

***Address by the Right Hon. Prime Minister, Pushpa Kamal Dahal
to TCDPAP Conference Kathmandu March 11-13 2009***

Respected, Chairman of this Inaugural Session and President of SCAEF, **Er. Keshab Man Amatya Honorable Minister Mr. Bijaya Kumar Gachchheddar**, Ministry of Physical Planning and Works, The Government of Nepal

Respected President of TCDPAP, **Er. Karamat Ullah Chaudry**, President, Association of Consulting Engineers Pakistan

FIDIC President, Dr John Boyd

ASPAC Chairman, Mr Aki Hirotani

FIDIC EC Member, Mr Subhash Mehrotra

The President Elect of FIDIC, Mr Gregs Thomopulos

Secretary General of TCDPAP, Mr. Sunil Abrol, Chairman, Consultancy Development Centre, India

The High Officials of the Government of Nepal

Distinguished International and National Delegates and Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning. It takes me immense pleasure to be here with you in this august gathering of international and national delegates and participants. I consider this is my good fate that provided me with this great opportunity to welcome you here in the beautiful city of Kathmandu. I am sure it is your good deeds as well that had brought you here and convened for good cause of identifying the role of consulting engineers, architects, planners and all development partners. I am very much impressed that the world community of technical expertise has taken initiatives and given priority to the cause of least developed countries as Nepal. I must thank you all for this endeavor and helping to restore the lost image of Nepal.

Beginning with this conference, I am sure the world community will realize that Nepal has substantially changed since we have taken charge of the Government. Now, the political scenario of Nepal is gradually returning to stability and normalcy paving way for fast economic reforms aiming for double digit growth. As you are aware, the new Government lead by the Maoist Communist Party has tabled very ambitious development agenda with aims to generate 10,000 MW of power in next 10 years, improving the transport connectivity across the very rugged terrain of Nepal and reducing poverty in the physical and mental terms. Possibly changing the mind set of the political and intellectual leadership is more difficult than the materialistic struggle we went across during last ten years. We need your cooperation and expert guidance for achieving the reforms the government has planned for.

I am very glad that this conference has been organized in this juncture of time when we need most of the advise for running a good government and finding ways for streamline the development efforts for achieving the ambitious targets of the new government. I must express my deepest gratitude to your highly esteemed organizations for organizing this International Conference in Nepal with a very important and relevant theme "**Making Globalisation Work: The Role of Consultants**".

I was appraised that most of the developed countries have very strong service sector that generate over 70% of GDP. This would mean that the human resources including administration, consultancy services, teaching, healthcare, labor and so on require intensive attention for its growth without which no sector will grow as planned. Because of the civil struggle in last ten years, we have lost a huge score of intellectual and labor based resources depriving the domestic products to a very low level. I have visualized that this conference has focused on the issues to

making the global phenomenon of liberal economy work for the developing countries and encouraging the service sector to flourish and explore its role in the development scenario. This sector is central for the development of the countries like Nepal.

As you are aware, Nepal is currently experiencing an era of transformation from a decade of civil struggle to the new era of creating New Nepal and strengthening the peace building process. We have experienced that the international community has taken deep interest in the peace process of Nepal for which we are very much thankful. I am very much pleased to observe that the TCDPAP FIDIC/ASPAC Conference being organized in Nepal will be another very important event which will be helpful to secure international cooperation for strengthening our endeavors in economic development as well as in making globalization work, particularly in Asia and the Pacific Region

Our experience of the last six months in the Government has shown that our national commitment cannot be fulfilled by working in traditional and isolated manner. So, I appeal to the international community and the technocrats of the country to join hands with the Government in creating economically prosperous New Nepal. I am very much sure that your initiatives will be the key to bring positive reforms and change the development trend of Nepal to fast growth.

As you are aware, the Government of Nepal has taken the challenges of economic development as the mission where the technical human resource such as the architects, engineers and consultants have the lead role to play. No country can make progress unless the technical expertise is given opportunity for their role to play. I am very much please to observe that the world leaders of technical consultancy sector are coming together in Nepal to share their experience and identifying the key role they can play in the economic development in the present globalization context.

I am fully confident that the international conference will bring immense benefits to the developing countries, and will be particularly beneficial to our endeavor for building New Nepal.

On behalf of the Government of Nepal and particularly on my behalf, I personally extend best wishes for the grand success of the Conference and welcome the world leaders of Engineering Community from TCDPAP, FIDIC ASPAC and the other representatives of our friendly countries in Nepal.

At the end, On behalf of the Government of Nepal and the people of Nepal once again I would like to welcome and wish you happy stay in Nepal. I am sure the people of Nepal and particularly your brilliant hosts leave no stones unturned to extend a very warm Nepalese hospitality during your stay in Nepal. I am sure with your visit to this country you have put another milestone for strengthening the friendly relationship between our people.

Thank you