

The Week

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EVERYBODY NEEDS
A CROWN



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THE ART OF
COFFEE MAKING



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NOT SO BIG FISH
IN A BIG POND



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RHEA PRADHAN WAS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO IN HER FREE TIME POST SLC AND THAT’S WHEN FASHION BLOGGING CAUGHT HER FANCY.

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PRATIK RAYAMAJHI

LOGIC OF LANGUAGE

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When you can’t speak like the majority, most are quick to deem it as a big convenience and even a hindrance in the way of personal and professional progress. But as far as linguists are concerned, that is the beauty of language. Such variations are abundant especially in our Nepali language. Dialects demonstrate the evolution of Nepali speech as well as the culture of various geographical locations. Sadly, we haven’t been giving these dialects their due importance. **Priyanka Gurung** reports on the need to address this issue.

Left alliance unification proposed for April 22

REPUBLICA
KATHMANDU, March 22

Leaders of the left alliance of the ruling CPN-UML and CPN (Maoist Center), who are tasked with finalizing the ideological and organizational policies of the unified party, plan to announce the two parties’ formal unification on April 22, coinciding with the anniversary of the establishment of the Communist Party of Nepal in 1949.

Leaders of both parties have agreed to finalize the entire party structure and its ideology through consensus before the unity general convention takes place.

The two parties that have successfully forged an electoral alliance in the parliamentary and provincial elections as well as in elections to key posts such as president, vice-president, prime minister, speaker and deputy speaker, are now in a coalition government. Of two separate taskforces formed by the alliance, one has the task of finalizing the organizational structure of the to-be-formed unified party, and the other is tasked with finalizing ideological issues including an interim party statute. “We have almost finalized the party’s ideology, political line, interim statute and other issues. We will finalize all this soon as we are planning for a formal party unification on April 22, the establishment day of the Communist Party of

Nepal,” said Maoist leader Narayan Kaji Shrestha. Leaders involved in the two-party negotiations said the sub-committee has prepared the draft of the organizational structure for the party, but they have not been able to finalize it as they couldn’t hold detailed discussions as some of the taskforce members have now been appointed ministers. Most members of the organizational structure taskforce have been appointed ministers, including coordinator Ram Bahadur Thapa. Maoist leader Thapa has become home minister and among other members Ishwar Pokhrel is defense minister, Gokarna Bista is labor minister, Barshaman Pun energy minister, Giriraj Mani Pokharel education minister, Matrika Yadav industry minister. Likewise, members of the other taskforce including Pradeep Gyawali and Shakti Basnet have been appointed foreign minister and forest minister respectively. Another member, Dev Gurung, is now chief whip of the Maoist party. “Many of our taskforce members have been appointed ministers and they are busy, but we will finalize everything as we have plenty of time till the April 22 unification deadline,” said organizational structure taskforce member Surendra Pandey. He further claimed that the taskforce has prepared the draft of the organizational structure and will finalize it shortly. Coordinator Thapa had convened a brief meeting at the home ministry on Wednesday. The party organization

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‘Defiant’ officials
barred from
reporting to their
erstwhile offices

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Global carbon
emissions
hit record high
in 2017

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EU report totally unacceptable: EC

REPUBLICA
KATHMANDU, March 22

The Election Commission (EC) on Thursday said it ‘totally rejects’ the final poll observation report prepared by the European Union Election Observation Mission (EUEOM).

Three days after EUEOM released the report, the election body said it has breached the poll observation code of conduct meant for international poll observers and the MoU signed with the EC. The election body has termed the report and a press statement issued by the poll observation group as “misleading”, “baseless” and “in contravention of the international poll observation code of conduct”.

“Since the report and press statement issued by the organization appear to be misleading, baseless and against the international poll observation code of conduct the EC totally rejects the report,” states a press statement issued by the election body on Thursday.

Stating that the election body remains always positive toward acknowledging positive feedback for reforming the electoral system, the EC said the report goes counter to the memorandum of understanding signed between EUEOM and the EC. After going through the report, the EC has concluded that it has breached at least 12 points in the code of conduct.

EUEOM had signed the MoU with the election body on October 24, 2017.

Stating its disagreement with the EU report, the EC Board has hinted at being even more serious while scrutinizing international poll observation groups while allowing them to monitor elections in coming days.

Starting May 14, last year, Nepal conducted three sets of elections – local, provincial and parliamentary as well as the election of the president and the vice-president.

In its report EUEOM has accused

The election body has termed the report and a press statement issued by the poll observation group as “misleading”, “baseless” and “in contravention of the international poll observation code of conduct”.

EU Election Observation Report reflects reality: NEFIN

KATHMANDU (REPUBLICA)

While criticizing the statements made by top leaders of major political parties, Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) has argued that the report of the EU Election Observation Mission correctly reflects the reality of Nepal. Issuing a press statement on Thursday, NEFIN said the government had demonstrated immaturity by issuing a statement, ignoring the positive aspects of the report. While terming the provision of reservation for Khas/Arya in state structures ‘unscientific’, the body also asked the government to correct its statement. NEFIN has also asked all organizations affiliated to it at the province, district and local levels to organize protests against the government’s statement.

EC of not maintaining transparency while conducting the three sets of crucial elections. The poll observation team has suggested to the election body to ‘enhance the transparency of the EC through regular consultations with stakeholders and timely publication of its report’.

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SC orders govt to ensure migrant workers can vote

REPUBLICA
KATHMANDU, March 22

The Supreme Court has ordered the government to ensure the voting rights of Nepali migrant workers.

Responding to a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by a group of lawyers, a division bench of justices Sapana Pradhan Malla and Purushottam Bhandari on Wednesday issued a directive to this effect.

The Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, other ministries concerned including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Election Commission (EC) have been ordered to ensure exercise of the vote by millions of Nepali migrant workers in the Gulf and other countries.

Nepali migrants living and working in various foreign countries have been unable to vote as no preparations and legal arrangements are in place for them to register and participate in polls.

There has been no progress in the efforts begun ahead of the 2008 constituent assembly elections to enable Nepali migrants working in 110 different foreign countries to cast their ballots.

With a view to enabling Nepalis working, pursuing higher studies or engaging in business abroad to cast their votes, the EC had begun discussions since before 2008, but to no avail.

A high-level team headed by then election commissioner Ram Bhakta PV Thakur visited the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Qatar in 2012 to study the feasibility of voter registration and voting by Nepalis in those countries. The team, which included senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign

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Happy National Day to Pakistan

We wish the Government and the people of Pakistan
Peace, Progress & Prosperity.

May the Nepal and Pakistan Friendship be an inspiration to the world.

 

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