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A. BILATERAL AFFAIRS

PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF ASIA

Prime Minister Mr. K P Sharma Oli addressed the 26th International Conference on the Future of Asia themed on “Shaping the Post-COVID Era: Asia’s Role in the Global Recovery” on 21 May 2021.

Addressing the Conference, Prime Minister Oli highlighted Asia’s history of civilization, time-tested Asian values of fraternity, peaceful co-existence and sense of justice, and its gradual resurgence in shaping global agenda. Calling for the “whole of the region” and “whole of the world” approach, he stressed on global cooperation, unity and solidarity as the means to overcome COVID-19 and build back better and



Prime Minister addressing the 26th International Conference on the Future of Asia virtually

greener, leaving no society, economy and region behind. He also called upon the international community to establish a COVID-19 Response Fund for speedy global economic recovery and underscored the need of fair and equitable distribution of

COVID vaccines.

The Conference, organized by Nikkei Incorporated, was attended by Heads of the States and the Governments, ministers and the representatives from various regional organizations in Asia.

VIRTUAL MEETING BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTERS OF NEPAL AND SINGAPORE

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Raghubir Mahaseth held a virtual

meeting with Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore on 10 June 2021 discussing

issues pertaining to Nepal-Singapore relations as well as COVID-19 pandemic. The Deputy Prime Minister



Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Nepal and the Foreign Minister of Singapore during the virtual Meeting

thanked the Foreign Ministry of Singapore as well as Temasek Foundation International and its

partners for providing medical equipment and supplies to Nepal. On the occasion, Dr. Balakrishnan

expressed his government's solidarity with Nepal in its fight against the pandemic.

ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Nepal established diplomatic relations with Gambia on 25 May 2021 and with the

Republic of Sierra Leone on 29 June 2021. Nepal now has diplomatic relations

with 171 countries.



Permanent Representative of Nepal to UN with Permanent Representatives of Gambia (at the left) and Sierra Leone (at the right) during the signing ceremonies of diplomatic relations in New York

AMENDMENT OF NEPAL-INDIA RAIL SERVICES AGREEMENT

Nepal and India signed a Letter of Exchange (LoE) to amend the 2004 Rail Service Agreement (RSA) between the Government of Nepal and the Government of India amidst a virtual ceremony organized on 9 July 2021. The ceremony was led by Mr.

Dinesh Bhattarai, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Supplies from the Nepali side and Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mohanty, Member (Operations and Business Development), Ministry of Railways from the Indian side. The amendment of the RSA

is expected to benefit Nepali traders and transporters with increased efficiency and cost-competitiveness.

With the entry into force of the LoE, all authorized container and freight train operators, authorized by Indian Railways (IR), will

be able to use the Indian Railways network in carrying Nepal's container and other freight in bilateral as well as third country shipments to/

from Indian ports. As per standards and procedures of IR, wagons owned by Nepal Railway Company will be authorized to carry Nepal-

bound freight (inbound and outbound on Kolkata/Haldia to Biratnagar/Birgunj routes) over the Indian Railways (IR) network.

SUPPORT OF COVID-19 VACCINES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES

In response to continuous efforts of the Ministry and its missions abroad, Nepal has received COVID-19 related vaccines and other medical supports from various friendly nations and international organizations complementing Nepal's vaccination drive and patient care amid the second wave of pandemic. Nepal has received following international assistance during the period between mid-May and mid-July 2021:

- Nepal received COVID-19 related medical supplies provided by King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua,

Narendra Devyavati of Thailand on 30 May 2021. The medical supplies include surgical masks, PPE sets, face shield, rapid antigen test, and fingertip pulse oximeter among others.

Similarly, forty-six oxygen concentrators provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, Thai Overseas Dhammaduta Bhikkhus and Verapuchong Foundation, Thailand were handed over to Nepal on 28 May 2021.

- On 20 May 2020, Director of the Spanish Agency for International Development

batch of medical supplies to Foreign Secretary, Mr. Bharat Raj Paudyal, which included 144,000 rapid antigen test kits, 10 oxygen concentrators, 144,000 FFP2 mask, 50 oxygen cylinders, and 15 ventilators.

- Switzerland provided support of 40 ventilators; 1,100,000 rapid antigen test kits; 10 oxygen concentrators on 22 May 2021.
- Singapore based Temasek Foundation International, in collaboration with MiRXES Pvt. Ltd. and Lotus Life Foundation, provided medical items including PCR kits, pulse oximeters, RNA extraction machines and kits, 30 tele-ventilators and 6 ventilators on 22 May 2021.
- On 28 May 2021, Nepal received the support of 260 ventilators and 19,200 eye protectors from the United Kingdom and a large quantity of protective gears from Finland.



Nepal's Ministers along with Thai Ambassador during the handover ceremony

Queen Suthida Bajrasudhabimalalakshana and Princess Bajrakitiyabha

Cooperation (AECID) Mr. Magdy Marinez Soliman handed over its first

- Australia supported Nepal by providing medical supplies consisting of masks, gloves and coveralls on 30 May 2021.



Ambassador of Australia to Nepal handing over the medical supplies to Nepal Army

- A shipment by the French Government containing 504,000 FFP2 masks, 20,225 antigenic test kits, and 14 respirators arrived in Kathmandu on 2 June 2021. Belgium also provided 100,000 surgical face masks and 2000 nasal catheters.
- The German support received on 8 June 2021 contained 62 ventilators, among others. Medical aids were also received from Denmark, Austria, Malta and Slovenia, that included ventilators, protective gears and accessories.
- Italy sent 35 ventilators, 6,000 gowns, and 10,000 overhauls on 25 June 2021. Ireland also provided 72 oxygen concentrators, 12

BPAP machines, and 44 ventilators, among others.

- Canada delivered a consignment of medical support on 27 June

dose Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines to Nepal through COVAX facility.

- Nepal received medical support from Israel on 8 July 2021. The support includes ventilators, oxygen concentrators, masks, PPEs and coverall.
- The United Arab Emirates in its COVID-related support to Nepal provided ventilators, trolleys, masks, coverall gown and goggles on 2 June 2021.
- In its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, Nepal received medical equipment and supplies from UNDP Nepal on 11 June 2021 which includes 200 units of bio-medical oxygen concentrators 5L and 200 units of bio-medical oxygen concentrators 10L.



Handing over ceremony of COVID - related assistance from UNDP Nepal

B. REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES 2021 P4G SEOUL SUMMIT

President Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari addressed the Leaders Session of the 2021 P4G (Partnering for Green Growth and the Global Goals 2030) Seoul Summit through a video message on 30 May 2021.

In her address, President Bhandari reiterated Nepal's commitment of becoming a carbon-neutral country by 2050. Focussing her intervention on "Inclusive Green Recovery from COVID-19", the President emphasized the importance of investing in climate adaptation in the least developed countries by increasing their access to climate finance



President of Nepal delivering the video message at 2021 P4G Seoul Summit

and technology. She also underscored the leadership roles that women can play in climate policies and actions.

The Summit, hosted by the Republic of Korea under the theme of "Inclusive Green Recovery towards Carbon Neutrality", was attended by

more than forty Heads of State and Government including the leaders from international organizations, climate action champions from governments and representatives from academia, civil society, and business communities. The Summit also adopted P4G Declaration.

PRIME MINISTER EXTENDS GREETINGS ON THE BIMSTEC DAY

On 24th BIMSTEC Day, Prime Minister Mr. K P Sharma Oli extended warm greetings and best wishes to the peoples of all Member States of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectorial Technical and Economic Cooperation on 6 June 2021.

In his message, the Prime Minister emphasized the need of collective solutions to fight against COVID-19 pandemic and other regional challenges. While reiterating Nepal's commitment to working 'towards a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable

Bay of Bengal', he highlighted the importance of sharing experiences in strengthening health systems, accelerating trade and technology, science and innovation.

NEPAL PARTICIPATES IN ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON BELT AND ROAD COOPERATION

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Mr. Bishnu Prasad Paudel attended the Asia and Pacific High-Level Conference on Belt and

Road Cooperation virtually on 23 June 2021. On the occasion, he shared the views on the importance of international cooperation in combating

COVID-19 and achieving sustainable recovery.

Addressing the conference, Minister Paudel emphasized on the need to strengthen



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance attending the Asia and Pacific High-Level Conference on Belt and Road Cooperation

global partnership in defeating COVID-19 and prioritizing LDCs and poorer countries for COVID vaccine cooperation. The Conference

launched twin initiatives of Belt and Road Partnership on COVID-19 Vaccines Cooperation, and on Green Development.

The Conference was attended by BRI partner countries from South Asia, South East Asia, the Oceania, Central Asia, West Asia and Latin America.

PARTICIPATION IN THE JOINT THEMATIC EVENT ON LDCs

Addressing the Joint Thematic Event on Least Developed Countries (LDCs), convened by the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on 18 June 2021 under the theme of 'Diversifying the Financing Toolbox to Enhance Investment in Least Developed Countries', Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Raghuraj Mahaseth stressed that the development partners need to live up to their financing commitments to help address the investment gaps in the



DPM and FM of Nepal delivering statement at the Joint Thematic Event on LDCs

LDCs, while also calling the international community to align their supports with LDCs' development needs, including in the areas of productive capacity, infrastructure, energy, and connectivity.

On the occasion, Mr. Mahaseth also expressed Nepal's commitment to make the graduation process smooth and sustainable by mobilizing finances from public and private sectors as well as internal and external

sources. He underlined that Nepal's graduation from the LDC category would be an important milestone in

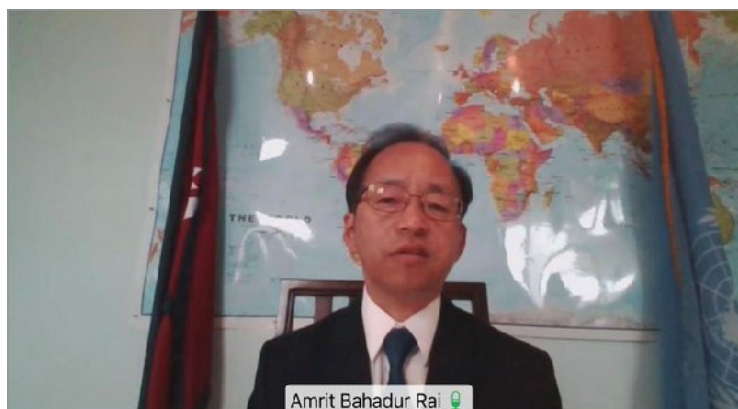
the country's development trajectory.

The event was attended by various stakeholders

including governments, international financial institutions, private sector and foundations.

NAM MID-TERM MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Nepal participated in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Mid-term Ministerial Conference held virtually on 13-14 July 2021. Highlighting the notable achievements of NAM, the Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations in New York Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai stressed that NAM as a group of 120 countries must use its numerical and moral strength to respond to the global challenges such as COVID-19. Mentioning the need to ensure accessibility and affordability of medicines,



Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nepal to UN in New York delivering the statement

vaccines and equipment for resuming normal social life, he also urged the vaccine-developing countries to waive TRIPS obligations and

promote transfer of technology to the developing countries for affordable, inclusive and equitable production and distribution of vaccines.

REGULAR AND SPECIAL SESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Nepal attended the 47th Session of Human Rights Council that took place from 21 June to 15 July 2021. During the Session, the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Outcome Report of Nepal was adopted on 8 July 2021. Nepal has received 233 recommendations from 98 member states during the third UPR held on 21 January 2021. Nepal has accepted 196 recommendations and noted 37 others.

Speaking on behalf of Nepal, Mr. Mani Prasad Bhattarai, Ambassador/Permanent



Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nepal to UN in Geneva attending the 47th Session of Human Rights Council

Representative of Nepal to UN in Geneva, reiterated Nepal's unflinching commitment to the promotion and protection

of human rights placing high regards for democratic governance, public participation and social

inclusion as vital component towards equality and non-discrimination.

Participating in the 30th Special Session of the Human Rights Council held on 27 May 2021 regarding the grave human rights

situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, Nepal expressed its support for a two-state solution, with Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security within recognized international borders, based

on international law and the relevant UN resolutions. Nepal also condemned all acts of violence against civilians and underscored that peace is only possible when both sides respect each other's existence and dignity.

HIGH-LEVEL EVENT ON LDCS GRADUATION

Nepal participated in the high-level virtual event on “Building Resilience for Sustainable and Irreversible Graduation of the Least Developed Countries” held on 17 June 2021. Speaking at the event, Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United

Nations highlighted the importance of large-scale investments including FDI to close the investment gap in infrastructure in the graduating countries, especially in the areas of transport and communications, health, education, power and energy, and digital connectivity. He

also called for an enhanced support to graduating and graduated countries to ensure the sustainability of their development momentum in the context of SDGs implementation and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and prevent them from any possible slide back.

PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING ON COVID-19 RESPONSE AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

The second meeting of the Working Group on COVID-19 Response and Poverty Alleviation was held virtually on 30 June 2021

with participation from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Participating in the meeting, Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa, Head of North East Asia Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs underscored the importance



Second Meeting of the Working Group on COVID-19 Response and Poverty Alleviation

of closer cooperation and strong solidarity among participating countries as well as with international community to address the

shared problems and common hindrances to development in the region including COVID-19 response and recovery. During the meeting,

views were exchanged on consolidating the efforts in tackling the pandemic and uplifting the people out of poverty.

MEETING OF THE SCO NATIONAL COORDINATORS

On 17 June 2021, Nepal participated in a virtual meeting of the National Coordinators of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Member States convened under the Chairmanship of

the Republic of Tajikistan. Leading the Nepali Delegation, Mr. Tirtha Raj Wagle, Chief of Regional Organization Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed on the vital role of National Coordinators in

pursuing the SCO agenda and advancing the aspects of implementation to achieve effective outcomes. He also expressed Nepal's interest in attaining the status of 'Observer State' of SCO.

ASIA COOPERATION DIALOGUE (ACD) BLUEPRINT 2021-2030

During the period between May-July 2021, Nepal participated in three consecutive sessions of the Working Group on ACD Blueprint 2021-2030 held virtually under the Chairmanship of the

Islamic Republic of Iran. ACD Blueprint 2021-2030, also called ACD Roadmap, comprises six pillars of cooperation with ACD: (i) connectivity, (ii) Science, Technology and Innovation, (iii) Education and Human

Resource Development, (iv) Interrelation of Food, Energy and Water Security, (v) Culture and Tourism, and (vi) Promoting Approaches to Inclusive and Sustainable Development.

OTHER MULTILATERAL EVENTS

A Nepali delegation led by Prof. Dr. Pushpa Raj Kandel, Vice Chairman of National Planning Commission participated in the Thematic Discussion of High-Level Political Forum held in New York from 6-15 July 2021. While stressing the need to redouble the efforts for effective implementation of 2030 Agenda for building a progressive, resilient and sustainable society, the Vice Chairman, in his statement, highlighted the gap between ambition and action in achieving peace, prosperity, progress and partnership. In the context

of continuous mutation and spreading of corona-virus, Nepal also underscored the urgent need of cooperation to help the poorest and the most vulnerable countries in responding, recovering and rebuilding better, with commitment to 'leaving no one behind.'

The 20th session of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation was held from 1 to 4 June 2021 to review progresses made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. Representing Nepal in the Session, Mr. Amrit Bahadur

Rai Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations in New York emphasized the need of Global South in further deepening south-south cooperation: in scale, in scope, in quality and in its effectiveness. He also stressed the need to promote and implement South-South cooperation, not as a substitute but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation.

Nepal participated in the Second United Nations High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism

Agencies of Member States convened under the theme of “Countering and Preventing Terrorism in the Age of Transformative Technologies: Addressing the Challenges of the New Decade” from 28-30 June 2021. On the occasion, Nepal expressed concern over the possible abuse of evolving technologies including advances in information and communication technologies, artificial intelligence, and unarmed aerial vehicles and

emphasized on the stronger cooperation of international community as envisaged in the Global counter terrorism framework.

A Nepali delegation led by Dr. Roshan Pokhrel, Chief Specialist of the Ministry of Health and Population, participated in the UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on HIV and AIDS held on 8 June 2021. On the occasion, Nepal highlighted the progresses made in response to combating the HIV/AIDS.

Nepal also participated in the 109th Session of the Internal Labour Conference held virtually from 20 May - 19 June 2021. Nepal appreciated the work of ILO on promoting peace, equality, and social justice through decent work and stressed on the need to ensure global safety and normalcy by ending vaccine inequality and vaccine nationalism and resuming people's employment and income.

C. SERVICE DELIVERY

NON-RESIDENT NEPALI RELATED

S. N.	Services	Number
1	Issuance of NRN Cards from the Ministry	7

PASSPORT RELATED

S. N.	Services	Number	Remarks
1	Application Received	38,496	From Districts, Missions and the Department
2	Total Number of passports issued (According to document type)	37,457	Ordinary
		37	Diplomatic
		77	Official
		307	Gratis Ordinary
		0	Travel Document (TD)
		37,878	Total
3	Emails responded including social networks	1,124	
4	Lost passport registered in the Interpol	1,568	
5	Null and Void Passports	75	
6	Verification of records	904	
7	Revenue collected From the Department of Passports (in Rs.)	9,45,96,699	

CONSULAR RELATED

S. N.	Services	Number
A	<i>Consular and Legal Counselling</i>	
1	Recommendation for medical treatment, religious tour and others	4
2	Issuance of No Objection Certificate for education	27
3	Recommendation for pension	0
4	Recommendation for issuing Nepali driving license	0
5	Recommendation for character verification	45
6	Recommendation for procurement of chemicals & explosives	24
7	Recommendation for issuing vehicle permit	0
8	Correspondence regarding the citizenship renouncement	20
9	Correspondence regarding the Power of Attorney	32
10	Correspondence regarding authenticity of documents issued by Government of Nepal.	0
11	Correspondence to District Administration Offices regarding compensation	41
12	Correspondence concerning search and rescue of Nepali nationals	51
13	Correspondence with regards to repatriation of dead body of Nepali nationals from abroad	73
B	<i>Visa and Exemption</i>	
1	Issuance of diplomatic/official/gratis visa	112
2	Issuance of diplomatic/official ID Card	29
3	Issuance of SAARC visa sticker	0
4	Issuance of recommendation letters for exemption	405
5	Other correspondences and recommendations	201
6	Number of visa recommendation to the foreign missions on Government of Nepal's nominations`	36
C	<i>Attestation</i>	
1	Number of documents attested	19,317
2	Revenue collected from the Department of Consular Services (in Rs)	96,58,500/-

Patron

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