

At the meeting of the top leaders held today at the Prime Minister's residence in Baluwatar, the following decisions were made:

1. The Constituent Assembly election will be held on 10 April 2008 (2064 Chait 28). This election will bring epochal change to Nepal and will make the people sovereign in a real sense. The election will prove to be a great achievement of the Nepali people as a campaign to restore sustainable peace as per their aspirations, to institutionalise democracy, for the prosperity of the country and to build a new Nepal as an independent, sovereign, peaceful and prosperous nation. Expressing strong commitment to hold the election in a free, impartial and fearless manner, we appeal to all political parties, candidates, civil society, people of different professions and occupations, and all sisters and brothers to make the election a success.
2. The foundation of democracy can only be strengthened by respecting and safeguarding the people's right to vote independently. Therefore, expressing the following commitments for a peaceful, impartial, free and credible election, we urge the parties concerned to conduct their activities accordingly.
 - a) No one shall disturb or obstruct any programmes including canvassing organised by another party or a candidate.
 - b) No one shall express or make statements that may disturb the peaceful environment of the election.
 - c) No acts of intimidation, fear, threats, or psychological pressure shall be exerted or be made to be exerted on the voters. The (police) administration shall take action against persons carrying out such activities.
 - d) Under the pretext of a base area, no one shall obstruct another party, candidate or supporters and well-wishers from canvassing.
 - e) All shall abide and shall be made to abide by the Election Code of Conduct issued by the Election Commission.
 - f) No one shall carry out and make to carry out activities that may spread terror and aggression, such as carrying and showing weapons including sticks and batons, *khukuris*, spears etc. The Government shall immediately arrest and take action against persons involved in such activities, whomsoever they might be.
 - g) An all-party apparatus shall be formed at the district level to hold the election in an easy, peaceful and smooth manner. Distinguished persons affiliated with different professions and occupations in districts shall also be included in the machinery.
 - h) The district administration (office) and the police shall make arrangements for a hotline to receive immediate information about violations of the Code of Conduct and incidents which disrupt the peaceful environment of the election. Anyone disrupting the peaceful environment of the election shall be arrested immediately and action shall be taken against such persons.
 - i) The Government shall expedite its effort to investigate incidents of murder and violence in the course of the election and take action against those found to be guilty.
 - j) An effective monitoring committee shall be constituted at the central level comprising representatives of civil society to help resolve problems faced in holding the election in a free, fair and impartial manner. The importance of implementing all past agreements including the 23-point agreement shall be emphasised.

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| 1. Nepali Congress, President | Mr. Girijaprasad Koirala [Signed] |
| 2. Nepal Communist Party (UML), General Secretary | Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal [Signed] |
| 3. Chairman of Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) | Mr. Prachanda [Signed] |

1 April 2008 (2064 Chait 19)