



Zwart op wit

Om een zo vreedzaam mogelijke aanloop tot de verkiezingen te bewerkstelligen zijn er zwart-op-wit afspraken gemaakt tussen de verschillende politieke leiders.

Top leaders of ruling alliance have inked a fresh deal in which they have directed their party cadres not to engage in activities that would disrupt election program of other political parties. They have said that strong action would be taken against those found involved in disruptive activities in the run up to polls - as a measure to make it free and fair.

Dat is ook wel nodig getuige de bevindingen van buitenlandse waarnemers, niet alleen in de heuvels maar vooral ook in het vlakke zuiden van Nepal, de Terai.

The Asian Network for Free Elections (ANFREL), one of the largest missions of international observers for the upcoming polls, has said it identified Maoist-affiliated Young Communist League (YCL) and armed groups in Terai as the main aggressors involved in pre-election violence.

“We have witnessed significant intimidation; the greatest region of concern is the eastern and central Terai due to bombing by armed groups.”

The observation mission also said the election environment in the country is deteriorating since March 15.

Richtlijnen

De Nepali Times heeft de hand weten te leggen op een set instructies, door de Young Communist League (YCL) uitgereikt aan lokale afdelingsleiders. Deze instructies hebben tot doel de politieke tegenstanders (mond)dood te maken. Lezen wij in de handleiding:

Point 3: ‘Make it difficult for Nepali Congress workers to stay in the

villages’.

Point 4: ‘Make the oppositional forces fight amongst each other’.

Point 8: ‘Don’t care for your life... use all the tricks known to turn elections in our favour’.

Punt 4 van deze richtlijn is verder uitgewerkt: *“Work to divide the international forces especially India, America and the European Union so that they cannot monitor our activities.”*

Wat is de rol van de Verenigde Naties, de “UN Mission in Nepal (UNMIN)? Die genereert enige onmin ten gevolge van een ‘slappe houding’. De Nepali Times:

It is high time the international community spoke out with one voice and in clear words to counter this deliberate attempt to sabotage polls. UNMIN, especially, can’t be stuck in its usual diplomatese when elections are once more being held hostage.

En verder “geen woorden maar daden, politiek leiders!”

Privately Pushpa Kamal Dahal (= Prachanda, de leider van de maoïsten) makes commitments to shun election violence. But the very next day he repeats his threat to resort to “civil revolt” if his party loses.

Hebben de maoïsten hun eigen ‘jeugdbeweging’ YCL eigenlijk wel onder controle? Er zijn tekenen dat dit niet het geval is.

The Maoists have a good chance of doing well in the elections because they represent real change. But their refusal – or inability – to rein in the YCL is seriously undermining that chance.

Dat alles neemt niet weg dat de verkiezingen doorgaan en dat alle schoolkinderen twee weken vrij krijgen.

“We had to decide to close schools for two weeks because many teachers will be assigned as polling staffs for the election. Besides, many schools will function as polling centers for the election on April 10,” said the joint secretary at the Ministry of Education and Sports.

There are over 100,000 teachers in the country. Of them, over one-half could be deployed as polling staffs.

"In total, 234,000 personnel will be deployed as polling staffs including civil servants and teachers. We have requested concerned authorities to provide the list of teachers," said the spokesperson of the Election Commission (EC).

Bronnen: Kathmandu Post, Himalayan Times, Nepali Times, NewpaNews, BBC.

Aanmelden of afzeggen: nieuws@nepal.nl