

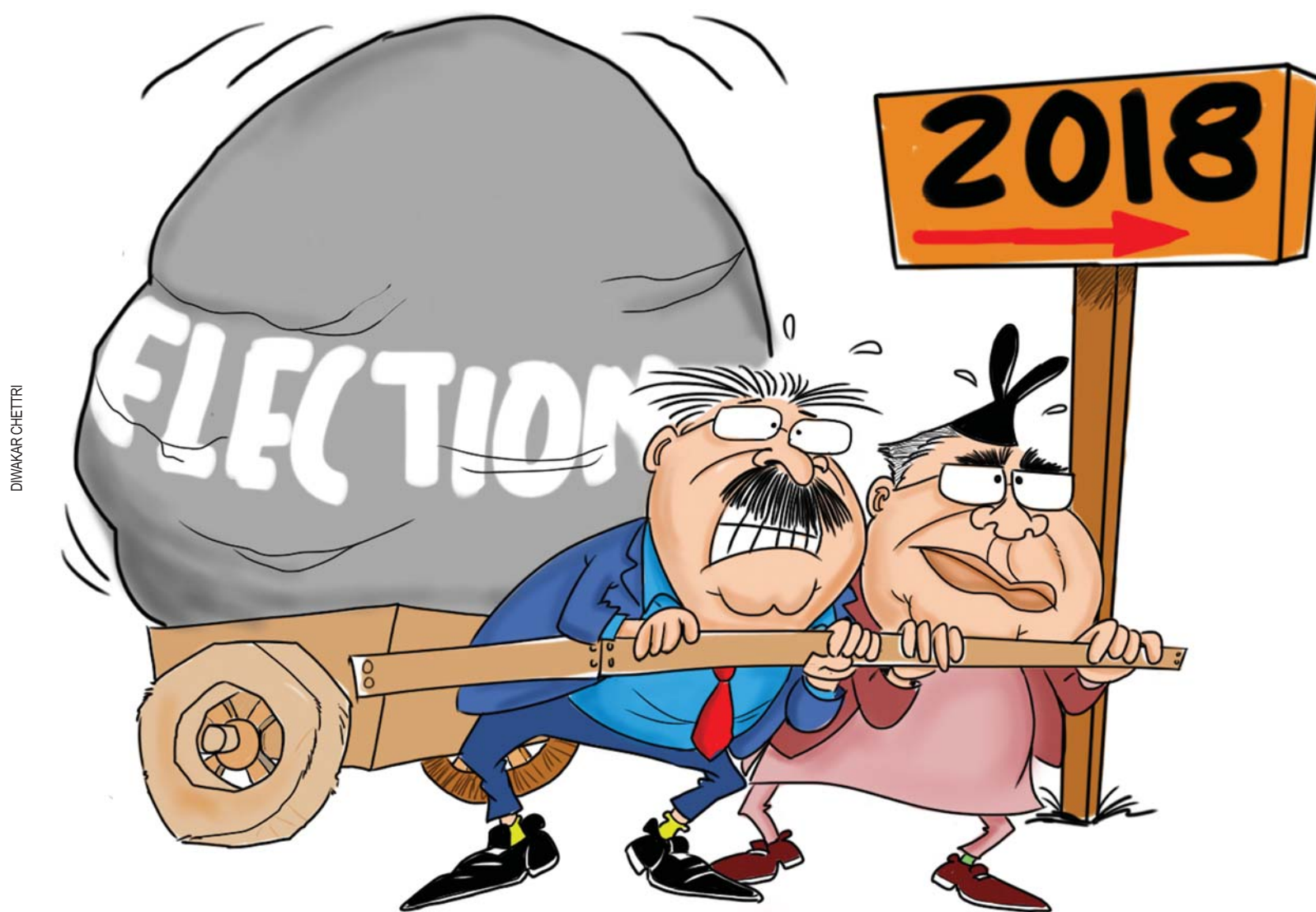
Indexfurniture
MEMBER MONTH
FEB 16 - MAR 15

8% OFF ON REGULAR ITEMS & **EXTRA 5% OFF** ON SALE ITEMS

GET YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW TO AVOID THE BENEFITS!

Indexfurniture
FURNITURE THAT MAKES YOU SMILE

STEEL TOWER, JAWALAKHEL 5000270
METROPARK, UTTARDHOKA, LAZIMPAT 4415181, 4419308



Pulling a poll cart

Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal is under mounting pressure to announce a date for local elections, but so far he has only promised a date on which he will announce the date: 19 February.

Sunday is the Election Commission's deadline for polls to be held in two phases on 15 May and 4 June. But voting will only be possible if constitutional amendments are first passed.

Many suspect Dahal is hoping to stay on as PM if he can keep putting off elections. NC President Sher Bahadur Deuba is getting suspicious that Dahal wants to cling on to office despite their agreement to swap the post.

Dahal's spokesperson Pampha Bhusal told *Nepali*

Times: "It will be difficult to hold elections without first deciding on local bodies and the amendment."

The Local Body Restructuring Commission's proposal to create 719 councils has been rejected by Tarai-centric parties. And the second amendment to the constitution is stuck in Parliament due to opposition from the UML. Madhesi parties also want the amendment to be passed before elections dates are announced.

Election Commissioner Ayodhi Prasad Yadav has submitted a three-month schedule for local polls, and Dahal may no longer be able to avoid it.

But if Dahal fixes election dates on Sunday, the Madhesi parties that have lent their support to the NC-Maoist government will

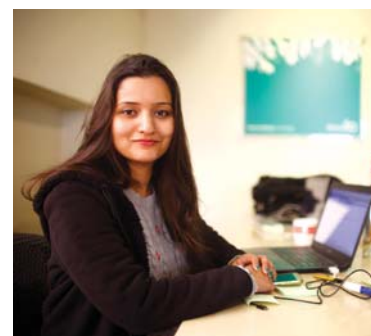
pull out. This will not topple the government, but will make it difficult to conduct polls. Rajendra Shrestha of the Federal Alliance warns: "We will go for a fresh stir if local polls are announced without amending the constitution."

So, why would the NC and the UML want local polls, however unlikely? "It is all about power, not about implementing the constitution," says Manish Suman of the Sadbhavana Party. "They just want election dates, not real elections."

Dahal needs to show he wants elections, otherwise the NC and UML could gang up against him. But he cannot go ahead with polls as long as the Tarai parties want the amendment first. He is caught between a rock and a hard place. **Om Astha Rai**

CHICKEN OR EGG?

BY **BINITA DAHAL**
PAGE 6



Nepal's Silicon Alley

Archaic laws and restricted e-commerce hold back the new motorcycle ride-sharing app, **Tootle**, and an IPO for **Sagoon**, a global social media brand started by a Nepali engineer.

PAGE 8-9

2 million by 2020

As tourism rebounds, Nepal has set an ambitious target to increase visitor numbers in the next three years.

PAGE 14-15

LAVAZZA
ITALY'S FAVOURITE COFFEE

Grand Hotel - Tahachal
Platinum Hotel - Tahachal
For Further Information Mail to :
lavazza@subhashingalini.com

CREATE YOUR "OWN" ENVIRONMENT

Divine Wines

For Trade Inquiry | Ph.: 01-4032624 | Mob.: 9801215111

TRANQUILITY SPA
"Balancing Body, Mind and Spirit"

Aroma Therapy with Rose oil
for couple at Rs. **3500/-**

☎ 01-4420424 🌐 www.tranquilityspa.com.np

AMBIENCE LIFESTYLE PVT. LTD.
BLUJI BAZAR, NAYA BANESWOR, KATHMANDU
PHONE: 4761071, 4761072
EMAIL: ambiencestyle@gmail.com

Recruitment Service Right Person at Right Place

FOCUS: Opportunity, Meeting, Placement, Understanding the requirement.

t : +977-1-4620741
e : info@gtn.com.np
w : www.gtn.com.np

greentick
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

The most convenient way to book your ticket

Book online and pay cash. Qatar Airways offers the flexibility to book online and pay offline. Within 48 hours of making your reservation on qatarairways.com, you can either pay online or by visiting Qatar Airways office at Hattisar, Kathmandu.

Check-in online 36 hours prior to departure, skip the queue and save time at the airport.

Download our mobile app for greater convenience with each journey; book flights, check flight status or check-in on the go.

For more information and to book your tickets:
🌐 Visit **qatarairways.com** 📞 Call us on +977 1 4440467

QATAR AIRWAYS
الخطوط القطرية
GOING PLACES TOGETHER

INBOUND REBOUND

Nepal's tourism industry has taken some hard knocks lately. There was the human tragedy of the earthquake, and just as the country was beginning to recover, the blockade devastated the economy. Images and posts on social media of Kathmandu's squalour and pollution have deterred visitors. News of air crashes, the chaos at Kathmandu airport, and shoddy domestic transport infrastructure haven't helped.

However, Nepal's stupendous scenery, vibrant culture and easy-going people make it a brand strong enough to withstand setbacks. It didn't even take a year for tourism arrivals to spring back to pre-earthquake totals. The Nepal Tourism Board is projecting arrival figures to surpass 800,000 this year, and break the 2012 record.

Increased hotel capacity, the addition of two international airports, Nepal Airlines spreading its wings with four new Airbuses are reasons behind the government's optimism, and setting the target to boost annual arrivals to 2 million by 2020.

This is not unrealistic. The country's location between the world's two fastest growing and biggest economies puts Nepal at a huge advantage. Tapping just 1 per cent of the 120 million Chinese tourists who travel overseas every year will represent a ten-fold increase in

the current annual total of Chinese guests in Nepal. Just concentrating on pilgrims from India can be an enormous boost to tourism. Once Lumbini Airport is operational, Buddhist pilgrim traffic will see a sharp increase. Pokhara Airport can accommodate direct international flights from India and China. Those two airports will hopefully reduce the current congestion at Kathmandu.

Tourism now provides direct employment to 700,000 Nepalis, and brought in Rs 90 billion in foreign currency in 2016, making up nearly 5 per cent of the GDP. However, attaining the 2 million visitor target by 2020 will only be meaningful if tourists spend more here, which means government policy should not be to squeeze tourists with more fees and visa hassles, but encourage the private sector to expand products and services.

Foreign investors, including international hotel chains and airlines have noticed Nepal's potential, which is why they are pouring money into joint ventures here. The ultimate test for the tourism industry will be if more of its income is routed to parts of the country where it can lift living standards. Part of the revenue the government earns from tourism should be recycled into conservation of our natural and cultural heritage.

The rebound of inbound tourism will only make sense if its benefits are decentralised.



GUEST EDITORIAL
JIWAN BAHADUR SHAHI

A solid tourism brand

Nepal's tourism industry survived a devastating earthquake two years ago. It hit rock bottom, and now it can only go up. Nepal is a solid tourism brand, and we have shown we can withstand shocks.

Many things were done right. First, the government showed it was quick to get back on its feet by holding a high-profile International Conference on Nepal's Reconstruction in Kathmandu itself two months after the earthquake in 2015. There was donor pressure to having it in India or Japan, but Finance Minister Ram Sharan Mahat insisted that it was important to hold it in Nepal to demonstrate to the world that the country was open for visitors. Second, international rescue teams and media highlighted the fact that despite having suffered so much Nepalis living in shelters were as hospitable and friendly as ever.

We will be completing two new international airports, the Kathmandu gateway is being expanded to take more flights, new luxury hotels are coming up, and Nepal Airlines is adding two new Airbus 330s. I don't think it will be difficult to bring in 2 million tourists by 2020, in fact we can get even more if we can tap our true tourism potential. So far we have only focused only Everest, Annapurna, Pokhara and Chitwan. The Far

West, for example, has tremendous adventure and pilgrimage tourism prospects.

There are some bottlenecks: mainly poor infrastructure and aviation safety. Kathmandu Airport is congested, and flights are expensive. People from Japan can fly to Australia twice for the price of a round-trip to Kathmandu. There are no direct flights to Europe. Within Nepal, it is difficult to get around.

It helps that I am a pilot myself and understand aviation. In the last five months, I have been trying to bring disused remote airfields into operation. Last week we inaugurated Kalikot, which had been under construction for 31 years. We are now reviving airfields in Bajhang, Dang, Doti and Sanfe. Nepal Airlines aircraft were sitting in the hangar, we have got four Chinese planes now flying trunk and remote routes. Our next step is to upgrade management and tackling the shortage of pilots by increasing salaries.

Arrival numbers are picking up, and we have everything in place to achieve the target of bringing in 2 million tourists by 2020.

Jiwan Bahadur Shahi is Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation and Culture.

Times.com

VIRAL ON THE WEB



FUMING KATHMANDU

An unprecedented response (3,038 shares and 246,124 views on Facebook) to the video on air pollution last week unleashed a vigorous debate on social media. If you missed it, watch the video again to see how Kathmandu copes with the rise in the level of dust and smoke in the Valley.

ONLINE VIDEOS



Nepal's start-ups have no dearth of motivated young talent, and they are working on cutting edge technologies. A young team of innovators have developed a new motorcycle ride-sharing app called Tootle. Watch video as *Nepali Times* calls a Tootle ride this week.



The April 2015 earthquake has not been a deterrent to Nepal's tourism, and last year's figures prove that Nepal is still a sought-after destination. Join us to listen to Tourism Minister Jiwan Shahi discuss how Nepal can bring in more than 2 million tourists by 2020.

BAD AIR

Steps have been identified before to clean up Kathmandu's air pollution such as banning vehicles more than 20 years old, but the transport syndicates have resisted the move ('Figuring out what to do, Arnico Panday, #845). The government needs to ban old vehicles with an iron fist. What about using compressed natural gas (CNG), which is used as a substitute for fossil fuel?

Shyamal

■ Limiting numbers of vehicles violates the economic freedom of the people (Every breath you take, Sonia Awale, #845). Impromptu and unmanaged road expansion is the major cause of the rising pollution. But road expansion is necessary, and needs to go on. The solution is simple: have 10-20 street cleaning trucks run every day for three months.

Bikash Rumey

TRANSPORT SYNDICATE

We need a strong person like the new NEA to clean up public transport sector. (Highway robbery, Shreejana Shrestha, #845)

Sue Chamberlain

WHAT'S TRENDING



Every breath we take

by *Sonia Awale*

The answer to Kathmandu's worrisome rise in air pollution and hazard to public health is to improve the Valley's public transportation system. Vehicular emissions are much more dangerous than dust.

Most reached on Facebook
(524,811 users reached)

Most shared on Facebook
(3,006 shares)

Most popular on Twitter
(134 retweets, 178 likes)

Most visited online page
(2,746 views)

Most commented
(212 comments)

QUOTE TWEETS

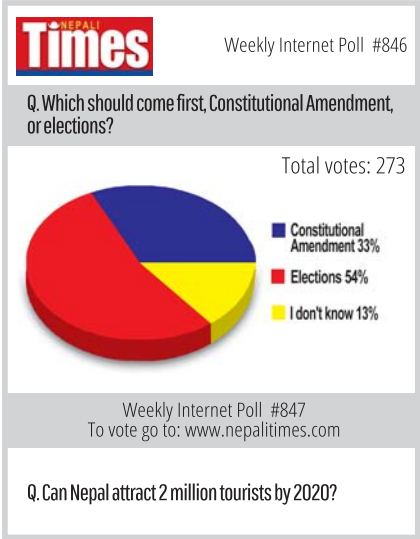
Nepali Times @nepalitimes
FUMING KATHMANDU Watch people in Kathmandu battle dust and smoke on major streets of the city Read more: <http://bit.ly/2kOzO29>

Nicky Shrestha @Kanchhuu
We used to breathe for survival but now it's the other way round. We are breathing to die. Immediate actions are indispensable.

Saurav Bikram Thapa @bootsinasses92
Aren't law makers, bureaucrats, concerned authorities, construction companies breathing the same air as we the people?

Rajan Koirala @rajankoirala
Greater planning but worse implementation and negligence by Nepal Government. Hope this goes away ASAP.

Puspa Raj Pant @Puspa_RPant
WARNING: please use mask watching this video/ dust creating #AirPollution in #Kathmandu



Nepali Times on Facebook
Follow @nepalitimes on Twitter
Follow @nepalitimes on Instagram

Publisher and Chief Editor: **Kunda Dixit**
Associate Editor: **Om Astha Rai** | Design: **Kiran Maharjan**
Published by **Himalmedia Pvt Ltd** | Patan Dhoka, Lalitpur | GPO Box 7251 Kathmandu
editors@nepalitimes.com | www.nepalitimes.com | www.himalmedia.com | Tel: 01-5005601-08 Fax: +977-1-5005518
Marketing: **Arjun Karki, Surendra Sharma** rachanas@himalmedia.com | Advertorials: **Ram Krishna Banjara** | Subscriptions: **Santosh Aryal** santosh@himalmedia.com
Printed at Jagadamba Press | 01-5250017-19 | www.jagadambapr.com



A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

WIDEN YOUR
W O R L D

TURKISH
AIRLINES



DISCOVER THE USA AND EUROPE

STARTING FROM NPR 33000*

TRAVEL PERIOD: NOW UNTIL 31ST MARCH 2017
SALES PERIOD: NOW UNTIL 31ST MARCH 2017

*TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY. TAXES ARE NOT INCLUDED. FARES MAY VARY DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY OR DEPARTING/ARRIVING DESTINATION.
TURKISH AIRLINES INC., EAST WING 1ST FLOOR, 495 NARAYAN HITI PATH, KATHMANDU, NEPAL KATHMANDU 977-1-4438363 | 4438436 | 4438856
KTMSALES@THY.COM | TURKISHAIRLINES.COM



Fire in the afternoon

Once upon a time, Lady Elephant helped put out the flames at Tiger Tops

Afternoons in the Tarai jungle in May are endless, oppressive, soporific with the heavy smell of dense grass awaiting revival by the monsoon. The thick sweltering heat shimmies as the afternoon haze dances on the horizon. Chitwan's tangled grasslands are dry and dying, matted into heaps of crackling gold and brown.



SO FAR SO GOOD
Lisa Choegyol

I was a newcomer to the Tiger Tops world and keen to be part of the team. Not just with the boss Jim Edwards, his brother John and Chuck McDougal, but particularly with the Nepali staff, many of whom had been there since the Lodge first opened in 1964. My special favourites were the Subedar headman, whose flat teak-coloured features and cropped hair belied an air of unassailable authority, and master tiger tracker Krishna Gurung, who had a shy



TREE TOP: Tiger Tops in the 1970. Its unique design and location in the Inner Tarai with Himalchuli visible to the north helped introduce Nepal to the world.

smile that lit up his face and a fluid gait hard to keep up with on jungle trails. I already had earned a nickname, I learned later – Hattini, which means Lady Elephant. I like to think this was due to my nearly six-foot height.

The Tiger Tops lodge community numbered about 200 people if you included the elephant camp and the chaps who laboured to pump the water and tend the roads. Dressed in shades of buff and khaki, we were a self-contained group with

lives defined by our jobs, a hierarchy of interlocked relationships. Like living on a ship, I used to think, sailing in a sea of trees.

Room boys doubled as waiters, shikaris guided walks and safaris, and drivers were also skilled mechanics, which was just as well given the ageing Land Rover fleet. Some of the open green jeeps were peppered with bullet holes, allegedly acquired in some non-specific regional warzone before being divested by the British Army, and one had a tin-opener gash in the door made by a charging rhino.

Mornings were busy with organising logistics – elephant safaris, wildlife walks, jeep drives, elephant camp visits, room lists, menus, supplies, flight and road arrivals and departures. The black board in the cramped wood office with screened windows behind the kitchen was our

blueprint for the day.

One hot afternoon soon after I arrived, I was battling the humidity pouring with sweat even while I rested motionless on the bed. It was that quiet time of respite when guests had been despatched on their safaris and we had a rare hour to ourselves.

Someone hammering on the door jolted me out of my reverie. "Come quickly, memsahib, the kitchen is on fire!" As I raced down the packed mud path, the crackling in the air reached me at the same time as the shouts of the boys. The smell of burning was unmistakable and as I crossed the rickety wooden footbridge I could see flames rising from the kitchen roof. A stone building with wooden beams and glassless windows, only sheets of corrugated iron separated the sparks of the open cooking fires from the grass of the thatched roof.

It was a chaotic scene. Water was being carried from the pumps and river in buckets, and a few brave souls were on the kitchen roof, trying to separate the grass from the flames so it did not ignite further. The air was filled with flying black cinders and everyone was shouting advice as I took my place, using my height to lift the pails up to the men on the roof. Soon a more orderly relay line was formed as the buckets were passed from person to person, then to me to hoist up to eager hands. It was not long before the embers were drenched, the danger subsided and fear of the fire spreading was quashed. The main lodge rooms, central gol ghar, office and store were all safe.

Smearred with ash and soaked with spilled water, we hugged each other with relief. I can still smell the burning grass stench that filled our throats and nostrils. "That was close," observed Chuck, ever sparing with words. "Your height came in handy." Krishna smiled at me kindly, and the Subedar unexpectedly shook my hand. On that hot afternoon, Hattini earned her stripes and now belonged to the Tiger Tops team. 🇳🇵

Lisa Choegyol is a Brit who has made Nepal her home since the mid 1970s. ©

Pataleban Vineyard Resort
Managed By Banyan Tree Nepal

NOT TOO FAR NOT TOO CLOSE

Weekend or weekdays Pataleban Vineyard Resort is the place to rejuvenate yourself with friends and family. A perfect gateway to get refreshed from your daily hectic routine.

We are here for your service with,

- Deluxe / Superior Rooms with Packages
- Family Retreat
- Day Conferences
- Resident Conference Packages
- Family / Corporate Day Picnics
- Orientation Programs
- Team Building Activities
- Wine Testing
- Day Hiking
- Forest Walk
- BBQ Facility

Contact US:
Chisapani-5, Baad Bhanjyang, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 00977 1 4316377, 9841679364
Kathmandu Sales Office:
Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 00977 1 4005220
Email: info@patalebanresort.com
www.patalebanresort.com

Mango Chili

Located in the newly renovated Labim Mall in Pulchok, Mango Chili promises a fresh and unique vibe this side of the river. With modern décor and an interior design unlike that of any other traditional Thai restaurant in town, the restaurant offers a contemporary twist to lemon grass, tamarind and shrimp Tom yum.

Greeted with a smile on arrival, the impeccable service and over-accommodating waiters make dining at Mango Chili an experience comparable to that of a five-star restaurant. If you're having trouble choosing from the array of meals on offer, the waiters are glad to oblige with rational advice.

Mango Chili offers curries, rice and noodle dishes, soups, an Asian pan range and salads.

We were also enticed by the array of dessert options which were all under Rs 225 and included sorbet, chocolate brownie, and blueberry heesecake. Nothing Thai about those items, of course, but they complemented the spicy main course.

The choice extends beyond the menu items to seating, with the option of high bench tops and stools, tables in front of the bar or closer to the back of the restaurant with some visibility of woks in action in the kitchen. Mango Chili also offers an extensive variety of

beverages including chilled and mixed drinks as well as hot brews and alcohol.

The Mango Tango (Rs180) chiller was the perfect choice to build up an appetite. Although they were not freshly-plucked mangoes, the drink tasted tropical, flavourful and light.

After an average wait of 15 minutes, leaving us enough time to develop a strong craving, we were served the Tofu Satay (Rs 175) which surpassed

option if you are in a hurry.

The next dish on our table was the Massaman Curry (Rs 475) with a side order of Steamed Rice (Rs 50). The thick curry had a medley of tastes from ingredients like cardamom, cinnamon, cloves, cumin, nutmeg, and among the exotic spices swam chunks of chicken and potato. Although at times, Nepalis may feel the curry too sweet for their taste buds, it did settle well with the rice.

To round off our meal, we tried the hot Thai Tea (Rs 150) against the waiter's recommendations and soon understood why. We were let down by its partially bitter flavour, but for regular Thai

EAT BEAT

diners or those seeking an authentic Siamese experience, you could finish off the meal with the warm brew.

Although the much anticipated arrival of Mango Chili lacks traditional Thai décor and atmosphere, the famous Pad Thai dish, which patrons swear by, has renewed interest in a quick Thai lunch for the denizens of Jhameel, Pulchok and Jawalakhel. Reasonable pricing and generous portion, as well as location in Kathmandu's fanciest mall makes this a destination for those who need to mix predictability with good taste. 

Jessica Cortis



presentation standards. While it lacked in satay sauce, the generous portioning made for a satisfying start.

Do take note of the helpful chilli guide on the menu, and if you're after a kick, the classic Tom yum with a choice of prawns (Rs 475) should be first on your order. The famous tangy Thai taste stays on your tongue, and a warm stocky taste that warms up your insides. The dish easily fed two people, and can be a good

prabhu Bank BIZ BRIEFS

House of music

M.A.W. Music, authorised distributor of Yamaha Music, opened its showroom for professional audio systems and musical instruments in Naxal. Inaugurated



by famed Nepali band, 1974 AD, the showroom will also display musical accessories of renowned international companies like Konig & Meyer and D'Addario.

Cool tech

Chinese telecommunications equipment company Coolpad is now available in Nepal with Jaima Intercontinental as its sole authorised distributor. The company unveiled its flagship smartphone model Cool 1 along with models Note 3S, Mega 3 and Mega 2.5D.



On air delights

Cathay Pacific in partnership with Tosca, the Michelin-starred Italian restaurant at



The Ritz-Carlton in Hong Kong, launched an inflight menu promotion. Offered till 30 April, it will be available for first and business class passengers on selected flights departing from Hong Kong.

Prize for paint

Berger Paints announced the launch of its season offer 'Berger Nagadpati' with Nepali actress Priyanka Karki as its



campaign ambassador. Each customer will receive a 100 sq.ft. of Silk Illusion designers finish of their choice on participation. Winners of the campaign can get cash prizes up to Rs 1 million.

prabhu Bank

BRITISH COUNCIL

SOUTHBANK CENTRE



@ NEPAL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE, JAWALAKHEL

ON 18 FEBRUARY, 2017 11 AM - 8 PM

#WOWKTM

FREE ENTRY



EXCITING MUSICAL PERFORMANCES
INSPIRING STORIES, TALKS, WORKSHOPS
AND A HAPPENING MARKET PLACE!

Curating Partners



Organising Partner



Event Partner



For more info visit:

www.britishcouncil.org.np

Find WOW Kathmandu on Facebook

Mango Chili

Located in the newly renovated Labim Mall in Pulchok, Mango Chili promises a fresh and unique vibe this side of the river. With modern décor and an interior design unlike that of any other traditional Thai restaurant in town, the restaurant offers a contemporary twist to lemon grass, tamarind and shrimp Tom yum.

Greeted with a smile on arrival, the impeccable service and over-accommodating waiters make dining at Mango Chili an experience comparable to that of a five-star restaurant. If you're having trouble choosing from the array of meals on offer, the waiters are glad to oblige with rational advice.

Mango Chili offers curries, rice and noodle dishes, soups, an Asian pan range and salads.

We were also enticed by the array of dessert options which were all under Rs 225 and included sorbet, chocolate brownie, and blueberry heesecake. Nothing Thai about those items, of course, but they complemented the spicy main course.

The choice extends beyond the menu items to seating, with the option of high bench tops and stools, tables in front of the bar or closer to the back of the restaurant with some visibility of woks in action in the kitchen. Mango Chili also offers an extensive variety of

beverages including chilled and mixed drinks as well as hot brews and alcohol.

The Mango Tango (Rs180) chiller was the perfect choice to build up an appetite. Although they were not freshly-plucked mangoes, the drink tasted tropical, flavourful and light.

After an average wait of 15 minutes, leaving us enough time to develop a strong craving, we were served the Tofu Satay (Rs 175) which surpassed

option if you are in a hurry.

The next dish on our table was the Massaman Curry (Rs 475) with a side order of Steamed Rice (Rs 50). The thick curry had a medley of tastes from ingredients like cardamom, cinnamon, cloves, cumin, nutmeg, and among the exotic spices swam chunks of chicken and potato. Although at times, Nepalis may feel the curry too sweet for their taste buds, it did settle well with the rice.

To round off our meal, we tried the hot Thai Tea (Rs 150) against the waiter's recommendations and soon understood why. We were let down by its partially bitter flavour, but for regular Thai

EAT BEAT

diners or those seeking an authentic Siamese experience, you could finish off the meal with the warm brew.

Although the much anticipated arrival of Mango Chili lacks traditional Thai décor and atmosphere, the famous Pad Thai dish, which patrons swear by, has renewed interest in a quick Thai lunch for the denizens of Jhameel, Pulchok and Jawalakhel. Reasonable pricing and generous portion, as well as location in Kathmandu's fanciest mall makes this a destination for those who need to mix predictability with good taste. 

Jessica Cortis



presentation standards. While it lacked in satay sauce, the generous portioning made for a satisfying start.

Do take note of the helpful chilli guide on the menu, and if you're after a kick, the classic Tom yum with a choice of prawns (Rs 475) should be first on your order. The famous tangy Thai taste stays on your tongue, and a warm stocky taste that warms up your insides. The dish easily fed two people, and can be a good

prabhu Bank BIZ BRIEFS

House of music

M.A.W. Music, authorised distributor of Yamaha Music, opened its showroom for professional audio systems and musical instruments in Naxal. Inaugurated



by famed Nepali band, 1974 AD, the showroom will also display musical accessories of renowned international companies like Konig & Meyer and D'Addario.

Cool tech

Chinese telecommunications equipment company Coolpad is now available in Nepal with Jaima Intercontinental as its sole authorised distributor. The company unveiled its flagship smartphone model Cool 1 along with models Note 3S, Mega 3 and Mega 2.5D.



On air delights

Cathay Pacific in partnership with Tosca, the Michelin-starred Italian restaurant at



The Ritz-Carlton in Hong Kong, launched an inflight menu promotion. Offered till 30 April, it will be available for first and business class passengers on selected flights departing from Hong Kong.

Prize for paint

Berger Paints announced the launch of its season offer 'Berger Nagadpati' with Nepali actress Priyanka Karki as its



campaign ambassador. Each customer will receive a 100 sq.ft. of Silk Illusion designers finish of their choice on participation. Winners of the campaign can get cash prizes up to Rs 1 million.

prabhu Bank

BRITISH COUNCIL

SOUTHBANK CENTRE



@ NEPAL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE, JAWALAKHEL

ON 18 FEBRUARY, 2017 11 AM - 8 PM

#WOWKTM

FREE ENTRY



EXCITING MUSICAL PERFORMANCES
INSPIRING STORIES, TALKS, WORKSHOPS
AND A HAPPENING MARKET PLACE!

Curating Partners



Organising Partner



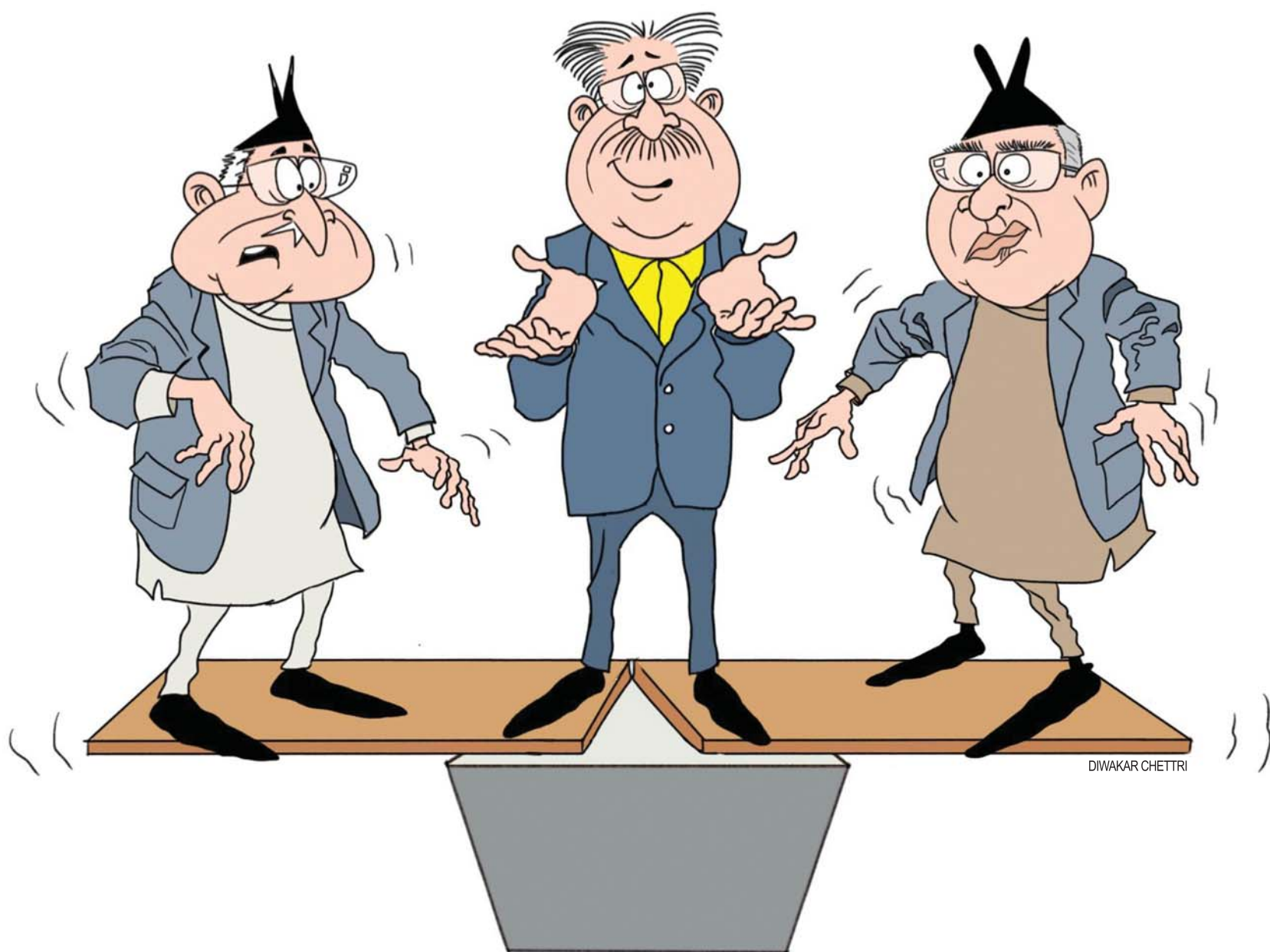
Event Partner



For more info visit:

www.britishcouncil.org.np

Find WOW Kathmandu on Facebook



Chicken or egg?

What comes first, election or amendment?

The Election Commission (EC) has been repeatedly asking the government to announce the election date. Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal has



LEGALESE
Binata Dahal

responded by giving a date when he will announce the date: 19 February.

That is also the deadline that the EC gave the government if

the first of three elections that are supposed to be completed in 2017 to avoid a constitution crisis can be held by May.

Dahal was already under pressure to forge a consensus with the Tarai-centric parties that have flatly rejected elections if their demand for constitutional amendments are not met. Now, there is an added sense of urgency as the opposition UML has started exploratory meetings with the Madhesi parties.

Dahal's meeting with Chief Election Commissioner on Wednesday was not the first

time that he has promised a date for elections. But he hopes to negotiate over the weekend with the UML, NC and the Madhesi parties to forge a consensus by then.

If wishes were horses, however, Dahal would ride. The UML has been obstructing parliamentary proceedings for over two months, delaying not just debate on the amendments but also the passage of necessary electoral bills. Tarai-centric parties have warned of new agitation if elections are held without amendments. And now

the UML and the Madhesi parties are talking – that is not good news for Dahal.

Even if the government can announce the date, there are still doubts about whether local elections can be held. The Maoists do not want to face elections, the UML is confident it has public opinion in its favour, whereas the NC wants to consolidate its hold in the Tarai. The Tarai-centric parties, for their part, think they can dominate neither local nor provincial councils. They would rather stand aside to show

that the government has failed to implement the constitution and hold the elections. This opposition to Dahal is what has brought the UML and the Madhesi Front together.

Meanwhile, NC Chairman Deuba who supported Dahal last August to lead their coalition, is having doubts about Dahal stepping down as agreed in April. Meanwhile, President Bidya Devi Bhandari has urged all parties to agree on elections and focus on implementing the new constitution.

Dahal got to be prime minister in August after ditching the UML and forcing K P Oli to step down. Dahal doesn't want to make the same mistake he did in 2009 after sacking the army chief, and wants to be seen as wanting elections even if he doesn't. Oli is angling for revenge. Deuba is in panic mode.

The Maoists are now so badly split and the governing Maoist Centre is so discredited that it fears falling to fifth place in Parliament if elections are held. Dahal wants to go through the motions of an elections, but doesn't want it to actually happen. The Madhesi Front has also sensed that it is not going to do well even in its own heartland since most people are fed up with the leadership. Which is why it is raising one objection after another on the amendment, determined to stall polls.

When the government is taking too much time to fix the date of the local level election people have started predicting that the government will not be able to hold all three elections within the time. Because of the delays, there are now serious doubts not just about local elections but also voting for provincial assemblies and the federal parliament. This could lead to a constitution crisis.

However, the issue is sure to go to Supreme Court. There is a precedent for the Supreme Court to allow the first Constituent Assembly to extend its term, and the full bench giving it the last chance in 2012. Faced with such a crisis, the political cartel is also expected to finally reach a consensus to extend its own term, showing that in Nepal – just like in love and war -- anything is possible. 🇳🇵

TRANQUILITY SPA
presents

Aroma Therapy Massage
with Rose oil for Couples

@ just Rs. **3500/-**

Happy Valentines Offer




www.tranquilityspa.com.np
info@tranquilityspa.com.np

Lazimpat: 01-4425386
Kupondol: 01-5528125
Pokhara: 061-466260
Thamel: 01-4260850
Serenity Spa: 01-4700248

Hotel Marriot Putrajaya, Malaysia: +603-89498888
Palm Garden Hotel, Malaysia: +603-89432233
Hatten Hotel Melaka, Malaysia: +6062869696

Radisson Hotel: 01-4423888
Hotel Shangri-La: 01-4412999
Shankar Hotel: 01-4410151
Mirage Lord Inn: 01-4487600
Dhulikhel Mt. Resort: 011-490660

*Conditions Apply



Enter the world of furnishing...

- ✦ Flooring/ Furnishing
- ✦ Imported Sofas/Recliners
- ✦ Rods
- ✦ Rugs

- ✦ Mattresses
- ✦ Wallpapers
- ✦ Bed Covers

Banking Partner
N-BILINSTALLMENT Available at 0% Interest to Nabil Credit Card Holder

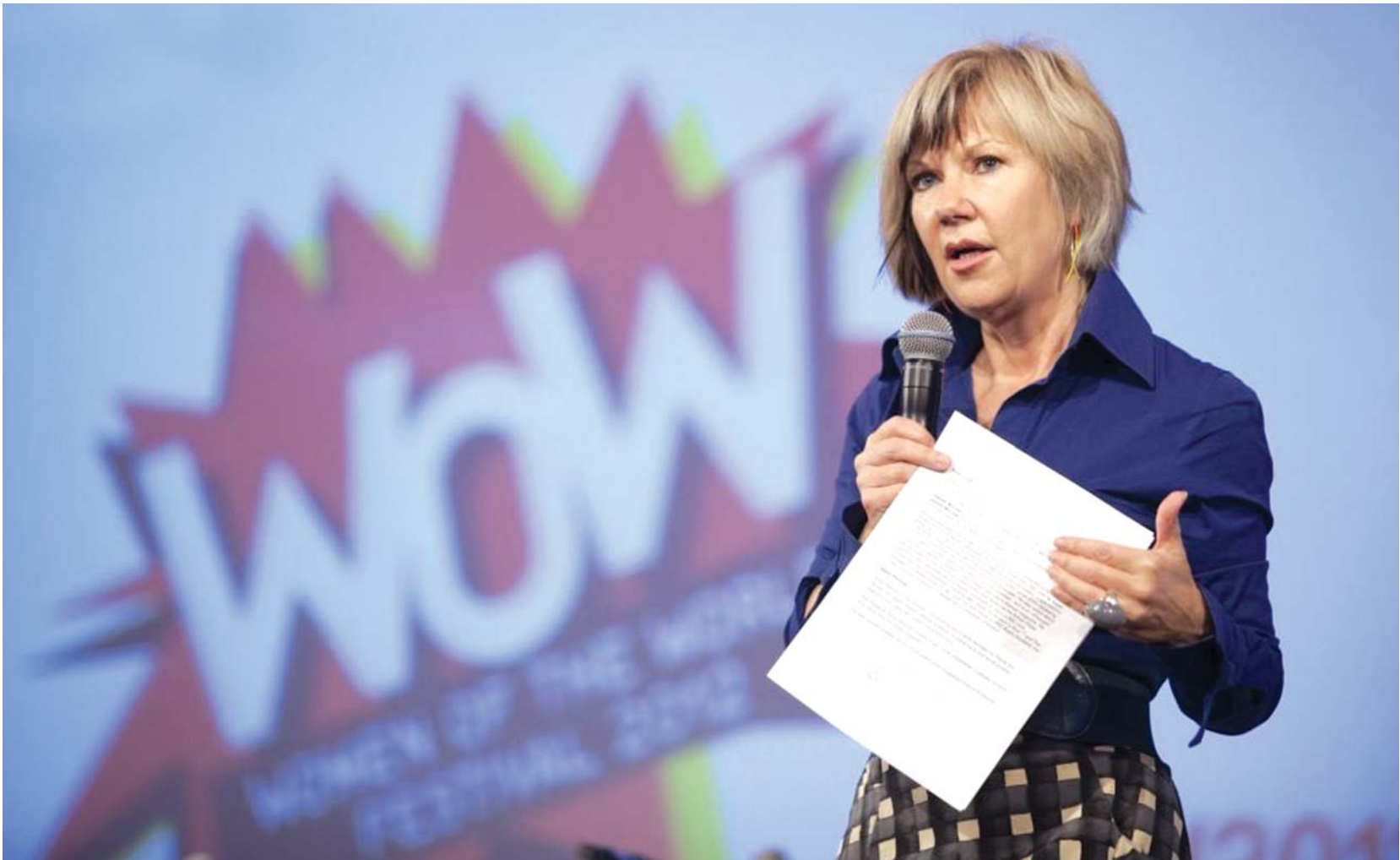
New Madan Furnishers Pvt. Ltd.
Kupondole, Lalitpur, Nepal
Tel: 552 3236, 552 0318 Fax: 553 6927
info@nmfurnishers.com | www.nmfurnishers.com



There is a westerly front hovering over the Indian Himalaya, and not making much progress towards Central Nepal. This system, however, is sending some high altitude clouds our way which will bring overcast skies over the midhills and Tarai – bringing down the maximum temperature but not much precipitation. But there will be snowfall over the mountains of Western and Central Nepal that trekkers headed for the higher passes need to watch out for. Minima will climb to the double digits over the weekend in Kathmandu for the first time this year.

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
22° 9°	22° 10°	21° 10°

Going places together - qatarairways.com



SOUTHBANK, LONDON

WORLDY-WISE WOMEN

A whole day of stories, workshops, panels, performance by women for women this Saturday

SMRITI BASNET

In 2010, Britisher Jude Kelly (*above*) started a festival called Women of the World (WOW) to encourage conversations, celebrate stories and experiences of women from different walks of life.

Seven years later and the festival has grown into a full fledged global movement, way beyond what Kelly had expected.

“I really wanted to say that if you are a woman, or if you know a woman, this festival can celebrate your history and challenge any obstacles that are being experienced in the world,” Kelly told *Nepali Times* over e-mail. Kelly is also Southbank Centre’s Artistic Director.

This year, Kathmandu too, will host its own WOW festival in partnership with the British Council on 18 February, weeks ahead of International Women’s Day on 8 March. The festival has already been held in 20 cities across five continents.

“Through celebrating the achievements of the women they provide powerful role models, and through bringing together people from across South Asia they help to build a powerful network,” said Jim Hollington, Director of Arts South Asia of British Council.

The event comes at a time when women’s issues are being strongly voiced in the country - in both social and political context. Kelly noted: “There is still too strong a perception that women’s equality would undermine men’s

identity and destroy cultural traditions.”

Kelly will be among 99 speakers, panelists, mentors and performers who will be present at the event on Saturday. Other speakers include Anuradha Koirala,

Sunita Danuwar, Malvika Subba, Loonibha Tuladhar, Kripa Joshi and others. Sri Lankan mountaineer who climbed Mt Everest, Jayanthi Kuru Utumpala, will also be attending to talk about the challenges of

not just climbing the world’s highest mountain but also fitting into a male-dominated sport.

“My experience has shown that one’s gender really does not matter,” said Utumpala who hopes to inspire others.

Pakistani tech incubator Jehna Ara hopes to bring in her experiences of working in technology and the media at the event. Passionate about empowerment of women and youth, Ara believes it is technology that has enabled cities to engage with policy

makers and make their own viewpoints known.

“I can’t wait to get up and go to work where I am surrounded by young men and women with stars in their eyes,” said Ara who has helped start initiatives like Pakistan branch of Women on the Web, Take Back the Tech, and Women’s Virtual Network.

Nepali social entrepreneur Sumana Shrestha lays emphasis on data to assess and find solutions to existing problems. “Numbers give us target, and they give us something to fight against,” said Shrestha, founder of the Facebook group Carpool Kathmandu which offered rides during the Indian blockade last year. Shrestha will share the stage with Ara and many other speakers to talk on ‘Taking over Tech’.

“I hope feminists connect over this event, that will be the single best outcome,” said Shrestha of her expectations.

However, apart from women themselves, the event has gone on to include men like Kapil Kafle, who has actively been involved with MenEngage Alliance, an NGO established in 2007 in Nepal to encourage men to also fight gender inequality.

“There have been some male politicians who have raised issue of women’s rights and female foeticide, dowry giving, property rights and several other issues have also been taken up by male MPs,” said Kafle. However, despite such progress, he feels more needs to be done.

British Council hopes to host another WOW event in 2018 in South Asia.

Cultivating Partnerships

11 PRODUCTION UNITS

800+ EMPLOYEES

QUALIFIED TEAMS

25,000+ FARMER PARTNERS IN ALMOST 70 DISTRICTS

PARTNERSHIPS WITH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ACTORS

9 COMPANY OWNED DEPOTS

600+ DEALER/SUB-DEALER NETWORKS & EXPANDING

25000 MT GRAIN STORAGE FACILITY

Animal Health & Nutrition | Livestock Feed | Feed Supplements | Soya & Maize Demo Plantation | Solvent Extraction

Nimbus Krishi Kendra (Agri Input Trading) | Poly-woven Fabrics | Non-woven Fabrics | Paint Chemicals & Resins | Edible Oil | Grain Packing & Trading

www.nimbusnepal.com

[nimbus.com.np](https://www.facebook.com/nimbus.com.np)

Kathmandu's Silico

Archaic laws and limited e-commerce hold back start-up offering a new motorcycle ride-sharing app

SONIA AWALE

On his daily commute from Chabahil to Jawalakhel, Aayush Subedi used to give rides to friends going in the same direction. He saw others who needed rides, and many like him who could share. So, the 27-year-old engineering student who came back to Nepal after graduating from an American university, designed a motorcycle ride sharing app. However, even though talented young people like Subedi are ready for Nepal, Nepal may not yet be ready for them.

Subedi is not allowing obsolete rules and the bureaucracy to deter him. He says, “Despite start-ups being risky business, I believe things are changing, more people are turning their ideas into new ventures.”

After returning from the US, Subedi started working on tech products with Three60 Consulting, and designed an app to track Sajha buses with which users could save time by finding out when the next bus would arrive. But the app didn’t take off, and out of sheer boredom the team started working on a motorbike ride-sharing mobile platform called Tootle.

At the glass panelled nerve centre of Three60 in Jawalakhel, Subedi projects a



map of Kathmandu with the location of available drivers and demonstrates how Tootle works (*see box*).

“Initially we were worried about the response and did not have high expectations,” recalls Princi Koirala who looks after the business development and marketing. “But Tootle must be meeting a need because it is becoming popular with consumers and the technology is translating into a brand.”

Koirala, 26, is an electronics engineer with an MBA degree from Nepal, and has worked from scratch on tootle with Subedi. She also feels that Nepal’s laws lag behind innovations possible in the IT industry.

“Working in a technology company I

have realised that the expertise is there, and because the industry is new there are challenges. But that is what makes it exciting,” says Koirala. “I tell young Nepalis to go overseas, study, learn skills and come back. There are a lot of opportunities here, and the country needs us.”

Subedi, for his part, had a job as a graphics designer and worked in server architecture in the US before deciding to return to Nepal. He is excited about the future of Tootle which completed its first 1,000 rides in just a month after launching on 1 January. Asked why he returned to Nepal, Subedi replies: “In the US you work because you need to, not necessarily because you like what you are doing. My job

wasn’t bad, but I wasn’t getting to do what I wanted which was programming. Here in Nepal you get to be someone.”

Nepal’s start-up sector has no dearth of motivated young talent like Subedi and Koirala, who have found fulfilling jobs despite archaic laws and underdeveloped e-commerce.

“The younger generation is coming up with new ideas, yet the government is reluctant to encourage them, but if you don’t push you don’t innovate,” explains lawyer Anup Uprety. He says there is nothing in the law to actually restrict a shared economy, but the culture of cartels and monopolies adds to the challenge of doing business in Nepal. Innovative ideas like Tootle will not



PICS: SAGOON

SAHINA SHRESTHA

With Facebook, Twitter and YouTube dominating the social media, one would have thought there is no room for anyone else. But IT entrepreneur Govinda Giri (*above*) is out to change that.

A Nepali based in Washington DC, Giri launched the social media platform Sagoon in 2014 to try to transform the way young people around the world network on the web.

Born and brought up in Sankhuwasabha in eastern Nepal, Giri was doing his master’s in literature in the 1980s

Soon, Sagoon

A Nepali sets out to change the way the world uses social media

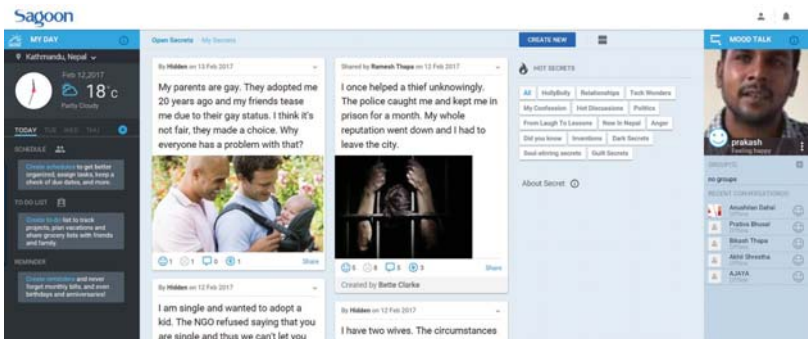
when he happened to take MS DOS classes at a computer institute in Putali Sadak.

“I knew there and then that I found my calling,” recalls Giri. With limited opportunities in Nepal, he knew that he would have to head out to a wider world.

He started from scratch in the United States, enrolling in a community college in Virginia to study English and joined Andrew University in Michigan to study Computer Science. Giri then got a job as a network engineer at the Pentagon.

“Every day I went to work, I asked myself what I was doing there,” says Giri. “The job paid my bills, my family was proud of me, but I was never satisfied.”

Giri was obsessed with the idea of a



search engine to rival Google and Yahoo and launched Sagoon in 2009. It was designed to use semantic searches to generate more relevant results by pairing traditional keywords with algorithms that



NEPAL
WHEREVER
YOU ARE.
Times.com

con Alley and the law



PICS: GOPEN RAI

NET ARCHITECTS: Princi Koirala (*far left*) and Aayush Subedi represent a new breed of young Nepali techies designing world-class apps like Tootle for sharing motorcycle rides.

trying to develop a culture of sharing rides. People call it a ride-sharing app, but what Tootle is effectively doing is creating jobs."

The government, instead of encouraging innovation, appears to be putting hurdles on the path of young Nepalis with ideas. Out-dated laws, red tape and limitations on online payments are discouraging, but that does not deter entrepreneurs like Bhatta at Three60.

"Young Nepalis have amazing minds, and are working on cutting edge technologies. They are all doing it for a cause and need to be motivated. The law needs to follow technology, and not the other way around," says Bhatta.

One morning this week, Koirala and Subedi arrive at their Jawalakhel office after providing rides to passengers on their motorcycles. Koirala immediately starts tracking one of her colleagues hiring a ride to the office, while Subedi closely follows the process to fix minor kinks in the app.

For now, Subedi says he is challenged and excited: "I am quite satisfied with where I am at the moment, but I'd like to go abroad again for my masters. Will I return? We will have to wait and see." 🇳🇵



Follow Eelesh Rajkarnikar, one of the Tootle bikers, as he picks up a passenger by a phone app and helps her get to her destination in Kathmandu faster than a bus and cheaper than a taxi.

nepalitimes.com

grow in a traditional legal system.

Tootle's co-founder Sixit Bhatta has a telecommunication background, and says he had to engineer a means to get around the limitations of payment gateways. Because credit card payment is complicated in Nepal, users pay for rides using an eSewa account.

Although Tootle hasn't been officially notified, the Department of Transport Management says Tootle is illegal, citing a rule that private vehicles are not allowed to serve as taxis.

Bhatta maintains that Tootle is not a taxi service, but works on the concept of a shared economy made possible by mobile connectivity. He says, "It is a platform for our bikers and normal people to connect. We are

analysed content between sites finding their hidden similarities.

Although it held promise, the venture fizzled out for financial reasons. In 2013 Giri quit his Pentagon job, decided to devote full time to refining Sagoon, and worked from his basement.

"My wife wouldn't have let me quit if she knew the real reason, so I lied to her and said I was fired," Giri smiles. Sagoon Version 2.0 was officially launched last year by Prime Minister KP Oli in Kathmandu.

"What sets Sagoon apart from its competition is that instead of turning users into celebrities, it keeps the connection real, allowing users to connect, share and earn by spending time on it," Giri explains. Its Social Smart Card allows users to earn and spend money as well as redeem coupons and gift cards. Users earn 5 per cent of the revenue the company generates from the time they spent socialising on the network.

Sagoon offers features like My Day to create and share schedules and to-do-lists, and set reminders. A Secret Sharing tool

allows users to share learnings, findings, and experiences, and Mood Talk for group or private chat where, for privacy, messages are deleted after 24 hours.

Last week the startup announced a mini IPO through which accredited investors from around the world can put in as little as \$299 and own a piece of the company. Giri hopes to raise \$20 million, and admits that although investing in start-ups can be risky, if the company is successful the return on investment is also high.

"If you look at the history of high-tech companies in the last 20 years, especially in America, two types of people became millionaires: early investors and early employees," says Giri, who plans to give back to Nepal by registering Sagoon here and building an IT hub.

He adds: "Even though Nepalis in Nepal are not allowed to invest in Sagoon, we have a plan that will add good economic value to the country. When a company prospers, the country prospers."

Faulty, outdated rules, failures in implementing policy and a lack of clear guidelines are hindering the growth of the tech industry in Nepal. New investment and a surge of youthful talent in recent years have expanded IT start-ups. Yet, innovation is held back due to archaic laws and bureaucratic red tape.

"Without a doubt, our laws are outdated. But laws follow technology and not the other way around. At the pace technology is moving ahead, laws simply can't keep up," explains Hempal Shrestha of the Federation of Computer Associations of Nepal.

For example, the Department of Transport Management has a legal issue with the motorcycle ride-sharing app, Tootle. The government segregated green and black plates for tourist buses and taxis, while red are for private vehicles, mostly motorcycles. The green and black plates pay taxes, whereas there is no such tax for red plates.

You Tootle, too?

Say you don't want to bicycle in Kathmandu because of the pollution, and avoid buses because they are crowded. Just download Tootle on your phone and provide your name and email address. A registration code is automatically generated.

If you have a motorcycle and want to make money on the side, download Tootle Partner. It asks you to upload a picture of your driving license and open an eSewa account for online transactions.

And you are both all set. Users book their rides by setting a pick up and drop off location with options of right now, 15 minutes later, 30 minutes later and an hour later. The location of the user and available bikers nearby can be easily tracked with Google maps.

Users can also choose the gender of the driver. A female passenger can either choose a female or male driver, and vice versa. A user can also enable an automatic safety SMS to a predefined number of people to inform them of where they were picked up, the destination and the number of the motorbike.

Once the ride is completed, both the parties have to rate each other on their experience and provide feedback. Poorly rated bikers will have to explain why, and some have been blocked.

Tootle currently offers Rs 200 free top-up for registered users. The service costs Rs 50 (inclusive of tax) for the first 3km and an additional Rs 12 per km. The bikers get 80 per cent of the payment.

Install Tootle <https://tootle.today>

Currently available only on Android Play Store.



High tech black hole

"Tootle disrupted the market, there is no policy to hire red plate vehicles, so Tootle will create a demand for the law to evolve, just as e-payment systems have been demanding a banking license," says Shrestha.

The lack of payment getaways is a major hurdle for IT start-ups, and Nepal still doesn't have a reliable mode of online credit card payment and mobile cash hasn't really taken off. E-payment systems like eSewa aren't regulated and don't yet have a banking license.

"There is no law in Nepal that allows people to pay online securely. But the most important thing for thriving e-commerce is making financial access possible," says analyst Sujeev Shakya.

The free market economy is also not functioning normally because of a rent-seeking state and cartels protected by political patronage. Location and logistics are also a hindrance because many streets in Nepal do not show on Google maps.

Recently, Sagoon, an American social media start-up funded by overseas Nepalis launched a mini IPO, but Nepalis wanting to invest found they couldn't because of strict laws barring Nepalis from sending money abroad.

"It is possible to invest outside Nepal if we follow certain channels, we do have good policies in place. The problem lies in implementation and the lack of clear-cut guidelines. We need case-by-case clarity for investing abroad," said Shrestha.

The IT industry, especially, needs strong financial mechanisms for e-commerce and cross-border payments. This limits the full potential for growth of ventures like Sagoon and Tootle. The good news is that the government is coming up with a new draft regulation National Intellectual Property Policy 2016 and an Umbrella Act for IT which should streamline e-commerce regulation.

Sonia Awale

AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION EXPO

2017

Radisson Hotel Lazimpat

FEBRUARY 18 SATURDAY

10AM - 5PM

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT @ 4222844 / 4251404

REGISTER ONLINE @ <http://pacasia.org/australia-expo-nepal>

Three Sixty Education Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
Prudent Building - 4th Floor, Kamaladi, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 4222844/4251404 Email: info@360education.edu.np
website: www.pacasia.org facebook: PacAsiaNepal

in association with **PACASIA STUDYABROAD**

FREE ENTRY

APPLICATION FEE WAIVER

NO PROCESSING FEE

50% DISCOUNT IELTS / TOEFL PREP CLASSES

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

EVENTS



Bird watching,

Enjoy a hike and spot birds with a group of fellow bird lovers led by Vimal Thapa. 18 February, Suryabinayak Forest, Bhaktapur, Meeting Time: 7 am, Meeting Place: Suryabinayak Temple, (01) 4417805, 4420213

Textile art,

Mark your calendar for an exhibition of Mexican textiles from the state of Chiapas. Until 27 February, Siddhartha Art Gallery, Baber Mahal, 11 am to 5 pm, (01) 4433930, 4218048

Discussing pollution,

Join Drishti Kathmandu for a meet and greet session with individuals and groups working to fight air pollution. 17 February, 5 pm onwards, Nepal Communitere, Pulchok, (01) 5555856



Women run,

Jog or walk for women empowerment in this run organised to mark the International Women's Day. 4 March, 7 am onwards, Jawalakhel Football Ground, Register: bit.ly/ktmfunrun2017

Children's literature,

One-day children's literary festival featuring workshops by renowned Swiss author Marcus Pfister, Kahani Project writers from India and more. Attend also for the book stalls, shows, and interesting talks. 18 February, 10 am to 5 pm, Rato Bangala School, Patan Dhoka, www.bsmnp.org

Women of the World,

Mark your calendars for Women of the World festival, a one day festival to celebrate women and girls featuring talks, workshops, and performances. More on Page 7 18 February, 11 am to 8 pm, Staff College, Jawalakhel, (01) 4410798, http://bit.ly/2hfe6v8

Movie talk,

Attend the screening and discussion on the film, Takasera, directed by by Eva Pivač and Matjaž Pinter. 23 February, 3 pm onwards, Martin Chautari, Thapathali, Free (limited seating), (01) 4238050, 4102027, 4102243/ 9849206303



Pinkathon,

Gear up for the Kathmandu Pinkathon, a women only event, and choose to run in 3km, 5km, 10km or 21 km run to promote and encourage women empowerment. 24 February, 7 to 11 am, Dasarath Rangashala Stadium, Tripureshwar, www.kathmandupinkathon.com

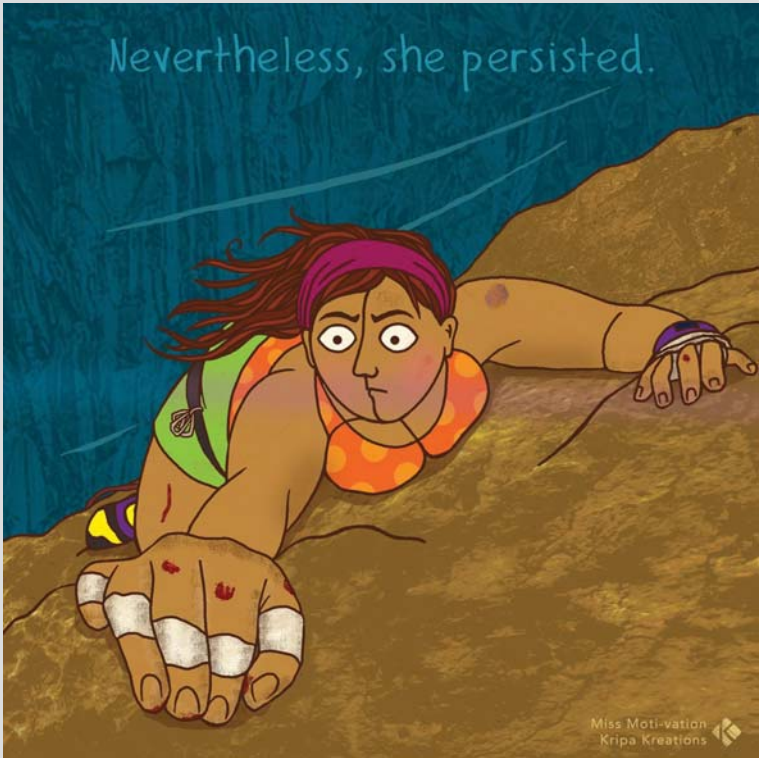
Meal for a cause,

Watch as Veda, a Russian and English group, performs a spiritual drama and dance. All proceeds from the event go towards the mid-day meal program for underprivileged school children. 25 February, Soaltee Crowne Plaza, 9801205729, Rs 3,500 per person (Tickets available at Himalayan Java, Basantapur, Dhokaima Cafe, Patan Dhoka, Keventers, Pulchok, Embassy Restaurant and Bar, Lajimpat and Jawalakhel)



MISS MOTI-VATION

KRIPA JOSHI



MUSIC



All about funk,

Tap to the beats as 14 national and international funk artists belt out some groovy numbers. 18 February, 7 to 10.30 pm, Moksh, Jhamsikhel, (01) 5528362

Soothing sufi,

Listen to Amrit Chhetri sing sufi melodies every Fridays and Saturdays. Green Leaves Restaurant, Uttara Dhoka, Lajimpat, (01) 4433002

Fusion Friday,

Enjoy as the sitar, bass and percussion trio, Kanta dAb dAb, performs soulful fusion numbers for its audience. 17 February, 7.30 to 10.30 pm onwards, Base Camp, Jhamsikhel, 9841226397, Cover charge: Rs 500

Classical night,

Spend a melodious evening listening to Nepali classical music featuring Rabin Lal Shrestha, Prabhu Raj Dhakal and Suresh Raj Bajracharya. 26 February, 7.30 to 9 pm, Kantipur Temple House, Jyatha, (01) 4250131, Rs 500



Bombay Vikings,

Save the date for Indian pop and rock group Bombay Vikings. Hear them belt out some of their hits in this live performance. 18 February, 4.30 to 8 pm, Jawalakhel Football Grounds, 9813089163/9802092034

DINING



Barista Lavazza,

The Valley's best European inspired coffee-culture cafe serves excellent mochas and lattes, don't forget to try their grilled chicken sandwich. Jawalakhel, (01)4005123, barista.nepal@gmail.com

Dechenling,

The place to head for Bhutanese and Tibetan cuisine, their pleasant and spacious garden is ideal for big gatherings. Thamel, (01) 4412158



Hyatt Regency,

Relish everything strawberry this month. Choose from a variety strawberry lychee mirror cake, chocolate, tart, crumble and other delicacies. Till 20 February, Lobby Lounge, Hyatt Regency Kathmandu, Boudha, (01) 5171234

Café Swotha,

An intimate setting in the heart of Patan, with an atmosphere of sophisticated, romantic warmth. Patan, (01) 5551184, info@traditionalhomes.com.np

Vootoo,

The new home of Newari cuisine that also has a safe continental menu for those who are not yet ready to experiment with new dishes. Lajimpat, (01)4005222

GETAWAY



Famous Farm,

Wake up to the sounds of chirping birds and a fresh morning breeze wafting in through the aankhijhyal. Nuwakot, (01)4700426, info@rural-heritage.com

Atithi Resort,

A perfect place to stay, nearby pool, massage, sauna, and delicious food of your choice. Shantipatan, Lakeside, Pokhara, (061)466760/ 400207, info@atithiresort.com



Chisapani, Kathmandu,

9841679364, pataleban@mail.com.np Temple Tree Resort and Spa, A peaceful place to stay, complete with a swimming pool, massage parlour and sauna, it'll be hard to leave once you arrive. Gaurighat, Lakeside, (61)465819

The Yellow House,

Bed and breakfast for the light traveller. Sanepa, (01)5553869/ 5522078, www.theyellowhouse.com.np



Pataleban Vineyard Resort,

16 km west of Kathmandu city, the resort is a perfect place to spend your weekends with food and wine. The resort offers astounding views of sunset and the mountains. Chisapani Baad Bhanjhyang Road, (01) 4316377

in **COPPER**

levels of filtration **4**

modernity in tradition

save time and money

ensure better health

Starting Rs 7300

To book one contact - Smart Paani Pvt. Ltd. P: 977-1-5261530, 5260506

Show this advertisement and get Special Discount

Step in for more varieties at

LIFE STYLE
DESIGN & DECOR

NEW Arrivals

Show Room:
SRD Building New Plaza, Putalisadak, Tel:4425402



GOPEN RAI

Relic of a legacy

SHUVECHCHHYA PRADHAN

Politically correct history books depict the century of rule by the Rana dynasty that ended in 1950 as being feudal and despotic. What is largely hidden is their contribution to knowledge and the arts.

One of the jewels in the Rana crown was the library set up by Field Marshal Kaiser Shumshere Rana in 1908 after he visited Great Britain with his Anglophile father, Prime Minister Chandra Shumshere. Kaiser Shumshere's collection of rare books was once regarded the largest private library in Asia with titles dealing with history, philosophy, geography, politics and religion.

The library was already suffering from government neglect, many books had pages missing and the stacks were falling apart, when the April 2015 earthquake struck. The historic palace was badly damaged,

causing the roof to leak, and large cracks opened up on the ornately decorated pillars and walls (*above*).

The books that once lined the halls and the corridors are now packed in sacks and the photographs, paintings and animal trophies are in storage. Almost two years since the earthquake, the library is still awaiting repairs and is now functioning from two rooms on the ground floor.

"We have stored away the books and haven't given full access to the public. Visitors can only read newspapers sitting on the desk outside but the other floors are not accessible," says Hiru Maharjan, showing a visitor around.

During Kaiser Shumshere's lifetime, the library was private, accessible only to family members. But scholars and researchers from the country and abroad were welcome to use the resources.

"All you had to do

was ask my father's permission and then return the book on the due date. He hated it when people didn't return books on time," recalls Lok Bhakta Rana, Kaiser Shumshere's youngest son.

Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru had visited the library and it was also used by noted orientalist Percival London and Sylvain Levi for research. After Kaiser Shumshere's death in 1964, the family donated the Kaiser Mahal library along with its 1.7 hectare property to the government.

The Garden of Dreams that Kaiser Shumshere modelled after palace gardens that he saw during his trip to Britain and France was restored by Gotz Hagemuller and his team, and is today a popular oasis for the public.

The library didn't only come with a treasure trove of books and paintings, it also had



a collection of rare manuscripts that Kaiser Shumshere had bought from locals. Among them is a 1,134 years old Sahottartantra written in palm leaf which is listed in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register and is considered to be oldest treatises on Ayurvedic medicine.

"My father used to buy these manuscripts mostly from the Shakyas and the Bajracharyas for around Rs 400, which could actually fetch one ropani land at that time," says Lok Bhakta Rana. Almost all of the manuscripts have now been digitised with the help of the German Government.

After the earthquake, the staff rushed to save the books on the upper floor. Lok Bhakta got an Israeli rescue team to assess the damage. But progress in rebuilding has been slow and the future of the palace wing is still in limbo. Vibration from the construction of the nearby Sheraton Hotel have also impacted on the building which was already weakend by the quake.

Dash Rath Mishra, the chief librarian, says: "The National Reconstruction Authority has told us there is a budget for the library but we haven't received any money yet. The plan is to retrofit the building, since it is so historic."

Lok Bhakta Rana says the library is neglected because it is now government property, and wants it to be restored along the same self-sustaining public-private-partnership model as the Garden of Dreams with an autonomous committee.

He says: "The government should work as fast as possible to restore the library. We don't want to regret donating my father's private collection to the government." 🇳🇵



OTHER LIBRARIES

The earthquake damaged many libraries in Kathmandu, including:

National Library Harihar Bhavan

Also housed in a 90-year-old Rana-era building, the National Library is no longer open to the public due to earthquake damage. Librarian Anju Shakya says some of the books have been relocated to Mahendra Bhavan and the rest are stored in sacks. The design for a new library building is now ready.

Central Library Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur

The old building is not safe, and only the ground floor is open to the public. Because the library has already started using new technology and online services, the earthquake hasn't affected its content and services. The design for the new building has been proposed, but no one has any idea when it will be built.

Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya Patan Dhoka

This archive housed in a 100-year-old former stable of Madan Shumshere was badly damaged in the quake, but the priceless Nepali books were saved. The building has been demolished and replaced with a unique bamboo-rammed earth construction (*above*) designed and built by the Nepali company, Abari. Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya is an archive, not a library, and is fully functioning again.



Do these cause a
sensation?
in your teeth

"I recommend Sensodyne"

Dr. Satbir Golar,
Dentist. Practising in the UK



No.1 DENTIST RECOMMENDED BRAND FOR SENSITIVE TEETH#

*As per TNS Dentist Toothpaste Research, December'13 conducted in India. Use as directed on pack. Visit your dentist regularly. SENSODYNE is a trade mark of the GSK group of companies.

© 2016, GlaxoSmithKline Asia Pvt. Ltd.



Occasionally, a mainstream film like *Arrival* blows viewers out of their seats with concentrated intensity and an application of the usual tricks of cinema in such an unusual, uniquely original manner



MUST SEE
Sophia Pande

that the viewing experience becomes more of a waking dream -- a situation that I find myself in increasingly rarely these days.

Denis Villeneuve, the creative force behind *Arrival* uses the poetics of cinema to the maximum, or as much as is allowed in the mainstream, non-art-house pictures (for the real deal you'd have to go back to films like Jean Cocteau's *Orpheus* from 1950 or the crazy, wonderful, 1966 feminist manifesto *Daisies* by the Czechoslovak filmmaker Vera Chytilová) to bring about his vision, based on Ted Chiang's short science fiction

The Story of Your Life, which explores what happens when extra terrestrials visit the Earth for the first time but there is no common language for communication.

Amy Adams plays Louise Banks a linguist who lives a fairly solipsistic existence after having tragically lost her young daughter to an illness. Louise is recruited by the United States Army to decipher the language written by the aliens, a symbol based communication system that has mystified people across the 12 points on the globe where the aliens have chosen to hover in sleek black capsules that are as enigmatic as they are seemingly impenetrable (except when they want).

Visually, the film is stunningly beautiful, with a carefully designed minimalist ethos that provides an unusual foil for the essential through-line of the film which is, underneath its sci-fi exterior, really an attempt at an ode to our own humanity, a trait that has been recognised by these visitors from far away, even

as they have witnessed our war-mongering tactics with a limpid, unflinching gaze.

Denis Villeneuve, also the auteur behind *Incendies* (2011), a spectacularly humourless film that still won basketfuls of accolades, evolved somewhat with *Sicario* (2015) -- a tale of drugs and violence. Unfortunately, while there has been some progression, *Arrival* is another apogee of self-seriousness which has nonetheless been nominated for Best Picture.

Arrival is a stupendously accomplished film with a few flimsy loose ends, but it stands out from the director's usual grim oeuvre because of its cinematic beauty, and due to the strength of the performances by Amy Adams and the wonderful Jeremy Renner and Forrest Whittaker who play a theoretical physicist and Army Colonel respectively. If you can take the 130 minutes of extreme solemnity, leavened a tad by Jóhann Jóhannsson's gorgeous score, then *Arrival* is your film of the year. If, however, you like the tongue in cheek that often goes with science fiction, this is not the place to look for that kind of goofing around -- Villeneuve is way too arty for actual humour, which explains why no one ever even cracks a smile in a film that would have benefitted infinitely with a laugh or two.

nepalitimes.com
View trailer

HAPPENINGS



RSS

FULL SHAPE: The three newly-appointed Election Commissioners at their swearing-in ceremony at Shital Niwas on Thursday. With their entry, the Election Commission has finally got a full shape as the country readies for possible polls.



BIKRAM RAI

IN AND OUT: Outgoing police chief Upendra Kanta Aryal receives a salute from DIG Jaya Bahadur Chanda, whose appointment as the new IGP is now in limbo following a Supreme Court order, in Naxal on Sunday.



RSS

AT THE OPEN BORDER: Indian Ambassador to Nepal Ranjit Rae speaks at a program on Sunday in Birganj, the epicentre of the Madhes Movement, and the border blockade.



BIKRAM RAI

FIST OF FURY: Netra Bikram Chand (centre) announces a new rebellion on the 21st anniversary of the start of the Maoist conflict in Kathmandu on Sunday.



GOPEN RAI

PROPERTY BAZAR: Organisers of Property Expo 2017 taking place 7-10 April address journalists at a press conference in Lazimpat on Monday.

M-Series Printers

EPSON
EXCEED YOUR VISION

Get the most
ECONOMICAL
B/W PRINTERS ever
Best for Office and
Commercial purpose



M200- PRINT / SCAN / COPY

M100- PRINT

Print upto
8000 PAGES
with initial starter ink kit



JUST 12 WATTS
POWER
CONSUMPTION



UPTO 1 YEAR
OR 50,000
PRINTS



HIGH
SPEED
PRINTING

MERCANTILE
OFFICE SYSTEMS PVT. LTD.
Authorized Distributor
Hiti Pokhari, Durbar Marg
Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 1-4440773/4445920

Kathmandu Valley Dealers:
Lazimpat : 4410423, New Road : 4220058
New Road : 4227854, New Road : 4260173
New Road : 4222384, Patan : 5538849
Putalisadak : 4266820, Putalisadak : 4415786
Putalisadak : 4227474, Putalisadak : 4436307
Putalisadak : 4417050

Outside Valley Dealers:
Bareilly : 011-660888, Biratnagar : 021-538729, Biratnagar : 021-532000
Biratnagar : 023-540150, Butwal : 071-545399, Chitwan : 056-571784
Dang : 082-561022, Dhangadhi : 091-523601, Dhangadhi : 091-521392
Jorakpur : 041-525565, Lahan : 033-561205, Mahendranagar : 099-523872
Nepalgunj : 081-527092, Pokhara : 061-525300, Surkhet : 083-522488
Tulsipur : 082-562575

Mahabir's dream coming true

Bacchu BK in
Himal Khabarpatrika
12-18 February

हिमाल
खबरपत्रिका

Mahabir Pun (*pictured*) used to pen love letters during his school days. He remembers a stanza from Bhupi Sherchan's famous poem: 'A country can't move ahead unless some are willing to die for their motherland.'

Now, Nepal's from around the world are helping to make telecommunication expert Mahabir Pun's dream of a donation-based National Innovation Centre (NIC) come true.

"Sacrificing life for one's country isn't relevant anymore. We need donations for development, not martyrdom," says Pun.



SAURAV DHAKAL

After waiting three years for government help to build the NIC, he has now turned to the public for donations and is happy with the response. "Let's not talk about the government anymore. With the help of the

people, the innovation centre will start working from this year."

He started the donation campaign nearly six months ago with a target of raising Rs 500 million. He also wants to build a 10MW hydropower plant to

supply energy to the centre as well as sell power to the grid for its long-term sustainability.

There are hundreds of experts working at the Ministry of Science and Technology, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology, Nepal Agriculture Research Council and universities which were formed solely to work in the field of innovation and carry out scientific studies. So why do we need another similar organisation?

Pun's reply: "We need an innovation centre because scientists are being treated as civil servants with 10-5 office hours. A country will not prosper unless it invests in science and technology."

Registered as a non-profit organisation, the centre's executive committee also includes economist Rameshwar Khanal, hydropower expert Dambar Nepali, scientists Parmod Dhakal and Dinesh Bhuju

and chartered accountant Hari Silwal. The centre's temporary office is at the Nepal Connection Café in Thamel and 20 of 700 internationally-placed Nepali scientists are involved. Rs 50 million has been collected from Nepalis around the world who have given amounts from Rs 100 to Rs 5.7 million each. Pun himself donated 27 ropanis of his ancestral land located in Pokhara worth Rs 30 million, Nepalis in Nepal and outside the country can donate at least Rs 50 and \$50 respectively. He has also put up all the medals he has been awarded for sale online.

The 10 MW hydropower project will take 5 years to complete, and will make an annual income of Rs 330 million. Pun also has an alternative model of Public Private Partnership (PPP), in which 70 per cent of the shares will be owned by the Centre.

Joy and sorrow in Kalikot

Kalendra Sejuwal in *Nagarik*, 13 February

नागरिक

Man Bahadur Bista of Kotbada of Kalikot never thought he would live to see the day when a plane would land on an airfield where 35 civilian workers still lie buried.

On Saturday, when a Tara Air flight carrying 14 passengers landed at Suntharali airfield of this remote district (*pictured*), Bista couldn't hold back his tears. "We had lost hope that this cemetery would ever become an airfield, but today it really has."

The construction of the airfield commenced in 1985 with an investment of Rs 100,000 but the

massacre of workers in 2002 stopped all work. "During the war this was a battlefield, and remained a graveyard for those who were killed here," said Bista, who himself was injured in an aerial attack by the Army.

On 22 February 2002, a week after the Maoist attack on Mangalsen of Achham, soldiers in hot pursuit of the attackers killed 35 civilian workers, mistaking them for Maoists. Seventeen of them were from the village of Jogimara of Dhading.

Many of the thousands who thronged the airfield on Saturday were witnesses and survivors of that massacre. The first flight brought tears of joy and sorrow to the people of Kalikot.

Work on the airfield was expedited only after



Humla MP Jiwan Bahadur Shahi became the Minister of Tourism. Shahi visited the site thrice after becoming the minister and took personal interest in its completion.

Kalikot was one of the few districts in Nepal still to

be connected by road. But now the Karnali Highway has reached the town, the airfield will have to prove its worth.

"It is important that all the infrastructure is in place to ensure smooth operation of daily flights," says Bhanu Pandey, a local. "It will not be easy for the airfield to compete with the road."

With the new airport now operational, locals want the state to honour those buried here. "We can't really be happy until the blood and sweat sacrificed by those who worked on this airfield is remembered," said health worker Govinda Giri who treated many of the injured during the massacre 17 years ago.

Filmmaker Mohan Mainali who made a documentary on the 17 Jogimara workers also says the state needs to respect the dead: "People need to know how the workers were killed and a memorial should be built for them."



NEW THINKING.
NEW POSSIBILITIES.

CRETA
THE PERFECT SUV

**"I AM PERFECT
I AM CRETA"**

Capt. Surendra Paudel
Simrik Air





Prismark



HYUNDAI Laxmi
SOLE DISTRIBUTOR OF HYUNDAI FOR NEPAL
www.laxmihyundai.com

2 million by 2020

Nepal has set an ambitious target to increase tourist numbers, but is it realistic?

SHREEJANA SHRESTHA

When the 25 April 2015 earthquake jolted Kathmandu, the world was given the wrong impression that the whole of Nepal was utterly devastated. Visuals of ruins in the international media did not show that most of Kathmandu was intact, or mention that the earthquake had affected only 12 of Nepal's 75 districts.

The number of tourists in 2015 plummeted to a six-year low, and just as the country began to recover, the Indian blockade and resulting fuel crisis crippled transportation.

However, annual visitor

numbers last year rebounded to pre-earthquake totals, and if bookings are any indication the number of tourists in Nepal is expected to break the 2012 record of 800,000 tourists this year.

"2016 was a year of survival for us and we pulled through," says Deepak Raj Joshi of the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB), "we need to spread the messages that Nepal is safe and the heritage sites have remained intact."

Immediately after the quake, the NTB notified tour operators that only three trekking routes (Langtang, Manaslu and Rolwaling) out of 35 main hiking trails in Nepal were affected by the earthquake. A few out of eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites and monuments were damaged, and only three out of 18 national

parks and conservation areas were affected.

Joshi says the impact of the Indian blockade on the tourism economy was much more severe. Not only was air and road transport disrupted, but negative publicity affected the arrival of tourists from India — the largest source country for visitors to Nepal.

Encouraged by the current upturn, NTB has set a target of 2 million arrivals by 2020. By then two more international airports (Lumbini and Pokhara) should be operational, Nepal Airlines is adding Airbus 330-200 widebodies, Himalayan Airlines has expanded, and the delayed upgrading of Kathmandu Airport should be completed. NTB also hopes to target newer markets

such as Russia and the Gulf, as well as pilgrimage traffic from Burma, Cambodia and Vietnam.

In addition, 4,000 new hotel rooms in the four and five star category are being added in Kathmandu, Chitwan and Pokhara. At least 30 new hotels are coming up, including five international chains like Hilton, Double Tree, Sheraton and Marriott.

Hotel entrepreneur Karna Shakya has a different take on tourism, and says Nepal has a strong brand, and was always a sought-after destination. In fact, he says the earthquake actually boosted tourism because many people hoped to help the country's economy by visiting.

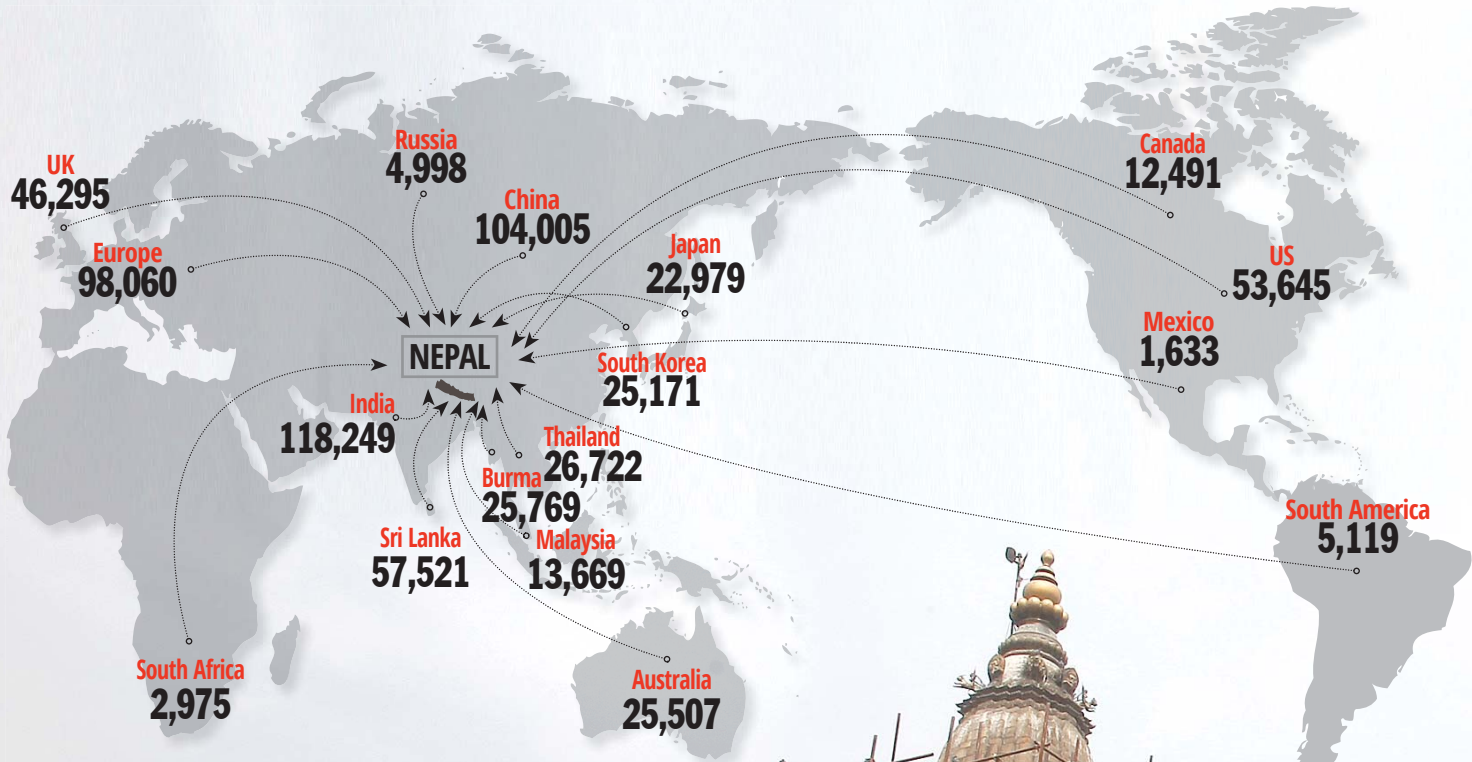
"We haven't lost anything after the quake because people

came to see the damage, and the disaster opened new doors for tourism instead," says the indefatigable Shakya, who recently opened two new hotels: Maya Manor Boutique Hotel in Kathmandu and Himalayan Front Hotel in Pokhara.

Despite immense tourism potential, Nepal has not been able to attract a higher number of tourists due to various factors including poor air connectivity. China is the second largest tourist source country to Nepal, but arrivals from there that dropped after the earthquake haven't really picked up. There used to be at least 50 flights a week from Chinese cities before 2015, but the number has dropped by half.

The real bottleneck is Kathmandu Airport, which is congested and poorly managed, and has earned the distinction of being consistently ranked among the worst airports in the world. There are now 28 international airlines from 14 countries serving Nepal, and the airport cannot add any more slots. Tourism within Nepal is also affected by poor domestic aviation infrastructure and safety concerns.

Despite all this, Amar Man Shakya of the Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN) is optimistic: "The national and foreign investment proves that business sees a future for tourism in Nepal, however the challenge is to bring in more tourists to sustain existing investments and new businesses."



TOURIST ARRIVALS
Totals from main regions in 2016



HIGH ON TOURISM

Tourism Minister Jivan Shahi is encouraged by how quickly tourism in Nepal has revived after the 2015 earthquake and says the country is on track to meet the target of attracting more than 2 million tourists annually by 2020.

nepalitimes.com



Always high on the list

Nepal has scored consistently high on lists of the most popular travel destinations in the world. After the April 2015 earthquake, international travel guides and newspapers contributed to the rebound by highlighting Nepal’s nature and heritage attractions. Nepal made it to the following lists this year:



Number One in Best Valued Destination in 2017
Lonely Planet
“It remains a fabulous choice for budget-conscious travellers, who can access the best of its world-famous trekking routes and underrated wildlife for well south of US\$50 a day,”

Fifth among the Top 10 Countries To Visit in 2017
Lonely Planet
“By visiting Nepal now and supporting local culture and people, you could help a nation rebuild and bounce back even stronger.”

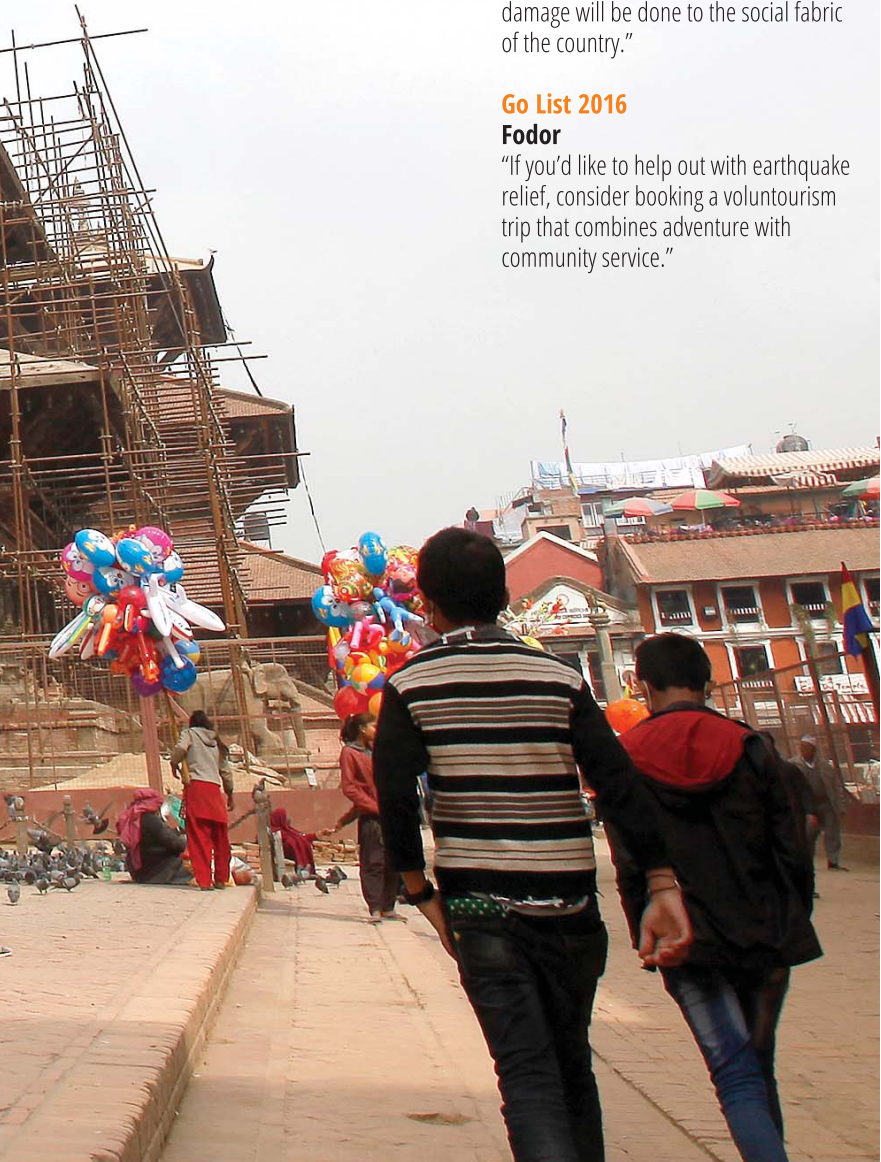
52 Places To Go in 2017
New York Times
“The newly opened portion of Langtang National Park called the Tamang Heritage Trail affords an opportunity to meet the Tamang people, originally Tibetan horse traders.”

Number One
Rough Guides UK
“With varied landscapes – from the Himalayas to jungles inhabited by tigers, elephants and rhinos – Nepal should be your first choice for travel in 2016.”

Ranked Sixth in Cool List 2016
National Geographic Traveller Magazine
“Tourist numbers to Nepal plummeted by 85 per cent after the devastating earthquakes, but the country is once more open for business and safe to visit.”

14 Coolest Places to Visit in 2016
Forbes
“Visiting Nepal is one of the best ways to help with post-earthquake recovery: Tourism is a main income generator, and the Adventure Travel Trade Association (which also urges people to go now) warns that the longer it lags, the more damage will be done to the social fabric of the country.”

Go List 2016
Fodor
“If you’d like to help out with earthquake relief, consider booking a voluntourism trip that combines adventure with community service.”



BIKRAM RAI

RAYMOND WEIL

GENEVE

PRECISION IS MY INSPIRATION

Scan for watch details

SULUX CENTRE

SOLE DISTRIBUTOR & SERVICE CENTRE
Hotel Woodland Complex, Durbarmarg, Kathmandu, Nepal.

raymond-weil.com



Imitating nature

Nepal’s most modern printing facility, Jagadamba Press, now makes natural colours come alive with its state-of-the-art equipment.



(01) 5250017-19 | fax: (01) 5250027 | www.jagadambapr.com



WORLD'S PUREST VODKA

NO SUGAR SYRUP, GLYCERIN OR ADDITIVES ADDED

www.8848vodka.com | facebook.com/8848vodka

8848 VODKA

MADE IN THE HIMALAYAS

100% WHEAT VODKA

5 TIMES DISTILLED

IMPORTED

750ML/25.3 FL OZ

Your Online Kitchen Store . . .

Shop Now at www.hamrokitchen.com & Get Free Spatula

Prestige Induction Cooker

PIC 14.0
1900 Watt

Rs. 4400/-
Rs. 4500/-

1 YEAR WARRANTY

- > 4 Indian style burner
- > Auto ignition with Japanese Piezo
- > Tempered glass cooktop
- > Heavy cast iron mixing tube
- > 100% brass burners
- > Low gas consumption

YOUWE Four Burner Glass Top Gas Stove

Rs. 6760/-
Rs. 6740/-

1 YEAR WARRANTY

- > 4 Indian style burner
- > Auto ignition with Japanese Piezo
- > Tempered glass cooktop
- > Heavy cast iron mixing tube
- > 100% brass burners
- > Low gas consumption

Korean Cartridge Filter

Rs. 1810/-
Rs. 2010/-

Rs. 2190/-
Rs. 2150/-

- > Outflow speed: 0.48L/min
- > Media: Ceramic ball, Coconut carbon, Mineralized ball, Quartz sand, Medicinal stones
- > Material: PP AS
- > Total Purifying capacity: 4000 L

MHR Boiler

Rs. 1300/-
Rs. 1370/-

Rs. 1370/-
Rs. 1200/-

3 Ltrs

- > Stainless Steel Body
- > Available in 3 & 6 Ltrs.
- > Induction Base (optional)

YOUWE Electric Kettle Jug

Rs. 1600/-
Rs. 1500/-

1.6 liters

- > Stainless steel jug with concealed heating element
- > Cordless 360 rotating base
- > Overheat protection
- > Power indicator light
- > AC 220-240V/50Hz 1850-2150W

YOUWE Mixer / Blender 2 in 1

Rs. 3670/-
Rs. 3500/-

1 YEAR WARRANTY

- > Glass Jar

Kitchen Green Mixer / Grinder

Rs. 3670/-
Rs. 3500/-

1 YEAR WARRANTY

- > Glass Jar

YOUWE Three Layers Cloth Rack

Rs. 3835/-
Rs. 4250/-

- > Professional houseware
- > High grade
- > Smart design
- > Easy to assemble & clean

PRIME Polypropylene Storage Container

Rs. 865/-
Rs. 810/-

13 Litres

Air Tight

- > 100% Air Tight
- > 100% Liquid Tight
- > Microwave Safe
- > Dishwasher Safe
- > BPA Free

Handy Storage Container

Rs. 2135/-
Rs. 2245/-

12 Litres

Air Tight

- > Capacity: 22L
- > 5-level Cooking Control
- > Defrost-by-weight Guide
- > Mechanical 30-minute Timer
- > Dimension : 460*275*385mm

SHARP Microwave Oven

Rs. 14,590/-
Rs. 15,200/-

800 Watt

- > Drip Type Coffee Maker For Brewing Espresso
- > Portable & Is Designed To Occupy Minimal Space
- > Brews Approximately 180 ml In A Single Shot

BLACKDECKER Coffee Maker

Rs. 2,135/-
Rs. 2,235/-

350 Watt

- > Drip Type Coffee Maker For Brewing Espresso
- > Portable & Is Designed To Occupy Minimal Space
- > Brews Approximately 180 ml In A Single Shot

cello Rugged Flip Polypropylene Bottle

Rs. 145/-
Rs. 150/-

600 ml

- > Freezer Safe
- > Break-Proof
- > Insulated water bottle

cello U Can Water Bottle

Rs. 320/-
Rs. 335/-

500ml

- > Freezer Safe
- > Break-Proof
- > Insulated water bottle

Pastoriche Patissiere Cake Dome

Rs. 2,370/-
Rs. 2,495/-

- > Strong & Has The Sparkle Of Crystal
- > Very Good Resistant Against Corrosion
- > By The Aggressive Dish Wash Detergents
- > Eye Catchers Beautiful Stomewares
- > Cake Platter Along With A Glass Cover

Wood Pepper Grinder

Rs. 1,550/-
Rs. 1,250/-

- > Suitable For Milling Pepper, Corn, Mustard Seed & Other Small Sized Spices
- > Ceramic Grinding Mechanism
- > Handy & Simple To Use
- > Saves Time & Efforts
- > Corrosion Resistance & Much More Durable
- > Size : 8"

mitda Electric Lunch Box

Rs. 1,000/-
Rs. 1,110/-

40 Watt

- > Voltage Power: 220V / 50HZ
- > Power: 40W
- > Rice container: 0.6L
- > Dish container: 0.45L
- > Weight: 0.8kg
- > Dimensions (LxWxH): 24cm x 17.5cm x 10.5cm

Ceramic Coated Contain Pressure Cooker

Rs. 5,325/-
Rs. 5,605/-

3 Ltrs

- > Stainless Steel Body
- > Ideal for cooking for: 3-4 Persons
- > Base flat diameter: 130 mm
- > Base thickness: 3.25 mm
- > Carton dimensions (WxDxH): 342 x 203 x 190 mm

Prestige Induction Base Non-Stick Kitchen Set

Rs. 3,300/-
Rs. 3,200/-

- > Induction & Gas Compatible
- > 3 Layer Non-stick Teflon Coating From DuPont Made Without PFOA
- > Extreme Scratch & Abrasion Resistance Technology
- > Superior Non-Stick Release Performance
- > Inclusive Of: 3 Pcs (1 Pc Fry Pan, 1 Pc Omni Tawa & 1 Pc Kadai With Lid)

Luminarc Neo Color Pencil Glass

Rs. 585/-
Rs. 615/-

- > 6 Pcs Glass With Modern Design
- > Light, Portable & Crafted To Perfection
- > Strong & Has The Sparkle Of Crystal

Luminarc New Galaxy Drink Glass And Jug Set

Rs. 1,270/-
Rs. 1,335/-

- > 1.6 Litres Jug With 6 Glasses
- > Stylish Glass Tumblers With A Matching Glass Jug
- > Made With Non Porous Glass

Vigneto Glass Mason Jars

Rs. 250/-
Rs. 255/-

- > Great For Serving Cold & Hot Drinks
- > A Complete Retro Styled Look
- > Comes With An Easy To Use Screw Top Lid
- > Easy To Store Away & Use Again
- > Includes A Jar & Plastic Straw
- > Available In 3 Different Color

Glass Juice Dispenser & Mason Jars Set

Rs. 5180/-
Rs. 5250/-

- > 3.7 Ltrs (Devnaw Juice Dispenser) & 450 ml (Vigneto Mason Jars)
- > 100% Airtight
- > Leak Resistant
- > Inclusive of: 7 Pcs (1 Juice Dispenser & 6 Mason Jars)

Glass Mason Jar

Rs. 1160/-
Rs. 1220/-

4250 ml

- > Good For Preserving Recipes
- > 100% Airtight Lockage
- > Leak Resistant

cello Sigma Tuff Jug

Rs. 925/-
Rs. 975/-

1000 ml

- > Keeps Liquid Hot & Cold For Long Hours
- > Unique Design
- > Unbreakable
- > Hygienic & Odourless

cello Carbon Lunch Packs

Rs. 1110/-
Rs. 1170/-

Rs. 1665/-
Rs. 1750/-

- > Insulated To Keep Food Hot For Long Hours
- > Light Weight & Easy To Carry
- > 100% Airtight Lockage
- > Leak Resistant

Pastoriche Olivia Oil Container

Rs. 430/-
Rs. 455/-

- > Strong & Has The Sparkle Of Crystal
- > Produced In An Ultra Modern Automatic Process
- > Eye Catchers Beautiful Stomewares

BOROSIL Tea Pot

Rs. 1,010/-
Rs. 1,070/-

650 ml

- > Made Of Borosilicate Glass
- > Can Be Used In Microwaves, Freezers & Refrigerators
- > An Anti-Slip Design With The Provided Handle Ensures

Be Smart | Buy Online

1 Year Warranty

Delivery All Over Nepal

Hot Deals

Why Us?

Upto 50% OFF

Cash / Card On Delivery

Over 75 Brands

Get the App for Android & iOS

GET IT ON Google Play

Now Available On App Store

01-4005253 / 4005254

CDO Regd No 194/056/57 Lalitpur, Central Region Postal Regd. No 09/066/67