



Hogere verzekering

De Nepalese regering is zich bewust van de verslechterende veiligheidssituatie aan de vooravond van de verkiezingen. Zelfs helikopters worden ingezet.

In a bid to bolster the security situation during the election, for which only seven days remain, the government is all set to start aerial patrolling all over the country from Friday onwards.

Ook worden de verzekerde bedragen van verkiezingsmedewerkers naar boven bijgesteld.

The Election Commission (EC) has raised the insurance amount for the polling staffs from NRs 1 million to Rs 1.5 million.

Het lijkt ook wel nodig. Onderstaand bericht is er één uit meerdere soortgelijken:

Three UML activists were injured in a clash with cadres of Maoist-affiliated Young Communist League (YCL) Thursday, after the latter attacked their election programme in Bharatpur (Chitwan district). Two YCL cadres were also injured in the clash.

Despite commitments from the top leaders of the ruling alliance to stop clashes among party cadres in the district ahead of the polls, attack and blame game continues to increase.

Gandhi

Maoistenleider Prachanda roept op om het voorbeeld van Gandhi te volgen.

He urged his cadres to exercise maximum restraint, claiming that various forces are making negative publicity of the Maoists even for minor mistakes.

"Don't retaliate even if the Nepali Congress and UML cadres slap on your face," he said, urging every cadre to become 'Gandhi' for at least a week from now.

De Verenigde Naties bij monde van de 'head of mission' Ian Martin:

"There is a need for an all-party control committee to ensure that the parties run their respective campaigns peacefully," he said. "Maoists have been barring other parties from campaigning by deploying cadres of the Young Communist League (YCL) claiming the region was their base area."



Bij de foto: UML leider Madhav Kumar Nepal (4^e van rechts) op een stoepje tussen Duitse parlamentsleden, op 'verkiezingswerkbezoek' in Nepal

Tibet

De Chinese druk op Nepal wordt sterker om anti-China protesten met alle middelen de kop in te drukken. De kwestie Tibet genereert ook in Nepal heftige emoties, met vele demonstraties en vele arrestanten tot gevolg.

China has urged the Nepalese authorities to take stronger measures to prevent protests against Beijing's policies in Tibet. The call came in a statement issued by China's embassy in Kathmandu, where the police arrest dozens of Tibetan demonstrators almost every day.

The statement, from Ambassador Zheng Xianglin, said that China wants Nepal to "safeguard the dignity of the law, and take severer measures to prevent those political organisations from organising and implementing illegal political activities".

It went on to say that Nepalis were being manipulated by Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama. "What's abominable are the Dalai clique and the organisations for 'Tibet independence' behind them."

Smelten

Intussen smelten de gletsjers in de Himalaya rustig door. Wat daar aan te doen?

Scientists from various countries who gathered in Kathmandu for an international workshop on the impact of climate change on the Himalaya glaciers have concluded that there is a major need for better long-term monitoring of glaciers in the Himalayas using direct observations in the field, such as 'remote sensing'.

More than 70 international scientists, during a three-day workshop on 'Cryosphere and Hazards for the Hindu Kush Himalayas and Tibetan Plateau', discussed the problems of glaciers, glacial fluctuations, and loss of permafrost in the mountains and plateaus of the Himalayas.

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

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