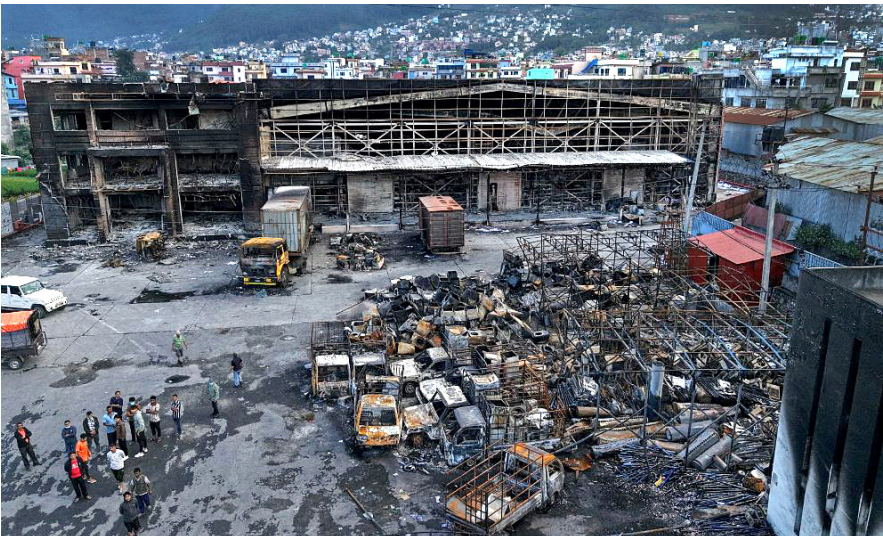


CNI Urges Security Assurance for the Private Sector



CG Electronics, Satungal after arson and vandalism during the Gen-z protest on September 9, 2025.

Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) expresses deep sorrow over the loss of lives and property during the recent protests and demonstrations across the country. CNI extends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of the youths who lost their lives and wishes for the speedy recovery of those injured.

CNI recognizes the aspirations of the younger generation for good governance, corruption control, and transparency in the public sector, and believes that addressing these aspirations can guide the nation toward a new chapter. CNI is confident that peace and order will be restored in line with the people's desire to move beyond uncertainty, and affirms its commitment to extend necessary cooperation and coordination for this purpose.

The incidents of arson, vandalism, and looting of public and private property during the protests have caused deep concern among industrialists and entrepreneurs. These acts have severely impacted industries and businesses, instilled fear among investors, and disrupted many jobs. CNI cautions that continued insecurity would have a serious impact on investments and employment. Therefore, the Confederation urges that an environment be ensured where the private sector can operate freely and securely with guaranteed protection. CNI stresses the need

The incidents of arson, vandalism, and looting of public and private property during the protests have severely impacted industries and businesses, instilled fear among investors, and disrupted many jobs.

for an investment climate free from fear and uncertainty.

The economy has already suffered significant challenges during nearly three years of COVID-19 and subsequent regulatory measures. If industries and businesses are unable to operate smoothly in the current situation, it will affect the economic cycle, hinder overall economic development, and reduce government revenue. CNI, therefore, calls on all concerned stakeholders to create a conducive environment without delay.

CNI believes that serious efforts must begin immediately to fulfill the aspirations of the younger generation and to lead the country into a new phase of development. The CNI National Council meeting held on September 12 evening also reiterated the private sector's strong commitment to contribute toward realizing these aspirations.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As a leading representative body of Nepal's industrial and business community, CNI has always been committed to promoting a vibrant, competitive, and sustainable private sector. Our mission is to strengthen Nepal's industrial base, advocate for policy reforms, and create an enabling environment that supports entrepreneurship, investment, and innovation.

With this vision in mind, we have resumed the publication of our monthly newsletter—MONITOR—a communication platform designed to connect with our valued members, partners, and stakeholders—both nationally and internationally. Through this initiative, we aim to share timely updates on CNI's activities, policy recommendations, and engagements with the government, regulatory agencies, development partners and private sector, among others. The newsletter will also highlight key initiatives, events, and efforts undertaken to make Nepal's business environment more conducive and forward-looking.

We believe this publication will serve as an important bridge between CNI and our stakeholders, enhancing transparency, collaboration, and shared understanding of our collective efforts to drive economic growth and industrial development in Nepal.

-Birendra Raj Pandey

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Sudurpashchim CM Urges Investment, Commits to Provide Land and Infrastructure

On September 1, 2025, Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) held a discussion with the Sudurpashchim Provincial Government focusing on the upcoming Investment and Development Summit to be organized by the province. During the interaction meeting at the CNI Secretariat, Chief Minister Kamal Bahadur Shah invited private sector participation in the summit and encouraged investment in the province's high-potential sectors. He also called on CNI, as an apex body of industrialists, to play a proactive role in mobilizing investment.

Chief Minister Shah reaffirmed the provincial government's commitment to creating an investment-friendly environment, introducing necessary legal and policy reforms, and ensuring investment security. Supporting concerns of investors unable to purchase land, he assured that the government would provide industrial land along with essential infrastructure such as roads, electricity, and water up to the industrial sites. He further noted that the provincial government, together with the federal government and all political parties, is united in formulating investment-friendly policies and laws, and expressed readiness to move forward in collaboration with the private sector.

On the occasion, CNI President Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey assured full support from CNI to make the Investment and Development Summit a success. Highlighting the need to



increase private sector investment for national economic growth, he stated that favorable laws, policies, and an enabling environment would attract significant investment into the province. Former CNI President Mr. Hari Bhakta Sharma remarked that land acquisition remains a challenge for investors, but if the provincial government ensures land and adopts a simplified and fast process, investors are ready to bring in investment. He stressed that no government can promote investment without working hand-in-hand with the private sector. Similarly, CNI Vice President Mr. Raj Bahadur Shah expressed CNI's readiness to

coordinate for the success of the summit. He emphasized that, besides capital investment, the government must ensure legal and policy facilitation to attract private sector participation. He also underlined that Sudurpashchim Province holds fertile ground for investment.

The discussion was attended by ministers, former ministers, parliamentarians, Chief Secretary, and senior officials from Sudurpashchim Provincial Government. From CNI, Senior Vice President Mr. Nirvana Chaudhary, National Council Members, industrialists, and Director General Dr. Ghanashyam Ojha were present.

IMF Resident Representative Gupta Visits CNI to Discuss Nepal's Business Environment

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) Resident Representative to Nepal, Mr. Pranav Gupta, visited the Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) on September 26, 2025 to exchange views on the country's evolving business environment and investment climate.

CNI President Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey, Immediate Past President Mr. Rajesh Kumar Agrawal, Office Bearer Ms. Vidushi Rana, Banking & Finance Committee Chair Mr. Varun Kumar Todi, and Director General Dr. Ghanashyam Ojha and Director Mr. Madhukar Dahal participated in the meeting. The discussion covered Nepal's recent macroeconomic scenario, the impact of the September Gen Z protest, India's revised GST policy, and their implications on investor sentiment.

Mr. Gupta commended the resilience of the Nepali people, noting their quick recovery from recent disruptions. CNI representatives,



however, expressed concern over the erosion of business confidence and the absence of effective governance and security during the protest period, which they said led to the withdrawal of some investment deals.

Mr. Agrawal underlined that security remains a major concern for investors, while Mr.

Todi anticipated a possible 0.25–0.5% rise in non-performing loans due to pressure on MS-MEs and supply chains.

Both sides agreed on the need to restore investor confidence and strengthen macroeconomic stability to sustain Nepal's economic recovery.

CNI discussion with Newly Appointed Ministers



The Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) delegation, led by President Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey, paid a courtesy call at Singhadurbar on three newly appointed ministers. CNI delegation visited Hon'ble Mr. Anil Sinha, Minister for Industry, Commerce and Supplies; Hon'ble Mr. Kulman Ghising, Minister for Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation; and Hon'ble Mr. Jagadish Kharel, Minister for Communication and Information Technology on 25th September 2025 in their offices at Singhadurbar.

During the meeting, President Pandey congratulated the ministers on assuming office and conveyed CNI's readiness to work hand in hand with the government to advance Nepal's economic growth and development.

He highlighted the need for timely policy reforms, improved investment climate, and a strong collaboration between the public and private sectors to meet the country's aspirations for prosperity. Emphasizing that the private sector is the backbone of the economy, he

urged the government to boost business confidence by introducing consistent, transparent, and business-friendly policies.

In response, the Hon'ble Ministers expressed appreciation for CNI's role in driving industrial growth and job creation. They assured that the government is committed to creating a conducive environment for businesses and acknowledged the importance of working closely with the private sector to address challenges, attract investment, and ensure sustainable economic progress.

British Ambassador Visits CNI, Discusses Strengthening UK-Nepal Business Ties

The British Ambassador to Nepal, H.E. Rob Fenn, paid a courtesy visit to the Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) on August 5, 2025 to meet with the newly elected office bearers and explore avenues for deeper UK-Nepal economic cooperation.

In his meeting with CNI President Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey and office bearers, the two sides discussed expanding collaboration in trade, investment, and private sector partnerships. Ambassador Fenn highlighted that under the UK's Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS), Nepali products with more than 25% value addition will continue to enjoy preferential access to the UK market even after Nepal's graduation from LDC status.

President Pandey shared CNI's vision to transform Nepal into a \$100 billion economy within the next decade, focusing on eight key



growth-driving sectors. He also sought the Embassy's continued support in policy reforms, private sector competitiveness, and job creation through ongoing CNI-led initiatives.

Ambassador Fenn reaffirmed the UK's commitment to supporting Nepal in skill development, MSME growth, IT, and employment

generation, while emphasizing the importance of finalizing the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) to attract greater British investment. He further encouraged Nepali businesses to explore the UK as a promising destination for outward investment, citing its transparent and investor-friendly environment.

Discussion at MoICS to Boost Private Sector Confidence



The Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies has urged industrialists to move forward with high morale. On 15th September 2025, Secretaries Dr. Ram Prasad Ghimire and Krishna Bahadur Raut held discussions with representatives of private sector organizations at the Ministry, stressing the need for private sector cooperation to steer the country forward in a new direction. They assured that the Ministry is committed to providing necessary support to help the private sector move ahead from the current situation.

The Secretaries informed that, considering the upcoming festivals, there are sufficient stocks of food and essential goods, ensuring no shortages. They requested producers, importers, transporters, and traders not to hoard goods in ways that could negatively affect demand and supply. The Ministry also urged the general public not to unnecessarily stockpile, stating that the overall supply system remains stable. As the situation gradually normalizes, the Ministry called on the private sector to resume regular industrial and business operations.

The Ministry further stated that efforts are underway to ease imports, noting that the Korolla border point has been reopened, with large volumes of goods already entering from there. Efforts are also being made to reopen the Tatopani border point, while southern border points are already operating smoothly.

During the discussion, CNI President Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey emphasized the need to create an environment where the country's struggling economy can move forward collectively. He highlighted that while incidents of arson, looting, and vandalism targeting manufacturing industries, hotels, retail chains, and even private homes and properties of entrepreneurs have discouraged the private sector, they are striving to recover with renewed determination. He reaffirmed that the private sector remains committed to working closely with the government, while also underlining the importance of the government in building confidence within the private sector.



CNI Discussion with Tourism Industry Associations

A meeting and interaction with key tourism associations was held at the CNI Secretariat on 21st September 2025. Representatives from major tourism bodies, including NTB, HAN, TAAN, NATTA, and SOTTO, participated and discussed the significant impact of the recent Gen-Z protests on the tourism sector and explored ways forward.

CNI Vice President Mr. Hemraj Dhakal expressed concern over the unprecedented scale of the protests, estimating great losses for hotels across Nepal during the peak season. He noted that while the government is facing challenges, CNI will focus on providing policy suggestions and initiatives to revive the tourism sector, restore peace, and launch campaigns to promote Nepal globally.

During the meeting, Mr. Deepak Raj Joshi, Advisor of the CNI Tourism committee and CEO of NTB, shared a detailed analysis of tourist arrivals before, during, and after the protests. Mr. Joshi also informed about NTB's new 'Nepal Now' campaign aimed at spreading positive news directly

through tourists and urged CNI to help advocate for tourism, share positive messages internationally, and circulate reports in key markets.

Vice President of HAN, Mr. Prabin Bahadur Panday emphasized that now is the right time for policy reforms. He suggested activating Fire Life and Safety systems in all hotels, formal registration of hotels and restaurants, exploring free-travel schemes for tourists, improving airport facilitation, promoting domestic tourism, reforming EIA measures, and regulating foreign currency use.

President of NATTA, Mr. Kumar Mani Thapaliya noted that with the interim government in place, the focus should be on actions achievable in the next two to three months.

CNI President Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey shared that the meeting offered a clear understanding of the current tourism situation. Noting a generation gap with Gen-Z, he emphasized the importance of framing messages that resonate with both younger and general audiences.

CNI IT Council Engages with MoCIT Minister to Strengthen Nepal's IT Ecosystem

The CNI IT Council met with Hon. Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Mr. Jagadish Kharel on 17 October 2025.

The meeting focused on fostering collaboration between the government and the private sector to strengthen Nepal's IT ecosystem. Minister Kharel warmly welcomed the Council's recommendations and expressed strong enthusiasm for driving initiatives that empower Gen Z and accelerate the growth of the digital and IT-driven economy.



CNI Signs MoU with Anhui Provincial Society of Commercial Economics, China



CNI has signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Anhui Provincial Society of Commercial Economics (APSCE), China, on 16 October 2025. The MoU aims to promote collaboration in areas such as information exchange, delegation

visits, business matchmaking, joint research, and trade and investment promotion between Nepal and Anhui Province, China.

From the Chinese side, a 12-member delegation— including 9 business representatives from Anhui Province—attended the signing ceremony.

From CNI, President Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey and from APSCE, Chairperson Mr. Dai Chuanyu signed the MoU, witnessed by senior office bearers including Mr. Sandeep Sharda and Ms. Vidhusi Rana, along with the Director General and Directors.

CNI Signs MoU with NIICE



CNI has signed a MoU with the Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement (NIICE) on 17 October 2025. This partnership aims to enhance collaboration in areas such as international relations, economic diplomacy, international trade and investment, research and policy studies, and capacity building - further strengthening CNI and its committee members' global business engagement and private sector capabilities.

On behalf of CNI and NIICE respectively, Dr. Ghanashyam Ojha and Dr. Pramod Jaiswal inked the MoU. Representing our Global Business and Diaspora Committee, Chair Mr. Chandra Tandon was present during the signing.

CNI Welcomes Newly Elected SEJON Executive Committee



Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) warmly welcomed the newly elected executive body of the Society of Economic Journalists of Nepal (SEJON) at CNI Secretariat on 25th September 2025. CNI President Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey extended heartfelt congratulations to SEJON President Mr. Bhagwat Bhattarai and his executive team on their successful election.

On the occasion, President Pandey highlighted the crucial role of economic journalism in shaping informed public discourse and in bridging the gap between policymakers, the private sector, and the public. He stressed that

constructive collaboration between industry and the media is vital for strengthening Nepal's economic landscape and ensuring transparency, accountability, and progressive reforms.

In response, SEJON representatives expressed their commitment to upholding professionalism in economic journalism and to amplifying the voices of stakeholders engaged in national development.

Both organizations reaffirmed their readiness to work closely together in the days ahead, recognizing that their combined efforts can significantly contribute to advancing Nepal's economic growth and prosperity.

CNI Kicks Off ‘Talk Series’, inaugural event focuses on Sustainable Construction



The Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) launched a new initiative, the “CNI Talk Series,” on 16 July 2025, with its inaugural session focused on the theme “Decarbonizing the Construction Industry.” The first episode, held at the CNI Secretariat, featured Prof. Rabin Tuladhar, Dean at Central Queensland University, Australia, and a global expert in sustainable construction, as the distinguished resource person.

The CNI Talk Series is one of CNI’s latest initiatives designed to foster knowledge



transformation among its members. Through this platform, CNI brings together national and international experts from diverse sectors for open, engaging, and rigorous thematic interactions. The series serves as a dynamic forum to explore global and local developments in business, policy, technology, innovation, and beyond. By facilitating dialogue and idea exchange, the CNI Talk Series helps members stay informed and empowered to make strategic, market-oriented, and forward-looking business decisions.

CNI Holds Internal Learning Session on Customs Act, 2082

On October 14, 2025, the Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) organized an internal learning session led by Senior Director Mr. Rajeev Majgaiyan to brief Secretariat staff on the key amendments introduced in the Customs Act, 2082.

The session provided a comprehensive overview of CNI’s detailed observations on the new Act, highlighting significant modern provisions such as pre-arrival declaration, risk-based inspection, authorized business person certification, and the integration of the Nepal National Single Window system. Mr. Majgaiyan elaborated on how these measures are designed to enhance transparency, simplify customs procedures, and promote compliance among businesses.

The session aimed to facilitate knowledge sharing and internal capacity building within the Secretariat, ensuring that the CNI team re-



mains well-informed about the evolving policy and regulatory environment. The updated Customs Act is expected to make Nepal’s customs

operations more efficient, predictable, and business-friendly, contributing to an improved trade environment.

22nd AGM of CNI





CNI Leadership Team Visits Provincial and District Chapters

A delegation from the Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI), led by President Mr. Birendra Raj Pandey, conducted an official visit to its provincial and district chapters from 20 to 22 June 2025. During the visit, the team held interactive discussions with CNI Bagmati Province, CNI Madhesh Province, CNI Koshi Province, Chitwan Industry Association, Industry Association of Makwanpur, and Bara-Parsa Industry Association. The engagements focused on strengthening collaboration, understanding local industrial concerns, and promoting coordinated efforts to advance Nepal's industrial growth.

