

ABAN Newsletter: Year 20, Volume ECM 9 –10, Issue No. 21, Month: Nov.-Dec. 2017

Development Priorities of Nepal in the Changing Context

By Dr. Prabhu Budhathoki, Honorable Member, National Planning Commission



Dr. Prabhu Budhathori, Life Member of the Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) currently honorable member of the National Planning Commission of the Government of Nepal, delivered **ABAN Talk** on November 12, 2017 amidst a gathering of members and guests at ULCI hall, Dillibazar. His topic "Development Priorities of Nepal in the changing context" was very relevant to the current issues of Nepal and attracted lot of questions and suggestions from the floor.

What Changes are Taking Place?

► Political landscape

- Nepal is progressing from Unitary to Federal setup of governance, divided into 7 different provinces.
- New Constitutional is so liberal, it provides for people: Rights to food, health service, clean environment, employment, housing etc.
- Regional and ethnicity – monarchy to marginalization
- Political Stability

► Social and cultural landscape

- Migration: Over 4 million people are out of the country and about 3.18% of people are migrating from rural to urban centers every year. As a result, we are importing food items worth Rs.100 arabs (billion) annually.
- Changing demography & family: youth population between 16-14 years is as high as 41% of total population
- Social and ethnic dynamics
- Occupational change from agriculture to service sector

► Economic landscape

- Role of private sector is very critical as this private sector is gradually rising to 54.7% of the economy, while public sector is shrinking to 39.4% and the cooperatives to 5.9%.
 - External aid is gradually decreasing from 45% in 2048 BS to 15% in 2073 BS. It means national resource is contributing to 85% of our expenses.
 - Whole economic landscape is changing as the new constitution aims at ending Poverty and Zero hunger.
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Association of British Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) is a not-for-profit social

organization, registered with District Administration office on February 04, 1998 and is affiliated with the British Council. The Association is actively engaged for the welfare of the Nepalese, who studied in UK and pursue an interest in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

ABAN also works for cultural and educational exchange between Nepal and Britain.

British Ambassador Meets ABAN Officials



The British Ambassador His Excellency Mr. Richard Morris met ABAN officials on December 13, 2017 at the embassy. ABAN team led by its president Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha included immediate past president Mr. Shanker Prasad Paudel and general secretary Mr. Uttam Prasad Pant.

The ABAN team briefed HE Ambassador about the 20th Anniversary and annual general meeting of ABAN on 4th February 2018 and other activities of ABAN. The team also highlighted the support of the British Council Nepal in the activities of ABAN by sponsoring the publication of Membership Directory, ABAN Magazines, and by offering the use of Council halls for its regular talk program, annual general meetings etc.

**ABAN is publishing
ABAN Magazine 2018**
Please contribute your valuable
write-up and advertising support
by January 15, 2018

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► **Environmental context**

- Impact of Climate change in the Himalayas and other regions is causing loss of GDP by 2-4%.
- Occurrence of Natural disasters, river flooding, forests and biodiversity degradation are other serious issues in the environmental context.

► **Global development context**

- Changing scenario of external funding
- Two growth poles
- Towards green economic pathways
- Globalization in question as nationalist forces are active worldwide.

SDGs: Nepal is signatory to UN's Sustainable development goals of achieving 17 SDG target by 2030, like eradicating poverty, hunger etc. This is a major challenge for Nepal.

2. Development Priorities

- Poverty and hunger to be reduced from 23.7% (in 2015) to 4.9% by 2030). People are living below \$1.25 a day.
 - Reduce \$2 a day from 36% of population in 2015 to 8% by 2030,
 - Prevalence of under nourishments from 36.1% in 2015 to be reduced to 3% of population by 2030.
 - Prevalence of under nourishments from 36.1% in 2015 to be reduced to 3% of population by 2030.
- Employment: Achieve employed people below \$1.25 a day from 22% in 2015 to 1% in 2030.
- Develop Energy and power from 782 MW of Hydro power to 15,000 MW. Provide access to safe drinking water to 90% of population from what it is now at 15%.



- Tourism development,
- Develop infrastructure and industries for greater employment, income and import substitution,
- Accessibility and transportation: Increase road density from 0.55 km/ sq. km to 1.3 km/ sq. km
- Mobilize 7 assets (7Js) – jal, jamin, jangal, jadibuti, jaibik kethi, jibant culture and bhu-drishya, Javan- youth

3. Development Issues

- Trade deficit to the scale of \$ 1 export to every \$15 import, due to massive import of fuel and transport goods (almost 70 - 80% of total imports). We must try to replace fossil fuel by renewal energy.
- Time and cost over run of the project

- Corruption: Corruption Perception Index: 29, Doing Business Index: 105
- Unemployment
 - Growing female headed families
 - Regional and social inequity

4. Transition to Transformation

- Business as usual not enough
- Per capita energy consumption: 160kw/ hour to achieve mid income country level we need at least 700kw/ hour
- Hindu growth and Buddhist economy not enough
- Double digit growth
- Resilient economy

5. Aspirations & Milestones

- Equitable and inclusive society – welfare state
- Graduation from LDC to mid income country by 2030
- Geographical benefits - Bridge between India and China
- Demographic dividend.

'O many work with vigor and strength, drives away the evils of poverty and disease'

Atharva Veda 6:81:1



Season's Greetings and A Happy New Year 2018

Jugal Himal from Bhaktapur. Dec.16, 2017 photo by Maheswor B Shrestha



Embassy Celebrates Christmas Carol Service



The British Embassy
Christmas Carol Service
Thursday 14 December 2017

The British Ambassador H.E Mr Richard Morris and Mrs Alison Morris would be pleased if you would join them for a Christmas Carol Service in the Ambassador's Residence Garden



Congratulations Deepa Weds Sushant

Miss Deepa Dawadi, daughter of ABAN Executive member Mrs. Kalpalata Dahal/ Dawadi, has been wedded with Mr. Sushant Gautam, son of Keshav Raj and Neelam Gautam in a special ceremony on November 23, 2017 at Kathmandu.



ABAN family extends its blessings and best wishes for a very happy conjugal life together of the newly married couple.



ABAN website is now featured in:

www.britishcouncil.org.np



Nepal

Developing skills through Dakchyata



Andreas Roettger, Head of corporation to EU Delegation in Nepal, Dr. Jovial Ilic, Dr. Hari Lamsal - Joint Secretary of Ministry of Education of Nepal, Country Director of British Council Nepal, Kusmakar Bhatta – Deputy Director of CTEVT and Bharat Raj Acharya, Vice Chancellor of FNCCI gave away the remarks at the event

Dakchyata: TVET Practical Partnership is a skills development project which operates across three industry sectors in Nepal: Agriculture, Tourism and Construction. Dakchyata is a four year project which runs from 2017 to 2021, and is part of the overarching TVET PP programme funded by the European Union, and managed by the British Council in partnership with the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) in Nepal.

The main aim of the project is to strengthen the implementation of more effective policy in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector, responsive to labour market needs. The programme will pilot an integrated Public Private Partnership Approach in three key economic sectors: i) agriculture ii) construction, iii) tourism, offering opportunities for promoting the transition to a greener, climate-resilient, low-emission economy.

Dakchyata support's the Government of Nepal visions:

By the end of 2021, the following results are envisaged:

- The quality of TVET provision and implementation scaled-up, ensuring that it is made available through outreach to the most disadvantaged. This result area will be fully implemented by CTEVT, with specific inputs from the British Council.
- Innovative PPP models piloted to enhance the relevance, quality and sustainability of TVET provision in Nepal.
- The capacity and coordination role of the Government of Nepal in the TVET system will be enhanced, with improvements the TVET governance.

Activities under the first result area will be fully implemented by CTEVT. Activities under results 2 and 3 are implemented by the British Council, and include the management of a large scale grant fund, complemented by technical assistance and support activities.

ABAN Executive Meeting: Dec.17, 2017



Sixth Executive Committee meeting of the 10th ECM of ABAN was held on December 17, 2017 to discuss arrangements for 20th AGM of ABAN planned on February 04, 2018, and to brief the outcome of the meeting with HE Mr. Richard Morris, the British Ambassador on Dec. 13, 2017 by ABAN team led by its president Maheswor B Shrestha. His Excellency has assured full

support in the activities of ABAN.

The British Council Nepal has also been significantly contributing in the activities of ABAN by sponsoring the publication of Membership Directory and ABAN Magazines, and by offering the use of Council halls for its activities like Talk program, Annual General meetings etc.

ABAN Sub-Committees for 2017-2019

Sl	Sub-Committee	Coordinator	Member(s)
1	Cultural and Social	Mrs. Padma Vaidya	Dr. Prem Ratna Sthapit Ms. Shiba Kafle/ Ms. Kalpalata Dahal
2	Health and Medical	Dr. Nastu Sharma	Mr. Upendra Bahadur Shrestha
3	Educational	Mrs. Kalpalata Dahal	Mr. Maheswor Bhakta Shrestha
4	Programme of Events	Mr. Uttam Pd Pant	Mr. Nava Raj Nakarmi
5	Publications	Mr. Punya Pd Paudel	Mr. Bhisma Prasad Upreti
6	Membership Development	Mr. Tulasi Prasad Upreti	Mr. Uttam Lal Pradhan



ABAN Calendar of Events during 2017

Month of 2017	Main Activities
January 27	15th ECM meeting of 9th ECM. 14th issue of ABAN Newsletter
February 04	19th AGM and ABAN Day held at the British Council
February 21	1st ECM meeting of the 10th ECM and
February	15th issue of ABAN Newsletter published
March 02	Service to senior citizens of Tapasthali Bridhashram, Chapali
March 30	16th Issue of ABAN Newsletter published
April- May 23	2nd Executive Committee meeting
May 28	17th Issue of ABAN Newsletter published
July 14	3rd Executive Committee meeting
July 30	18th Issue of ABAN Newsletter published
August 11	Met with British Council Director Dr. Jovan Ilic
August 12	18th Issue of ABAN Newsletter published
August 26	Service to senior citizens of Nisahaye Sewa Sadan, Shantinagar
August 31	19th Issue of ABAN Newsletter published
September 08	4th Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) held.
October 27	5th ECM held and 20th issue of ABAN Newsletter published.
November 12	Talk Prog. "Development priorities of Nepal in the changing context"- by Dr. Prabhu Budhathoki, Member National Planning Commission
December 13	Meeting with HE Ambassador of UK
December 17	6th Executive Meeting of the 10th Executive Committee
December 26	21st issue of ABAN Newsletter Nov.-Dec.2017



Life Members Joining ABAN from August 2015

1. Dr. Nastu Prasad Sharma (ID 491)
2. Miss Sanjivani Shrestha (ID 492)
3. Mr. Punya Prasad Paudel (ID116 Ord. to Life)
4. Mr. Govinda Neupane (ID 493)
5. Mr. Janak Sharma Paudel (ID 494)
6. Mr. Shakti Kumar Golyan (ID 495)
7. Dr. Dhruva Pd. Acharya (ID143 Ord. to Life)
8. Mr. Ushik Shrestha (ID 496)
9. Miss. Pratigya Thapa (ID 497)
10. Mr. Laba Prasad Tripathi (ID 498)
11. Mr. Subin Man Pradhan (ID 499)
12. **Dr. Mrigendra Raj Pandey (ID 500) Honorary**
13. Mr. Prateek Man Singh (ID 501)
14. Mr. Rabindra Mananda Bajracharya (ID 502)
15. Mr. Ramesh Maskey (ID 503)
16. Mr. Tirtha Bahadur Joshi (ID 504)
17. Mr. Moti Prasad Thapa (ID 505)
18. Dr. Prem Singh Basnyat (ID 506)
19. Mrs. Rama Dahal (ID 507)
20. Mr. Eurek Ranjit (ID 508)
21. Mr. Saraju Baidya (ID 509)
22. Mr. Prafulla Man Singh Pradhan (ID 510)
23. Dr. Durga Bahadur Subedi (ID 511)
24. **Dr. Mahodadhi Pradhan Shrestha (ID512) Hon**
25. Mr. Suman Kumar Wagle (ID 513)
26. Mr. Ram Thapa (ID 514)
27. Mrs. Reshma Rajthala (Associate ID 515)

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