

9-Point Agreement between the Maoists and the CPN (UML)

A serious discussion has taken place between the Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (UCPN-M) and the Communist Party of Nepal (UML) regarding the solution to the deadlock that has surfaced between the two parties. Concluding that an end to the stalemate between the political parties is indispensable for drafting a new constitution and for the success of the peace process, understanding has been reached as follows:

1. (a) The UCPN (M) expresses its regret over the Butwal incident. The UCPN (M) requests the Government to take active initiative for arresting Sujit BK, accused in the incident, and book him under the law, and also urges the entire Party line of command to support this task.

The UCPN (M) acknowledges its weakness in not being able to exercise due caution with regard to the possibility of Sujit BK's escape, accused in the murder of Butwal's Prachanda Thaiba during the implementation of the party's directive [issued for his] surrender to the Police, and also in the consequent failure to ensure the handover of the accused to the Police.

(b) Carrying out attacks, arson and vandalism in the district party office of the UCPN (M) as well as torching houses and vehicles of the central leaders of the UCPN (M) the day after Thaiba's murder were [indeed] very wrong and sad acts. Similarly, the acts of arson and vandalism carried out in the regional office of the CPN (UML) were also very wrong and sad incidents. Both the parties direct their cadres not to indulge in any kind of provocative action with the intension of vengeance, and express commitment to initiate necessary actions against everyone who make mistakes.

(c) [The parties] request the Government of Nepal to officially declare Prachanda Thaiba a martyr, provide financial assistance to his family and bear educational expenses of his children.

(d) [The parties] request the Government of Nepal to provide financial support to the family of Raj Bahadur Malla who was murdered in Surkhet. Immediate investigations shall be carried out into the incidents that took place in various parts of the country, including Surkhet, Dhankuta, Parbat, Kailali, Sankhuwasabha, Lamjung and Baitadi.

2. Both the UCPN (M) and the CPN (UML) express strong commitment to strictly curb impunity and anarchy in the nation as well as to enforcing rule of law in the country. We request the Government to take serious and effective action with regard to these issues and make an appeal to all parties to provide positive support.

3. (a) The pacts between the two parties that remained non- implemented while the parties were in the Government shall be implemented without any delay.

(b) The memorandum submitted by the CPN (UML) with regard to running the government shall be discussed in the mechanisms of both parties.

4. (a) The political mechanism between the two parties shall be run regularly and systematically. Solutions shall be pursued by holding timely discussions in the mechanism regarding the important decisions about functioning of the government and about resolution of the controversial bilateral issues or incidents.

(b) A mechanism comprising district-level representatives of both parties shall be formed to prevent any physical attacks or any unwanted and untoward incidents, and to resolve them immediately by investigating at local level if such incidents take place.

(c) If sensitive incidents of serious nature take place between the two parties, an investigation team at central level shall be formed to reach a concrete decision about the solution through immediate investigation.

5. A high-level¹ of the parties involved in the government shall be held regularly. Consensus of the high-level mechanism [of the political parties] shall be maintained on all important decision of the government.

6. Keeping at core the aim of maintaining national consensus on the decisions on the issues of national importance, a regular consultation process with the coalition partners and the main opposition party as well as other parties shall be initiated.

7. The Government shall be requested to form a taskforce to define and identify martyrs and to provide them due respect.

8. Both the parties make a special appeal to all parties, other forces concerned and the general people to focus on taking the peace process to its logical conclusion to establish sustainable peace [in the country], and drafting a new constitution within a definite timeframe for the purpose of democratic and progressive restructuring of the state and society through a progressive constitution since these are the nation's major historic responsibilities at this moment.

9. With this agreement, the CPN (UML) has withdrawn all [announced] protest programmes.

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¹ It may mean a 'high-level' meeting or the meeting of the high-level task force. [Ed.]