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A. BILATERAL AFFAIRS

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF NEPAL AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Narayan Khadka and State Councilor & Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Mr. Wang Yi held a telephone conversation on 19 October 2021, and discussed the entire gamut of the bilateral relations including COVID-19 vaccine cooperation, bilateral trade and commerce, development cooperation and border management.

During the conversation, Foreign Minister Mr. Yi



announced to provide additional grant of 2 million COVID-19 vaccines to Nepal. Foreign Minister Dr. Khadka appreciated the Government of the People's Republic of China for its continuous support to Nepal's development initiatives

including its fight against the pandemic. The two ministers also agreed to work closely on the issues of common interest and to further promote friendly and long-standing bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.

HANDOVER OF JAYNAGAR-KURTHA RAIL SECTION

The handover ceremony of Jaynagar - Kurtha cross - border rail section between Nepal and India was held on 22 October 2021. On behalf of the Government of India, IRCON International Limited - the executing agency -

handed over the completed rail section to Nepal Railway Company Limited.

India has assisted to complete 34.9 km out of 68.72 km rail link under the Jaynagar - Bijalpura -

Bardibas rail link project. The operationalization of this cross-border rail will contribute to enhancing trade and commercial activities and facilitate easy movement of people.

AMBULANCES AND OTHER SUPPORTS FROM JAPAN

On 04 October 2021, the Government of Japan provided six Japan-made ambulances to Nepal which

were equipped with a stretcher, an oxygen cylinder and an emergency medical box. As a support to Nepal's

COVID-19 response, Japan also provided additional 114 oxygen generators to Nepal on 28 October 2021.

NEPAL-INDIA JOINT PROJECT MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING (JPMC)

Nepal-India Joint Project Monitoring Committee (JPMC) Meeting on post-earthquake reconstruction projects was held in Kathmandu on 30 September 2021. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Sushil Chandra Tiwari, Secretary, National Reconstruction Authority,

Government of Nepal and Mr. Anurag Srivastava, Joint Secretary (North), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

The meeting reviewed the progress of post-earthquake reconstruction projects assisted by India in the sectors

of housing, education, health and cultural heritage. Both sides expressed satisfaction on the successful completion of 50,000 houses in Gorkha and Nuwakot districts of Nepal, and noted with appreciation the progress made in reconstruction projects.

FOURTEENTH MEETING OF NEPAL-INDIA BILATERAL CONSULTATIVE GROUP

The 14th meeting of the Nepal-India Bilateral Consultative Group on Security Issues (NIBCGSI) was held in Bengaluru, India on 28-29 October 2021. The Nepali delegation was led by Mr. Tirtha Raj Wagle, Joint Secretary at the South Asia Division of the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs of Nepal, and the Indian delegation was led by Mr. Anurag Srivastava, Joint Secretary at the Northern Division of the Ministry of External Affairs of India.

The NIBCGSI reviewed the progress deliberated on the

13th meeting, and discussed the areas of cooperation including capacity development and military training, joint military exercise, defence hardware, disaster management, exchange of visits, and joint sport expeditions/adventures among others.

FIFTH MEETING OF BILATERAL CONSULTATION MECHANISM BETWEEN NEPAL AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The 5th meeting of Bilateral Consultation Mechanism between Nepal and the Republic of Korea was held in Kathmandu on 9 November 2021. The Nepali delegation was led by Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa, Joint Secretary for

North East Asia of MoFA, Nepal and the South Korean delegation was led by Mr. Sangryol Lee, Director General for Asian and Pacific Affairs of MoFA, RoK. During the meeting, both sides discussed the overall state

of Nepal-RoK relations and stressed the importance of high-level exchange of visits and engagements to further promote friendly ties between two countries.

Various aspects of bilateral relations between Nepal and

RoK including cooperation on COVID-19 response and recovery, employment permit system (EPS), trade, investment, energy,

technology, education, tourism, culture, and people-to-people contacts were discussed during the meeting. Both sides also exchanged

views on possible cooperation in mutually beneficial areas at regional and multilateral levels including the United Nations and SAARC.

FIFTH NEPAL-INDIA COORDINATION MEETING

The 5th Nepal-India Coordination Meeting between Armed Police Force (APF), Nepal and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), India was held in New Delhi from 4 to 7 October 2021. The Nepali delegation was led by Mr. Shailendra Khanal, Inspector

General of APF, Nepal, and the Indian delegation was led by Mr. Kumar Rajesh Chandra, Director General, SSB, India.

The meeting reviewed the progress made on the security scenario at Nepal-India border as deliberated on the

4th Nepal-India Coordination Meeting and sought for further measures to enhance mutual coordination and cooperation, while also underscoring the importance of continued cooperation for regulating cross-border illegal activities.

NEPAL-INDIA FIFTH JOINT WORKING GROUP AND THE SEVENTH PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The 5th meeting of Joint Working Group (JWG) on Nepal-India Cross Border Rail Link Projects and the 7th meeting of Project Steering Committee (PSC) for the Implementation of India-Nepal Cross Border Rail Links were organized in New Delhi on 7 and 8 October 2021 respectively.

Mr. Keshab Kumar Sharma, Joint Secretary at the Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport led the Nepali delegation to both the meetings. Similarly, the Indian delegations to the JWG and PSC meetings were led by Dr. Manoj Singh, EDTT/F, Railway Board and

Mr. Anurag Bhusan, Joint Secretary at the Ministry of External Affairs respectively.

During the JWG meeting, IRCON International Limited made a presentation on the current status of Jayanagar-Bardibas and Joghani-Biratnagar railways and on operationalizing the train services in the completed Jaynagar-Kurtha section. Resolving the issues for smooth implementation of the project and operationalization of the services were also discussed during the meeting.

Likewise, the 7th PSC reviewed the progress in the implementation of railway projects in Nepal and

discussed issues such as land acquisition, handing over of the completed packages, demobilizing if cost-and-time overrun persists, ROW issues, power supply, capacity and manpower to run the services, security to sites, personnel and materials etc. On the occasion, the two sides also signed the MoU for Final Location Survey (FLS) of Raxaul-Kathmandu Rail Link and the Joint Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Operationalizing Rail Service between Jaynagar (India)-Kurtha (Nepal) section.

B. REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS

NEPAL PARTICIPATED AT HIGH LEVEL IN COP26

Prime Minister Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba led the high-level Nepali delegation to the 26th Conference of Parties (CoP26) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Glasgow, the United Kingdom from 01 November 2021.

Addressing the World Leaders Summit of the Conference, the Prime Minister urged the world leaders to recognize the specific climate vulnerability in the mountains, and to accord high priority to the mountain agenda in all climate-related negotiations. Underscoring the loss and

damage issue as a key concern in view of the increased phenomena of climate induced disasters, the Prime

The Prime Minister also mentioned that Nepal remains firmly committed to the implementation of



The Prime Minister Delivering the Keynote Speech during CoP26 Conference

Minister called the Parties to agree on making 'loss and damage' a stand-alone agenda for negotiations while also agreeing on the framework of additional financing for it.

Paris Agreement which is evidenced by its ambitious NDC, the national plan to decarbonize Nepal's economy in all sectors, and its target to reach a net zero emission by 2045. He also urged the Parties to agree on a clear roadmap for a new collective, quantified and ambitious goal on climate finance before 2025.

On the sidelines of the Conference, Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba held separate bilateral meetings

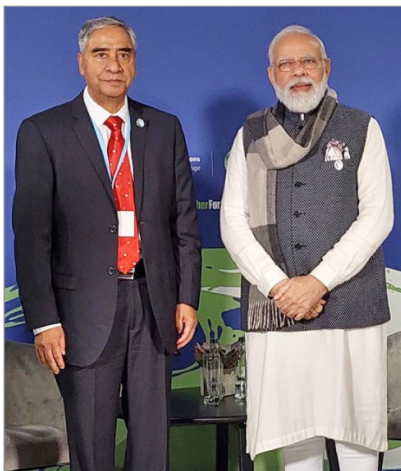


The Prime Minister with the British Prime Minister and the UN Secretary General during CoP26 Conference

with the high level dignitaries including Indian Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi

and Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Matters of mutual interests and

cooperation were discussed on those occasions.



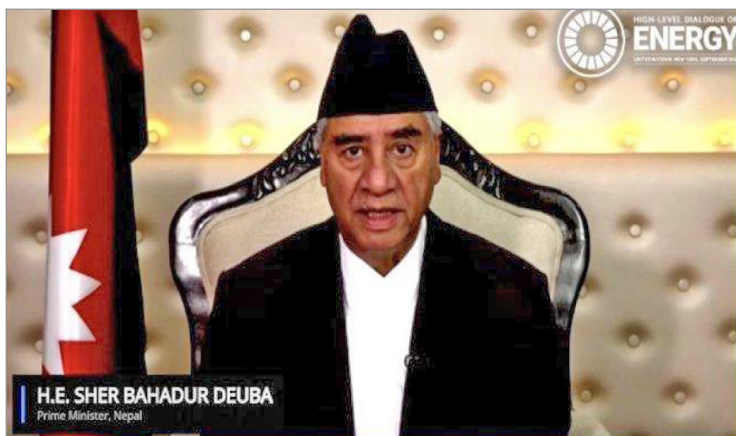
The Prime Minister with the Indian Prime Minister



The Prime Minister with the President of Sri Lanka

PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES THE UN FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT, 2021 AND THE HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON ENERGY

Prime Minister Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba made a video statement in the UN Food Systems Summit on 23 September 2021. Highlighting the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 and the climate change in LDCs and LLDCs, the Prime Minister, in his address, underscored the pro-poor and inclusive policies adopted under his leadership to tackle poverty and hunger, to save people's lives, and to rebuild the economy better and stronger. The Prime Minister stressed the need to translate the commitments into building a resilient and sustainable food system in order to achieve zero hunger by 2030.



The Prime Minister Addressing the High Level Dialogue on Energy

Similarly, Prime Minister Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba addressed the 'High-level Dialogue on Energy' on 24 September 2021, which was held virtually under the auspices of the United Nations General Assembly. In his statement, the Prime Minister stressed the need

for a robust and renewed global partnership to build a greener, safer and more sustainable world. He also called for ensuring easier and direct access to financing the modern technologies for the countries in special situations.

The Prime Minister also expressed Nepal's commitment to realize climate-resilient development

pathways and net-zero emissions through the utilization of Nepal's vast hydropower potential and

other renewable energy sources.

PARTICIPATION IN THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND OTHER HIGH-LEVEL EVENTS

Foreign Minister Dr. Narayan Khadka led the Nepali delegation to the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on 27 September 2021.

In his address, the Foreign Minister highlighted the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and appreciated the efforts made by the international community including the United Nations system in addressing the challenges posed by the pandemic. He also emphasized on the need to ensure fair and equitable access to vaccines for everyone, everywhere.

On the occasion, the Foreign Minister also outlined Nepal's foreign policy priorities and underlined the indispensability of multilateralism with the United Nations as its centre to build global understanding and cooperation, promote shared interests, and secure our common future. He also expressed Nepal's support on the measures and initiatives taken for UN reforms and



The Foreign Minister Addressing the General Debate of the 76th UNGA Session

stressed the need for a more representative, inclusive, and transparent Security Council and a more revitalized General Assembly.

The General Debate's theme, this year, was *'Building resilience through hope-to recover from COVID-19, rebuild sustainably, respond to the needs of the planet, respect*

the rights of people, revitalize the United Nations'.

On the margins of the 76th UNGA, Foreign Minister Dr. Narayan Khadka held a bilateral meeting with Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly, at the latter's Office on 25 September 2021.



The Foreign Minister with the President of the 76th UNGA

Congratulating Mr. Shahid on the assumption of the role of the President of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Foreign Minister assured him of Nepal's full support in the discharge of his duties. Foreign Minister also expressed Nepal's support to the priorities of the PGA set for the UNGA in making the UN better and more functional.



The Foreign Minister with the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations

Earlier, in his meeting with

Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under Secretary-General for Peace Operations, Foreign Minister Dr. Narayan Khadka appreciated the Secretary General's - Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) Initiative, and assured him of Nepal's continuous

contribution to the UN peacekeeping.

On the sidelines of the 76th UNGA, the Foreign Minister had a bilateral meeting with Foreign Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs of Kuwait Dr. Sheikh Ahmed Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-

Sabah on 23 September 2021. Matters of mutual interests including trade, investment, tourism, resumption of a direct flight, and people-to-people contacts were discussed on the occasion. Both sides agreed to work together in addressing the issues of migrant workers including those of domestic service workers in Kuwait.



The Foreign Minister with the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Operational Support

On 27 September 2021, Foreign Minister Dr. Narayan Khadka met Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Operational Support Mr. Atul Khare. During the meeting, USG Mr. Khare thanked Nepal for its contribution in peacekeeping, while also mourning on the loss of fallen soldiers in service.



The Foreign Minister with the Foreign Minister of Kuwait



The Foreign Ministers of Nepal and Bangladesh in the Meeting

The Foreign Minister also held a bilateral meeting with Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh on 25 September 2021. During the meeting, the two Ministers exchanged views on promoting bilateral, regional, and multilateral cooperation. The discussion was focused on the need for enhanced collaboration in the areas of trade, investment, hydropower development and cross-border energy, trade among others. Both leaders

acknowledged the importance of excellent people-to-people relations existing between the two countries.

Foreign Minister Mr. Khadka had a bilateral meeting with Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India, in New York on 26 September 2021. During the meeting, the two Ministers reflected on the multifaceted aspects of bilateral relations between Nepal and India, and expressed their readiness



The Foreign Minister with the External Affairs Minister of India

to further strengthen the long-standing friendship and cooperation. Both the Ministers agreed that the outstanding issues between the two countries should be solved through dialogue and consultation.

In his meeting with the Foreign Minister of Bahrain Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani on 27 September 2021, Foreign Minister Dr. Khadka discussed on bilateral cooperation especially in the fields of human resources, trade, investment, and tourism. Both the ministers agreed to expedite the pending agreements and work closely for more cooperation and collaboration in future.

The Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) was held virtually during the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly on 17 September 2021. Addressing the meeting, Foreign Secretary Mr. Bharat Raj Paudyal underscored the need of international cooperation for Nepal's sustainable graduation. While highlighting the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on peoples, societies, and



The Foreign Minister in Meeting with the Foreign Minister of Bahrain

economies of the LDCs, including Nepal, he also called for equitable, affordable, and universal access to vaccines.

Similarly, the 20th Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) was held virtually during the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly on 23 September 2021.

In his address, the Foreign Secretary Mr. Bharat Raj Paudyal mentioned



The Foreign Secretary Addressing the Annual Ministerial Meeting of LDCs

about the pre-existing challenges of LLDCs that are being compounded by the unprecedented

impacts of the COVID-19 and climate change, and called for an enhanced level of international support measures in the form of ODA, FDI, aid for trade, and technology transfer.

The 10th Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies was held virtually under the



The Foreign Secretary Addressing the Annual Ministerial Meeting of LLDCs

Romanian Presidency on the margins of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly on 22 September 2021. While addressing the Conference through a pre-recorded video message, Foreign Secretary Mr. Bharat Raj Paudyal said that the inherent quality of democracy provides the space for organizing societies in the best possible manner by managing diversity, dissension and differences and promoting tolerance

and respect for others. The Foreign Secretary further stated that the inclusive, participatory and equitable democratic governance can stand resilient to any shocks and turmoil including political radicalism, economic downturns, disasters, and the pandemics like COVID-19.

The High-level Plenary Meeting to Commemorate and Promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons was held on 28 September 2021. Addressing the plenary meeting, Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai called for the general and complete disarmament of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction in a time-bound manner, including the strengthening of the NPT, CTBT, and TPNW regimes.

On 22 September 2021, Nepal participated in the High-level

side-event on the theme, “How changing availability of water from ice and snow will impact our societies?” On the occasion, Ambassador Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai highlighted the importance of water for sustaining life on earth which remains even more important in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. He also underscored the impacts of climate change in Nepal. The virtual event, held on the margins of the 76th Session of the UNGA, was jointly organized by Nepal, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, UNDESA, UNESCO (IHP), UNEP, UN-Water, and WMO.

Nepal also participated in the UN LGBTI Core Group High-level Event on Leaving No One Behind: Decriminalization of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity organized on 22 September 2021. Nepal stressed on the right of the LGBTI people to enjoy their

life in dignity, and stopping discrimination against them.

Similarly, Nepal participated in the 15th Ministerial Conference of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), which was jointly held in Bridgetown, Barbados, and Geneva in a virtual mode from 03-07 October 2021, with the theme ‘*From Inequality and Vulnerability to Prosperity for All*’. The Nepali delegation was led by the Secretary at the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Supplies Mr. Dinesh Bhattarai.

Nepal participated in the 39th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group, held from 1 to 12 November 2021 in a hybrid mode. Nepal served as the troika member along with France and Libya to facilitate the UPR of Eswatini.

PARTICIPATION IN THE HIGH-LEVEL COMMEMORATIVE MEETING OF NAM

Foreign Minister Dr. Narayan Khadka led the Nepali delegation to the High-level

Commemorative Meeting to mark the 60th anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), held

in Belgrade on 11-12 October 2021. Nepal is one of the founding members of the NAM and has been

playing an active role in the Movement ever since its establishment.

In his address, the Foreign Minister emphasized that NAM should re-claim its rightful place and speak

loudly and act decisively for the very poor, weak and vulnerable countries.

Highlighting the issues of climate change and challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to

mankind, he underscored the need to galvanize south-south cooperation to liberate and uplift countries and peoples from the clutches of poverty, inequality and deprivation.

C. POLICY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

PROVINCIAL INTERACTION PROGRAMMES ON PROMOTION OF NEPAL'S EXPORT TRADE, INVESTMENT AND TOURISM

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized an interaction programme with the local businessmen and entrepreneurs in Province No. 1 on 4-5

October 2021 for the promotion of Nepali tea export. The programme explored the opportunities and challenges related to the promotion of Nepal's

tea export and also discussed on the role of the Foreign Ministry and the Nepali diplomatic missions abroad in facilitating the export of tea from Nepal.



Interaction with Local Tea Entrepreneurs at Jhapa and Ilam in Province No. 1

D. PROTOCOL RELATED AFFAIRS

President Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari received the credentials from the foreign residential ambassadors of Egypt, Germany, Norway

and France amid a function held at Sital Niwas on 30 September 2021. Similarly, the President received credentials from the foreign

residential and non-residential ambassadors of Brazil, Italy, Malta and South Africa on 22 October 2021.



*Ambassador Ms. Noha Hamdy Ahmed Elgebaly of Egypt
presenting the credentials*



*Ambassador Dr. Thomas Heinrich Prinz of Germany
presenting the credentials*



*Ambassador Ms. Torun Dramdal of Norway
presenting the credentials*



*Ambassador Mr. Gilles Boubao of France
presenting the credentials*



*Ambassador Mr. Carlos Alberto Michaelson Den Hartog of Brazil
presenting the credentials*



*Ambassador Mr. Vincenzo De Luca of Italy
presenting the credentials*



*Ambassador Mr. Reuben Gauci of Malta
presenting the credentials*



*Ambassador Mr. Joel Sibusiso Ndebele of South Africa
presenting the credentials*

E. SERVICE DELIVERY

NON-RESIDENT NEPALI RELATED

S. N.	Services (only from the Ministry)	Number
1	Issuance of NRN Cards	11

PASSPORT RELATED

S. N.	Services	Number	Remarks
1	Passports issued	1,16,666	From Districts, Missions and the Department
2	Total number of passports issued (According to document type)	1,14,094	Ordinary
		79	Diplomatic
		263	Official
		2,221	Gratis Ordinary
		9	Travel Document (TD)
		1,16,666	Total

3	Emails responded including social networks	3,129	
4	Lost passport registered in the Interpol	4,753	
5	Null and Void Passports	3	
6	Verification of Citizenship records and letters of in-approval	2,613	
7	Revenue collected (From the Department of Passport only in Rs.)	41,78,46,500/-	

CONSULAR RELATED

S. N.	Services	Number
A	<i>Consular and Legal Counselling</i>	
1	Recommendations for medical treatment, religious tour and others	6
2	Issuances of No Objection Certificate for education	925
3	Recommendations for issuing Nepali driving license	15
4	Recommendations for character verification	94
5	Recommendations for procurement of chemicals & explosives	8
6	Correspondences regarding the citizenship renouncement	0
7	Correspondences regarding the Power of Attorney	39
8	Correspondences to district administration offices regarding compensation	79
9	Correspondences concerning search and rescue of Nepali nationals	99
10	Correspondences with regards to repatriation of dead body of Nepali nationals from abroad	23
B	<i>Visa and Exemption</i>	
1	Issuances of diplomatic/official/gratis visa	204
2	Issuances of diplomatic/official ID Card	64
3	Issuances of recommendation letters for exemption	454
4	Other correspondences and recommendations	267
5	Number of visa recommendations to the foreign missions on Government of Nepal's nominations	97
C	<i>Attestation</i>	
1	Number of documents attested	53,560
2	Revenue collected from the Department of Consular Services (in Rs.)	3,05,60,500/-

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Minister for Foreign Affairs

Patron: Mr. Bharat Raj Paudyal
Foreign Secretary

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