

The Vice-Chair's Priorities and NPC Accomplishments

August 2017 to February 2018

	Priorities		Activities
1	NPC Overhaul	1	Executive Order: <i>Gathan tatha Karyasanchalan Aadesh 2074</i> for a reformed “National Policy and Planning Commission” drafted and submitted to Cabinet, concluding a three-year process of consultative institutional reform
		2	National Development Volunteer Service (NDVS): New regulations finalized, selection process revamped and over 600 volunteers deployed (based on merit); Report on volunteer schemes under federalism prepared; Two additional volunteer programs (drafts) conceived for post-high school and post-Master’s graduates in local governments
		3	NPC premises: New building secured and aesthetic environment improved (physical and virtual); First electric vehicle procured with Government’s own resources (to make a policy statement on clean growth)
2	Long-term Development Vision	4	Nepal’s Sustainable Development Goals: Status and Roadmap, 2016-2030 prepared and launched
		5	Envisioning Nepal 2030: Contributions to a Policy Framework drafted
		6	LDC Graduation Policy Paper prepared and official country position presented at the United Nations Committee for Development Policy (CDP) in New York (Feb 1-2, 2018)
3	Economic Reforms	7	Budget and Resource Committee: Federal budget ceiling prepared for 2018 through formal convening of the Resource Committee; Medium-term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) re-started
		8	Policy roundtable series organized on six topics (Foreign Direct Investment; Forests and development tradeoff; Operation modality of new airports; Contractual management of urban infrastructure projects; Fate of the Cotton Development Board; Local-level planning
		9	Public-Private Partnership (PPP): Role of Investment Board of Nepal and PPP Center clarified in the PPP Act; PPP Resource Book and PPP policy for local governments drafted
		10	Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF): Chaired a commission to propose a new design of PAF; Comprehensive Impact Evaluation of PAF undertaken by NPC
4	Infrastructure	11	Projects of National Pride (PNP): Facilitation of Arun III and Upper Karnali hydropower projects (deadlines extended); Monitoring of Kathmandu-Terai Expressway; Next steps cleared on the Second International Airport; Expediting of Melamchi Drinking Water Project; Active coordination of four large irrigation projects; High-level Report published on Suggested Reforms for the Management of the Projects of National Pride

		12	Budhi Gandaki investment framework: Led high-level committee (formed by the Cabinet) to prepare domestic financing framework for the 1200 megawatt Budhi Gandaki storage hydropower project
		13	Sino/Indo projects: Pipeline of flagship India-supported projects reflected in the August 2017 Joint Statement; and discussions advanced on China's Belt and Road Initiative, including elements of a potential (Early Harvest) Preferential Trade Agreement
		14	Institutional coordination to nudge progress on Upper Trishuli 3A financing; MCC \$500million grant signed (that was kicked off in 2015 by NPC); SEZ coordination of electricity supply in Bhairhawa and related activities; Report prepared on the conflict between reservoir projects and road infrastructure; Improved working partnership with IBN; Standard Operating Procedures for project implementation drafted
5	Cooperative Federalism	15	Standards on Integrated Urban Development prepared
		16	Local-level Planning Guidelines prepared and handed over to the Ministry of Local Development; Training manual drafted
		17	Formula for Equalization Grant prepared for the budget of 2073/74, and handed over to the Fiscal Commission for 2074/75
		18	Web-based visualization of detailed socio-economic data of 3.5 million people in 11 earthquake-affected districts in partnership with Kathmandu Living Labs
		19	Regular field visits and interaction with elected representatives on evolving problems (e.g., Janata Aawas program)
6	Evidence-based Policymaking	20	National Development Action Committees (NDAC): 40 th and 41 st NDAC summits held successfully, chaired by the Prime Minister, and attended by an expanded Cabinet plus all Secretaries (Government's top M&E mechanism)
		21	Multidimensional Poverty Report 2018 prepared and launched in partnership with the University of Oxford, with Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) disaggregated at the provincial level
		22	Post Flood Recovery Needs Assessment (PFRNA) prepared and launched; Policy package announced by the Cabinet and a special cell created at NRA
		23	Central Bureau of Statistics: New economic census (2018-2019) launched and National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) drafted
		24	SDGs: UNDP-supported project on the pursuit of SDGs, based at NPC, overhauled for 2018-2020; SDG data portal launched in partnership with Nepal in Data
		25	Distinguished panel of eminent persons formed to advise the Vice Chair

		26	Ex-officio advisory and representational roles across dozens of committees [e.g. sub-Cabinet, MoF, IBN, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology]; Constant development dialogue with donors and diplomats, as well as private sector, NGOs, students, Non-Resident Nepalis, and the Nepal Army; Helped resolve two separate fasts-unto-death by Dr. Govinda KC
7	International Engagements	27	Tenth South Asia Economic Summit successfully organized in Kathmandu, November 14-16, 2017, in partnership with SAWTEE
		28	State visits: Core Member of the Prime Minister's State Visit to India (August 2017); Represented the Prime Minister at the 3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit in Myanmar (at the invitation of Aung San Suu Kyi)
		29	Policy dialogue with India and China: NPC's formal relationship with NITI Aayog established for an Annual Policy Summit; Op-ed published in the Indian Express (August 24, 2017) outlining elements of Indo-Nepal cooperation; Outreach to National Development and Reform Commission (China) initiated
		30	UN Economic and Social Commission for the Asia-Pacific: Elected Chairman of the Second Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration (RECI) as well as the Fifth Session of the two-yearly Committee on Trade and Investment; Deepened collaboration with ESCAP
		31	UN Development Assistance Framework: \$600 million program signed between NPC and UN for 5 years after long negotiations
		32	Asian Development Bank and World Bank: High level visit to Manila for meetings with the President; Meetings with WB Vice President and senior officials on the preparation of Country Partnership Framework (2018-2022)
		33	High-level participation: 4 th World Internet Conference (2017, China); Arctic Conference (2018, Norway)
		34	Helped Nepal lead the BIRDS-3 satellite project (Japan)
8	Other Key Initiatives by Members	35	Universalizing Clean Energy in Nepal: Comprehensive technical plan prepared for optimal distributed generation and grid access for all by 2022 in 753 local governments; Funding needs estimated for electricity access for all
		36	Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan II (2018-2022) launched
		37	Cooperative Housing Policy and Guidelines prepared
		38	Others: Draft policies prepared on Food Green City and Smart Village; Sustainable Urban Development Index initiated; Social Protection Framework drafted; Technical and Vocational Education and Training Fund (TVET) Framework drafted; Policies approved to combat the worst forms of child labor and occupational health; Contributed to a task force on reducing the trade deficit; River basin-based development initiated; Work on an omnibus act of economic reforms begun.