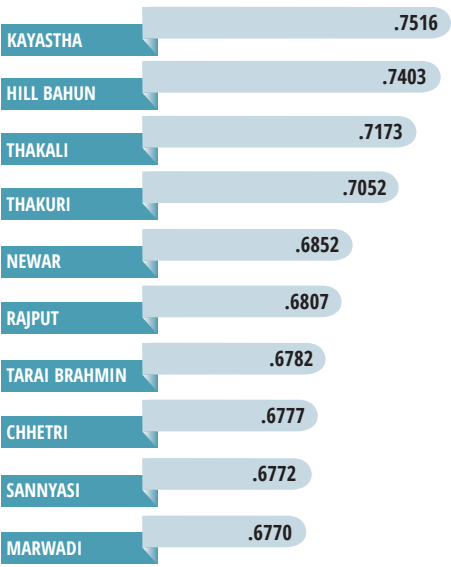
In terms of representation, opportunities and social and economic well-being, the Kayastha caste of the Tarai is ahead of everyone else in Nepal, an extensive study by the Central Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Tribhuvan University shows.

At second and third are Hill Brahmin and Thakalis respectively. Hill castes such as Chetris, Thakuris, Sannyasis and Tarai groups like Rajput, Tarai Brahmin, and Marwadis also make the top 10. The bottom 10 consists mostly of Hill and Tarai Dalit castes.

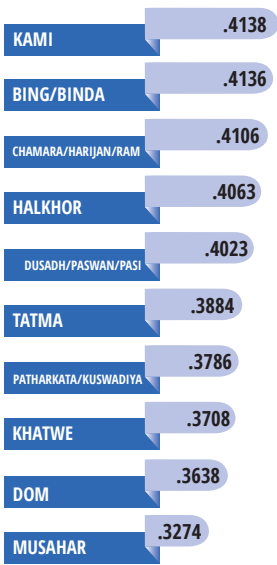
The study considers 39 important factors, among them economic, political, social, cultural, gender, literacy etc. Based on a scale where one is the best possible score, castes are ranked (*see chart*) on their inclusiveness in Nepali society. This is the most detailed study done on inclusion so far and shows which castes need or can do without the state’s help.

“We have been debating inclusivity for so long in this country, but no one ever had the numbers to prove it. Now we can get a clear picture,” says Om Gurung, professor at TU, who led the study team.

TOP 10:



BOTTOM 10:



## LOCAL SPENDING

Rameswor Khanal in  
Himal Khabarpatrika, 15-21 June

हिमाल

The annual budget looks at the allocation for development under a three-year plan. Up to 60 per cent of this comes from foreign aid. Nepal government has to raise the rest from taxes and revenue. The 2-3 per cent of the budget (amounting to up to Rs 20 billion) that is set aside for small local projects have always been mired in controversy. Local roads, bridges and irrigation projects is also where there is the most interference and abuse. Elected lawmakers, ministers and local political cadre lobby hard to get projects allocated to their constituencies. MPs take delegations to meet the Finance Ministry and apply pressure. Then there are the property owning class which tries to profit from the proximity of new roads. Although large infrastructure projects are important for long-term development, local development when responsibly executed is still our best bet to ensure a dramatic improvement in people’s lives.

If one believes that development can only be possible through decentralised decision-making then these projects must be implemented at the district level. There is less chance of the project being hijacked and more likely that the amount will be spent. A budget is effective when such small irrigation, road and water supply systems are built locally. There is relatively more accountability and checks-and-balance at the local level. Of course, things would have been even better if local elections were held. Transparency is the most effective way to fight budget misuse.



**Shouts:** “Goaaal, goaaal”  
**Dog:** “They keep shouting, these mongrels!”

नागरिक

Robin Sayami in *Nagarik*, 19 June

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK



“This government is mentally ill, so we can’t expect anything from it.”

MJF-N Chairman Upendra Yadav on ekantipur.com, 19 June

# Budget bungling

Bijay Devkota in *Karobar*, 18 June

कारोबार

Preparations for the upcoming budget have become uncertain after political interference and pressure from lawmakers for allocations have distorted emphasis on priority areas.

“The main priority of the budget should be agriculture and energy but we cannot allocate significant budget for these sectors,” says Govinda Raj Pokharel, the newly appointed vice chairman of the National Planning Commission. “Unless donor assistance increases, revenue collection goes up or the unspent

sector, UML has been pressing for infrastructure development with a focus on roads.

“Infrastructure should be the main priority in the upcoming budget with roads being first on the list followed by energy, agriculture and irrigation,” says Chandra Mani Adhikari, NPC member from UML.

Though the largest party in the parliament is pushing for prioritising the energy sector, a majority of the CA members have demanded infrastructure in their home districts. “Despite pushing for energy, 80 per cent of the projects that have been demanded are regarding construction of roads and bridges,” says Pokharel.



money in the current fiscal year is allocated for the coming year, the budget allocation for these areas won’t increase.”

The NPC has set a budget ceiling of Rs 596 billion for the next fiscal year, but it looks like the government will struggle to balance this with the demands from political parties and other interest groups for pork-barrel funds for their districts.

Differences over budget priority among the parties in the ongoing pre-budget discussions have also made it difficult to narrow down the priority areas. While the Nepali Congress has tried to prioritise the development of the energy

The push for infrastructure development in the budget is mainly due to the vested interests of political parties to control local politics through such projects.

According to Pokharel, allocating a huge sum of money on a few priority areas doesn’t necessarily yield better results and the budget is unspent and lapses. The government had allocated around Rs 13 billion for the energy sector this year but many projects couldn’t move forward because of disputes over compensation. Similarly, only 70 per cent of the allocated capital budget of Rs 85 billion is set to be spent by the end of the current fiscal year.

Microsoft

GO! XL

Your Fastlane to Android™ apps just got bigger with a 5" screen.

Android is a trademark of Google Inc.

GET A COOL BAG FREE\* WITH EVERY PURCHASE

GO! with the new **NokiaXL**

Android is a trademark of Google Inc.

NOKIA

\*Offer valid till stocks last



# Life with sickle cell

## Little known genetic disorder that afflicts Nepal's Tharu population needs urgent government attention

The head nurse in the sweltering Bheri Zonal Hospital in Nepalgunj goes through patient files. She stops at one of them and says, “Every week we get a couple of new cases of sickle cell disease.”

Since 2011, the hospital has received numerous Tharu patients with chest and joint pains and recurring jaundice: common symptoms of sickle cell disease in which regular round red blood cells are replaced with sickle-shaped red blood cells which get stuck in the veins, deplete oxygen flow and cause severe body pain in patients.

In the past three years the number of patients diagnosed with sickle cell has increased to over 250. It is a genetic disorder inherited from both the mother and father, and afflicts the Tharu community in Nepal's Tarai plains.

It is suggested that sickle cell disease is prevalent in areas affected by malaria because the gene for sickle cell provides its carrier with resistance against malaria. The Tharus who have a sevenfold lower prevalence of malaria than non-Tharus are indigenous to the Tarai

“When I first consulted my senior doctors, they did not believe the test results for sickle cell disease,” recalls Rajan Pande, the only doctor keeping track of the disease. “Most of my patients do not know about sickle cell disease. They come here, having previously been diagnosed with hepatitis, arthritis, and some come with no diagnosis at all.”

Pande took us to the ward to meet Moti Ram Tharu whom he diagnosed last year. His skin was yellowed by jaundice, arm firmly strapped to a steadily emptying IV. The 46-year-old office assistant from a village health post in Banke said he was diagnosed with Hepatitis B in Lucknow and took expensive medicines for two years.

"When I went back to Lucknow, they told me I tested negative for Hepatitis B," Moti Ram said.

Sickle cell disease is like diabetes because it requires long term care and medication. The family needs to manage the disease for life which is a severe financial burden for most Tharu patients.

Patients from Banke, Bardiya, Dang and Kailali travel for hours to buy their medications in Nepalganj. For others, such as Buddhi Ram Tharu, the trip doesn't end there.

Five years ago Buddhi Ram's son Deepak was diagnosed with sickle cell disease in Kathmandu's Teaching Hospital. Since then he has been making regular trips to Kathmandu for his son's required blood transfusions.

“I come from a humble background, and going to Kathmandu every month is very expensive,” Buddhi Ram says. “How can I have the money




to go every month? I am already Rs 700,000 in debt.”

Basmati Chaudhary, a mother of five, says her eldest son Anish has been sick since he was born. Anish is 27 now, and his family is heavily indebted. "We have a

lot of loans and we are still taking out loans,” says Basmati. “Where do I get money for my son’s treatments?”

Anish's younger brother has gone to India to earn money to pay for his brother's treatment

but his mother fears that even her younger son could be suffering from the same condition, as he complains frequently of joint pains. 

Priyankar Chand, Emtithal  
Mahmoud and Rushika Pattni

# What is sickle cell disease?

Regular round red blood cells in patients are replaced with sickle-shaped red blood cells which get stuck in the veins, deplete oxygen flow and cause severe body pain in patients. It is a genetic disorder inherited from both the mother and father, and afflicts the Tharu community in the Terai.

In 2008, the UN declared sickle cell disease a global public health problem and dedicated 19 June to be World Sickle Cell Day. In Nepal, patients are demanding government support for awareness, diagnosis and treatment.



**1 PATIENT PATIENTS:** Basmati Chaudhary (*seated for left*) has been borrowing money to treat her son Anish (*center standing*) who has suffered from sickle cell disease ever since he was born.

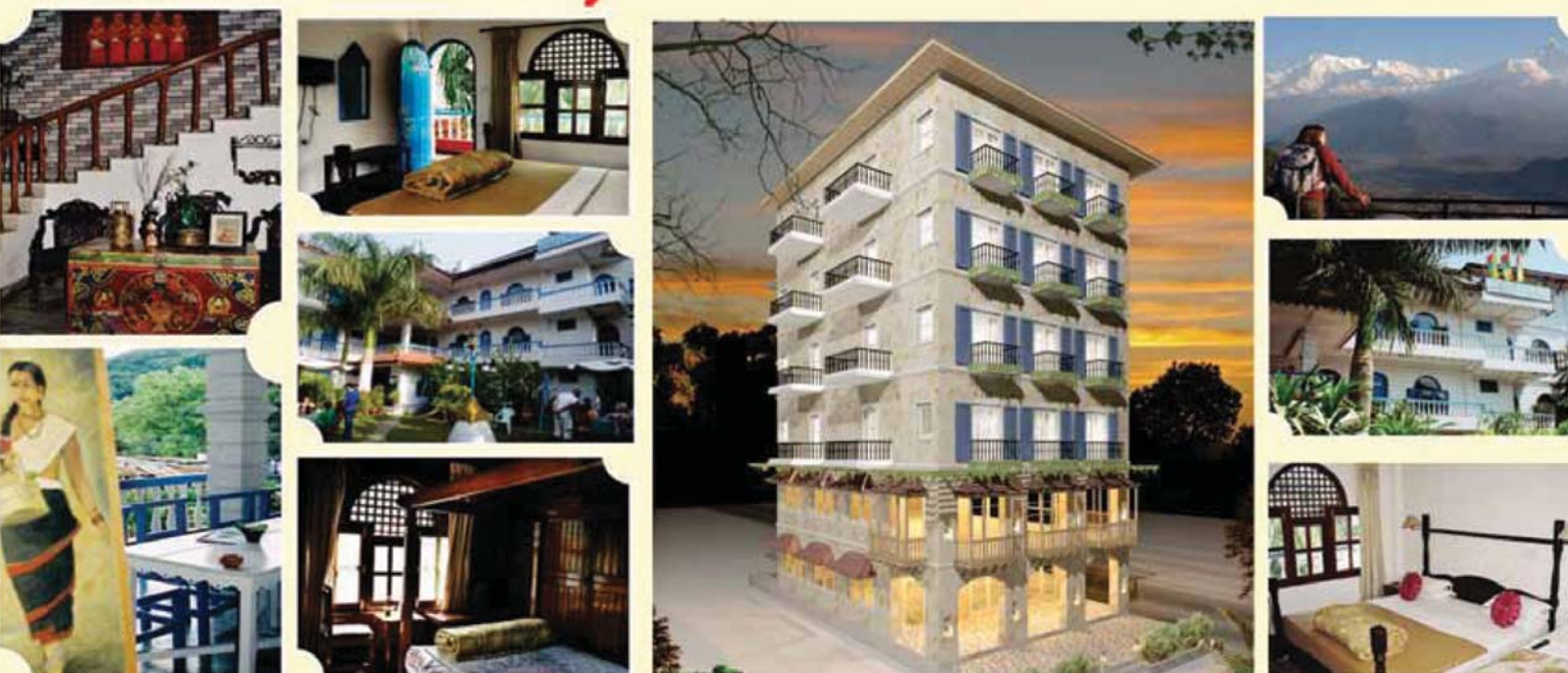
**2** Buddhi Ram Tharu (*far left*) and his son Deepak Tharu, seated next to his father, both are sickle cell disease patients. Buddhi Ram takes a bus to Kathmandu each month for his son's treatment.

**3** Moti Ram Chaudhary works at the village health post in Phatepur, Banke and is a sickle cell disease patient who was misdiagnosed with Hepatitis B.

*The three authors  
are students at Yale  
University working on a  
pilot research and education  
project for sickle cell disease  
in western-Nepal.  
sicklecellnepal@gmail.com*

# GLACIER HOTEL POKHARA

*Just beside Phewa Lake*



For Reservation, please visit:

## GLACIER HOTEL POKHARA

Gaurighat, Lakeside-6, Pokhara, Nepal. T:061-463722/206964, F: 061-463164, M: 9851071792  
E: glacierht@mail.com, sales@glaciernepal.com W: www.glaciernepal.com





### It's So Miami

Now flying 4 times a week to Miami via Doha

Miami is one of the world's most popular vacation spots, with amazing attractions for everyone. Enjoy a stroll along the stunning sandy beaches, be amazed by art deco areas or immerse yourself in high fashion luxury shopping.

Fly in 5-star comfort as we begin direct flights to Miami, U.S.A.

To book your ticket, visit [qatarairways.com/np](http://qatarairways.com/np), call 9771-4440467 or call your preferred travel agent.

World's 5-star airline.

# Weapons of ass destruction

Recently, the Ass has been kept awake nights worrying about the falling self-esteem of Nepalis, and trying to come up with ideas so the international community will take us seriously once again.

France is the latest country to stop issuing visas in Kathmandu. If you want to go to France you have to apply for a visa in Delhi. Any self-respecting country would then retaliate by cancelling visa on arrival for French nationals and requiring them to apply in Côte d'Ivoire for their Nepali visas. Similarly, in the spirit of reciprocity, Australians would have to apply in Fiji, and Italians at the Nepal Embassy in Addis. Wait, we have no embassy in Addis? Serves the Italians right.

There is a point when a country just throws up its hands and says: "Enough is enough of being kicked around. We are going to start work on developing weapons of mass destruction." Here, our role model is North Korea, known to close friends as the Democratic People's Republic of the Kim Dynasty.

Now that the Department of Geology and Mines has found vast deposits of uranium in Mustang, we must immediately start buying up centrifuges, incubators and physics professors to turn the fuel rods into weapons-grade plutonium in a top secret underground facility behind Om's Home in Jomsom. Just like DPRK defeated two imperialisms with its bare hands, our national motto should be: "We will arm ourselves to our gills, even if we have no gills."

The other much overdue proposal that will force farangs to treat Nepalis with a little more respect is mandatory conscription for all Nepali males above

18, a proposal for this is being tabled in the Constipation Assembly as we speak. Coupled with nuclear warheads, Nepal will then have the largest standing army in the uncivilised world. No one will even think of hepo-ing us then.

Many people don't know that national prestige projects like Melamchi, Hetauda Fast Track and Chundevi Road Widening are delayed because of the top priority given to finishing the Republic Tower in



Kirtipur. When it is completed next year, this erectile dysfunction which bears a striking resemblance to an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile on a launch pad will serve as Nepal's strategic deterrent because not only is it such an ugly structure that it will repel all enemies on sight, but from spy satellites it will look like we already have long-range delivery vehicles for our nukes.

And did you know that Nepal is also working on a top secret drones program? I could tell you about it, but then I'd have to kill you. Anyway, if you promise not to breathe a word of this to anyone, I can divulge in strictest confidence that the drone project is already mass producing salaried civil servants who do nothing all day. These drones may look like they are asleep at their desks, but they are decoys. Actually, they are trained to wake up and deliver groin kicks to any foreign army that

dares to invade Singha Darbar.

Then we come to the most secret weapon in our military arsenal and urinal: Nepal's highly secretive biological weapons program which is so hush-hush that even the prime minister doesn't know about it, which is not saying much, I admit.

For centuries Nepal kept out foreign invaders by deploying malaria-carrying female anopheles mosquitos along our southern border. We were never colonised because of our Mozzie Army. But since the eradication of malaria in the Tarai, we have no forward line of defence and need new ways to conduct germ warfare. For this, the Nepal Army's clandestine Bio Warfare Division is culturing genetically-modified versions of the *Vibrio cholerae* and *Giardia lamblia* bacteria which can blow up the gastro-intestinal tubes of sworn enemies with explosive force. The two bacteria have already proved to be highly effective in foiling a tourist invasion of Nepal. Covertly infiltrated into the endoplasmic reticulum, the germs wreak havoc on the digestive tract of potential invaders and make them think twice about entering Nepal's Toilet-Free Buffer Zone again.

Understandably, Nepal hasn't publicised this highly classified project, but that doesn't mean the international community can ride roughshod over us. We should be able to tell them: "Don't ride roughshod over us, you big fat bullies, otherwise we will paralyse your command and control system with verbal diarrhoea and force you to sign a mutual non-aggression pact."

The Ass



## PAST PRESENT FUTURE

DIWAKAR CHETTRI



R U trying to buy/invest or sell your property ???

R U looking for a tenant or property to rent out ???

R U searching for a rental spaces for residence/office/business ???

R U looking for a property management ???

R U searching for interior designer & architect.

R U searching for realstate legal solutions ???

R U planning to make your own house ???

R U looking for plumbers, masons, electricians, carpenters ???

**NEPALPROPERTYMARKET.COM**  
*One Stop Property Solution*

Head Office: Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal. Tel: 014414417, 6922373, 9741145917, Branch Office: Putalisadak, KTM., Nepal. Tel: 014422426, 4426560  
info@nepalpropertymarket.com / [www.nepalpropertymarket.com](http://www.nepalpropertymarket.com) / [www.npminterior.com](http://www.npminterior.com) / [www.nepalbizmart.com](http://www.nepalbizmart.com) / [www.fb.com/nepalpropertymarket](http://www.fb.com/nepalpropertymarket)