Human Rights Situation Update

Date: September 13, 2015 Last Update: 2100 hrs

On the Verge of New Constitution

The wish of the Nepali people to draft a constitution through Constituent Assembly (CA) has finally reached its final phase. The Constituent Assembly has endorsed three articles of the revised draft of the constitution on September 13. The endorsed articles are the ones proposed as amendments to the articles of the draft which called for the amendments to part of the draft constitution.

There was no amendment for approved articles 1 and 2 while article 3 was approved after amendments. CA chairperson Subash Chandra Nembang said that remaining articles and annexes would be decided through voting set to start at 11 am on September 15. Currently, there are 598 CA members. After the RPP-Nepal rejoined the constitution-making process, 540 CA members now are in favor of promulgation of the constitution while 19 parties are supporting it. As per the Article 70 of the Interim Constitution, votes of 398 CA members are sufficient for two third of the majority. The top leaders have said that the international community should support the constitution being promulgated through the CA. Madhes-based parties are not part of the constitution making process through CA.

Highlights

- The cadres of Madhesi Morcha have set ablaze the office of Nepali Congress located in Rajbiraj Municipality-1 on September 13. The protesters broke in the office and set the furniture and other goods bringing them outside, police said.
- A pressure-cooker bomb was found on the road near the office of Nepali Congress and Agriculture Office in Siraha on September 13. According to DSP Madhav Prasad Budhathoki of District Police Office, Siraha, the bomb was defused by the Nepal Army bomb disposal unit in the afternoon.
- Local administration has lifted curfew in Birgunj from 4 pm to 7 pm on September 13. A meeting of District Security Committee made the decision, deputy CDO Anuj Bhandari said. The local administration relaxes curfew for a few hours every day to allow the public to buy essentials and move in and out of town.
- The curfew imposed in Jaleshwar since September 9 was lifted for three hours on September 14. However, it has been re-imposed from 9 am until further notice.
- A pregnant woman had died as the family could not take her to the hospital in Mahottari on time because of the curfew. Nilam Devi of Kolhuwa Bayega VDC-8 developed complicating during home birthing. However, no one was ready to transport her to Jaleshwar Hospital because of the curfew, the mourning relatives said.

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For Human Rights and Social Justice

- The cadres of Madheshi Morcha have set seven police stations in Dhanusha on fire on September 13 while some others have been vandalized. The stations at Dhanauji, Kapileshwar, Duhabi, Thadi, Banarjhulla, Mukhiyapatti and Dhalkebar were torched.
- Five demonstrators were shot injured at Kabirchok in Gaur Municipality-8 when shot by police for defying curfew. Two of them have sent to Birgunj for further treatment as their condition remains critical while others are undergoing treatment at District Hospital, Gaur, DSP Sudhir Raj Shahi said.

For Details: http://www.inseconline.org/