

CPA TALK 20

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Nepal's peace process is an example of success because a big achievement has been made through a relatively small loss. The 12-point deal was actually the product of collaboration with each other. Then parliamentary forces agitating in the streets needed Maoist's support to abolish monarchy. Maoists were exhausted and they were desperate for a safe landing. The king's move to alienate the political parties brought Maoist and other parties together. And the deal happened.

This ended the armed conflict. It had claimed the lives of 17,000 people. If the conflict had dragged on, many more lives would have been lost. But the period of transition went on longer than expected.

There is a lack of leadership to drive ahead transition successfully in Nepal. Apart from this, in the last 10 years, Nepal became a venue to experiment all new ideas and many new ideas and new agenda by the foreign interest groups which the country could not handle them at all. But yet Nepal's peace process is right and successful. India had its interest and concern about the whole process but to say that India did everything, including drafting of the deal is baseless.

This incident of September 11 cannot be ruled out. At one point, Maoists were gaining control over the security posts. But its strength was getting saturated gradually. It had begun to suffer series of setbacks such as in Khara, Bardiya and Kailali. After September 11, global alliance against terrorism was slowly building up. India declared Maoists terrorists. Mohan Baidya and CP Gajurel got arrested. All these factors contributed to Maoists coming to peace process.

Maoists have politicized the issue of TRC and CIEDP unnecessarily as the other political parties have been working to sort out these cases. There are few issues which must not be ignored. The Supreme Court has issued a verdict for the amendment of TRC laws as they have defect on it. This means that the cases have to be pardoned, but we cannot provide amnesty to all. The amendment draft is at the final stage and is going to submit it to the parliament.

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