Lack of Federal Education Act Creating Problems in Education Regulation

In the absence of a proper act, the jurisdiction of education has been one of the most contentious issues between federal and local governments. The Schedule 8 of the Constitution of Nepal has given the authority of basic and secondary education to the local government while Schedule 9 has provided the authority of overall education to the federal, provincial and local government. The acts are the prerequisite for the implementation of the constitution. The Constitution of Nepal mandates to form the acts related to fundamental rights within three years since its promulgation. However, even after seven years since the constitution promulgation and five years since the federal elections, the government hasn't come up with a federal education act to clarify the responsibilities of each level. The local governments completed their tenure without fully utilizing their rights to regulate basic and secondary education.

Three education ministers have been appointed since federalism and each one had promised to endorse the federal education act. Now, with the federal and provincial assembly elections date finalized on 20 November 2022, it is unlikely that the education act will be endorsed by the present House. This is only one of many examples that explain Nepal still has a long way to go to fully implement federalism.

1. The impeachment recommendation committee has begun preparations to finalize the impeachment motion against the former Chief Justice Cholendra Shamsher Rana. The committee has issued a public notice inviting charges against him within 3 days. Similarly, he has been summoned to record his statement on August 31.

2. The Kathmandu Metropolitan City has begun to demolish the structures built illegally after the 35-day public notice expired without any action from the owner. The city office has mostly been targeting the structures operating commercial business in their basements. It is believed to resolve 25 percent of vehicle parking problems in the city.

3. Nepal has requested India to not recruit Nepali youth in the Agneepath scheme of the Indian Army. Nepal has also suspended recruitment in the Indian Army citing lack of clarity over the Agneepath Scheme. The Indian Army had announced its plans to start the initial selection process for recruitment in Butwal and Dharan.

4. The Millenium Challenge Account Nepal (MCA-N) has announced that the transmission line and road upgradation projects under Millenium Challenge Corporation will begin from August 2023. The project is expected to be completed by August 2028.

5. Nepal and Bangladesh have decided to reach a trilateral agreement including India to export 40-50 MW electricity from Nepal to Bangladesh in the initial phase. Bangladesh has also shown interest to buy 500 MW electricity from the Upper Karnali Hydropower project which will be constructed by India’s GMR Group.

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.