



Press Release

Hon'ble Mr. Giriraj Mani Pokharel, Minister for Education and the leader of the Delegation of Nepal to the 38th Session of General Conference of UNESCO participated in the General Policy Debate today at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France.

The Honorable Minister met with Mme. Irinia Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO at her office this afternoon. During the meeting, he briefed her on the current status of education sector in Nepal, particularly aftermath of the earthquakes that hit Nepal last April and also informed about the promulgation of the Constitution after a long hard work ending the transition phase. Despite, we are facing some problems for last few weeks due to obstructions in the southern border points of Nepal resulting in the scarcity of petroleum products Supplies . The Director-General congratulated the Government of Nepal for successfully passing transition phase including the recent proclamation of the new Constitution and leading the country to a new path of progress and prosperity of Nepalese people. She also expressed happiness over the election of women in high position such as the President and Speaker in the country. Hon'ble Minister thanked the Director-General for UNESCO's support to Nepal's socio-economic development efforts and for preservation and conservation of world heritage sites in Nepal and expressed his belief that such cooperation will continue in the future.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of cordiality and warmth. H.E. Mrs. Ambika Devi Luintel, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Nepal to UNESCO and other members of the Nepalese delegation were also present on the occasion.

Earlier, on the sidelines of the General Conference, the Hon'ble Minister held a bilateral meeting with his counterpart H.E. Mr Sc.D Rodolfo Alarcon Ortiz, Minister of Education of Cuba. During the meeting, both the Ministers discussed matters of bilateral interest. The Minister of Cuba shared information on higher education including medical education system in Cuba. He also informed Hon'ble Minister about the Tenth International Congress of Higher Education to be held from 15 to 19 February 2016 in Havana. The meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere. The Ambassador of Nepal and other members of the Delegation were also present on the occasion.

Hon'ble Minister Pokharel arrived this morning in Paris to attend the General Conference. H.E. the Ambassador of Nepal welcomed him at the Chale De Gaulle Airport in Paris.

Hon'ble Minister is leading a seven member delegation to the 38th Sesion of the General Conference of UNESCO which takes place every two years. Hon'ble Minister is scheduled to address the General Conference on 6th November 2015. The other members of the Delegation of Nepal includes Mr. Bishwa Prakash Pandit, Secretary of Ministry of Education, H.E. Mrs. Ambika Devi Luintel, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Nepal to the UNESCO, Dr. Kamaleshwar Sinha, Assistant Secretary-General of Nepal National Commission for UNESCO, Mr. Ram Babu Dhakal, DCM in the Embassy of Nepal, Mr. Balaram Timalisina, Secretary in the National Commission and Mr. Sudarshan Prasad Parajuli, Ministry of Education. The 38th Session of the General Conference of UNESCO is being held from 3 to 18 November 2015 in Paris. Nepal is a member of Executive Board of UNESCO from 2013 to 2017.

Embassy of Nepal ,
Paris, France
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