

NEPAL

# GOVERNANCE

Issue 14 || April 22, 2022

## Party Coalitions in Election: The Biggest Threat to Democracy and the Electoral System

WEEKLY

Nepal is a multi-party democratic country. However, the recent political coalition for elections raises a big question on the freedom of individuals to choose who to vote for. Each political party should contest the elections alone with their symbols if they firmly believe in their ideals. The concept of the coalition has been mandated as an alternative in the constitution only when a single party in federal parliament fails to gain a majority. Two or more parties are then allowed to form a coalition government.

But now, the parties that carry opposing ideologies, principles, and history are forming coalitions, just for the sake of winning the local elections. How can the Congress that follows democratic principles and Maoist that follow socialist principles join hands and contest together? Similar is the case for UML and RPP. Not just their views, but their approach to running the state is also different. Is it ethical of the political leaders to ask their cadres and supporters to blindly vote for the candidates they don't believe in, just because the leaders wanted to join hands to win the game? The coalition also seriously undermines the values of inclusion and women's representation. Are we on the verge of witnessing our new governance system collapse before it even begins, and the fall of liberty and individual rights to vote? How can we protect our democracy from such increasing threats that appear legitimate?

Read More: [Annapurna Post](#), [The Kathmandu Post](#)

### Governance Issues of the Week

1. The Supreme Court has issued an order against the provisions of the Election Commission's code of conduct on the construction contractors who cannot be a candidate at the local level. The clarification is that the person can still file candidacy from other local levels where he/she has not been involved in the construction contracts.  
Read more: [Onlinekhabar](#)
2. The Supreme Court has issued an interim order to hold the decision to suspend the governor of Nepal Rastra Bank, Maha Prasad Adhikari. The government had suspended the governor after forming a three-member investigation committee to look into some charges against him. The governor has now resumed his work until the final verdict.  
Read more: [Naya Patrika](#)
3. The budget session of the federal parliament is likely to be delayed this year due to local-level elections taking place on 13 May. The sessions were convened during the first and second week of May in previous years to announce the budget on 29 May.  
Read more: [Naya Patrika](#)
4. The financial crunch is preventing the government from keeping up with its promise of administering vaccines to children aged 5 to 11 by April 2022. The government had signed a non-disclosure agreement to procure the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and sought a concessional loan from the World Bank. But the government has now asked the Health Ministry to explore possibilities for grants  
Read more: [The Kathmandu Post](#)
5. The Election Commission has established offices for Electoral Officers across all local levels in the country. The commission has made arrangements for 9-10 staff in each of the offices.  
Read more: [Ekagaj](#)
6. The CIAA has filed charges against 27 individuals including the ward chair of Likhu Tamakoshi Municipality for misappropriation of around 40% of the total fund, i.e NRs. 42.1 million out of over NRs. 106 million, allocated for hydro projects. The other accused include the contractor, chief administrative officer, accountant, and more.  
Read more: [Kantipur](#)

Nepal Governance Weekly is an analytical update of Nepal's current affairs based on media and real sources mining, to sensitize the communities on hot news on various governance issues from the perspective of accountability.

Presented by



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