

Introduction of Confederation of Nepalese Professionals (CONEP)

Background

Nepalese professional workers' movement has a long history. The All Nepal Low Salaried Employees Association was established in 1950. Similarly, struggling for the professional rights and freedom of association during the then autocratic Panchayat regime, the Nepal National Teachers' Association, Nepal Overseers' Association, Nepal Nursing Association and Nepal Para Medical Association were also established in 1979. But despite of a long history of professional workers movement, the then regime never accepted trade union rights.

Multiparty Democratic System restored from the historical peoples popular movement in the 1990. Several professional associations emerged to promote and protect their professional interests. Consequently the result of constant pressure and struggle of the professional organizations, Labor Act 1992 and Trade Union Act 1993 have been introduced. However, these acts are not yet fully implemented to government employees and some public service sectors.

Multiparty Democratic System within the constitutional monarchy could not address the peoples' aspiration. Historical people's movement-2 uprised in 2006. This movement swept out monarchy and introduced the federal democratic republic. Confederation of Nepalese Professional (CONEP) has played a vital role in the movements. So after a series of professional workers movements, finally CONEP has been registered formally under the Trade Union Act-1993 in July 26, 2008. It has been working as an national umbrella for the Nepalese trade unions working in professional and public service sectors like Government Service, Technical, Medical, Education, Health, Local Level Government, Corporate and Banking etc. CONEP comprises 24 affiliate and associate members of trade union federations having almost four hundred thousand members. It has been affiliated with WFTU and it's the then general secretary Mr. Premal Kumar Khanal has been elected in World Presidential Council Member from 16th Congress.

Historical Development of CONEP

Establishment - May 20, 1995, Founding name as Forum for Professional Solidarities.
 Co-ordinator: Com. Sitaram Nepal

1st National Congress- May 18-19, 1996
 President: Prof. Com. Harsha Narayan Dhaubhadel.

2nd National Congress- Sep 6-7, 2001, President: Prof. Com. Harsha Narayan Dhaubhadel.

3rd National Congress- Feb. 27, 2006, President: Com. Sushil Chandra Amatya.
 4th National Congress- May 1-2, 2009, President: Com. Pramod Sharma.

5th National Congress- May 1-2, 2012, President: Com. Biswanath Pyakurel.



Vision

Socialism for prosperous life, job security, equal job opportunity and secured future of workers.

Ideological Thought

- CONEP belives in socialism.
- CONEP believes and accepts social justice, democracy, peace in the world and human rights as its guiding principles.
- CONEP remains autonomous and uninfluenced from the communalism, racism, regionalism and religious sentiments.
- Member organizations remain autonomous and no interference is made in their internal issues.
- CONEP is operated in democratic principles.
- CONEP believes class based militant Trade Union movements.

Objectives

- To strive for the enhancement of skills, knowledge, economic status by ensuring conducive terms and conditions of service,
- To make an effort to create good relation among the employees, management and government,
- To make an effort to establish good relation and cooperation among trade unions thereby contributing to the national development,
- To provide suggestions and consultation to the government with regards to economic and labour policies.
- To conduct training for the members of member organizations,
- To establish fraternal relation with national and international trade unions,
- To strive for protection of constitutional rights of associations, collective bargaining and peaceful movement in order to promote professional interests and protect Trade Union rights,
- To make every effort to encourage workers and professionals to discharge their duties in responsible manner,
- To consolidate democratic republic system and achieve the goal of socialism.

Major Activities of CONEP

- Played important role to throw out Panchayat autocratic regime,
- Made efforts to promulgate the new constitution of Nepal in due time,
- Played vital role in the historical Peoples' Movement in 2006 to overthrow the monarchism and establish Federal Republic of Nepal.
- Affiliated with World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) and established fraternal relation with ACFTU, VGCL, PAME, AITUC, CITU, TUCC, AICCTU and other Asia - Pacific Regional Trade Unions,
 - Organized campaigns to be ratified ILO convention 87,
- Organized Rallies, Processions and various programs every year on the occasion of May Day, 8th March, WFTU Day, International Action Day and CONEP Day,
- Launched nationwide Trade Union Education Program for Workers and Professionals in cooperation of ILO,
- Placed demands to the government to solve the problems of employees at various sectors and conducted various activities such as processions, public hearings, mass meetings,



advocacy, lobbying and negotiations etc,

Conducted Mediation between government and trade unions on current labour issues,

 Expressed solidarity on movements conducted by various Trade Unions and Professional associations in the country and abroad,

Published yearly magazine and bulletin comprising of CONEP's activities,

 Conducted various interaction programmes on workers issues such as social security, decent work and gender disparities,

 Played active role in Joint Trade Union Coordination Center (JTUCC) to harmonize relation among national trade union centers for common labour issues,

Action Plans of CONEP

- To ensure political and trade union rights of workers in new constitution,
- Campaign to ensure workers representation in all decision making process,
- To strive for elimination of anti-labour provisions from prevailing Labour related laws,
- Campaign against the negative results of liberalisation and privatisation,

To conduct trade union education training for workers,

- To establish relation with national and international trade unions,
- To campaign on decent work and social security for workers,
- To strengthen the class oriented trade union movement,

To strengthen peace, democracy and political stability,

- To campaign against political interference in Public and Private Service Sector,
- To campaign against corruption in government offices and public sector,

Structure of CONEP

- National Congress
- General Assembly
- General Committee
- Standing Committee
- Secretariat
- Member Affiliate Trade Union Federations
- Zonal Coordination Committee
- District Conference
- District Coordination Committee

Affiliate Trade Unions under CONEP

- Nepal National Teachers' Association (NNTA)
- 2. Nepal Government Employees' Organization (NEGEO)
- 3. Inter Corporation Employees' Association, Nepal (ICEAN)
- 4. Bank, Insurance and Finance Sector Employees Union, Nepal (BIFU Nepal)
- 5. Local Government Employees' Association of Nepal (ALGEN)
- 6. National Health Professional of Nepal (NAHEP, Nepal)
- 7. Professional Insurance Agent Association of Nepal (PIAAN)
- 8. University Employees' Association of Nepal (UEA, Nepal)
- 9. Nepal Medical & Sales Representative Association (NMSRA)
- 10. Nepal Auditors' Association (AUDAN)
- 11. Nepal Cultural Professional Association (NCPA)
- 12. Nepal Engineering Professional Association (NEPA)



Associate Unions under CONEP

- 1. Diploma Engineers' Association, Nepal (DEAN)
- 2. Para Medical Association of Nepal (PAN)
- 3. Nepal Nursing Association (NAN)
- 4. Nepal Surveyors' Association (NSA)
- Nepal Rangers' Association (NRA)
- 6. Nepal Ex. Service Employees' Association (NESEA)
- 7. Nepal Agricultural Research Council Employees' Association (NARC)
- 8. Nepal Para-Veterinary & Live Stock Association (NPVLSA)
- 9. Higher School Teacher's Association, Nepal (HISTAN)
- 10. Notary Public Association (NPA)
- 11. Nepal Public University Campus Teachers' Association (PUCTA, Nepal)
- 12. Forestry Professional Association for Transformation (FPAT, Nepal)

General Committee elected by 5th National Congress

President: Com. Biswanath Pyakurel
1st Vice President: Com. Premal Kumar Khanal
2nd Vice President: Com. Balkrishna Giri

3rd Vice President : Com. Hira Nepal

Vice Presidents:

Com. Prabha Devi Bajracharya Com. Bishnu Prasad Lamichhane

Com. Lalbahadur Pakhrin Com. Gambhir Lal Shreshtha

Com. Dipak Subedi

Com. Dandi Prasad Sharma

General Secretary:

Com. Shiva Adhikari

Deputy General Secretary:

Com. Udaya Sharma

Com. Kishor Kumar Nepali

Com. Shankar Subedi

Com. Ramdev lal Das Com. Gagan Singh Bista Speaker:

Com. Bednidhi Nirala

Deputy Speaker:

Com. Surya Prasad Adhikari

Account Committee :

Com. Tanka Prashad Pandey (Co-ordinator)

> Com. Purna Joshi Member

Com. Laxman Kumar Sharma Member



Secretaries: Com, Gopi Krishna Khadka

Com. Mohan Kumari Shahi

Treasurer: Com. Shyam Prasad Pandey Co-Tresurer: Com. Bhola Nath Upadhyaya

Members:

Com. Narayan Parishrami Pariyar Com. Ram Kumar Bantaba Rai Com. Shailendra Prasad Singh Com. Gauri Devi Thapa

Com. Nirmala Bhandari

Com. Saraswati Khadka Com. Sita Oiha Com. Anju Kayastha

Com. Laxmi K.C. Com. Narbada Thapa

Com. Mamata Bhujel Com. Bhawani Khadka

Com. Amar Paudel Com. Krishna Prasad Adhikari

Com. Tek Bahadur Raut Com. Dakur Nath Parajuli Com. Dharanidhar Adhikari

Com. Thakur Das Shreshtha Com. Narayan Kumar Maskey Com. Vikendra Deep B.C.

Com. Harish Chandra Biswakarma Com. Jagat Krishna Shrestha

Com. Rana Bahadur Gharti Magar

Com. Lalbabu Jha Com. Santosh Prasad Singh

Com. Harka Bahadur Singh

Members: (Affiliate/Associate Presidents)

Com. Baburam Adhikari (NNTA) Com. Bhola Nath Pokharel (NEGEO) Com. Dipak Subedi (ICEAN)

Com. Pramila Dewan (NAN)

Com. Shankar Kumar Rayamajhi (BIFU Nepal) Com. Laxman Rayamajhi (DEAN)

Com. Bhaktiman Subba (NAHEP, Nepal) Com. Navin Kumar Paudel (NARC)

Com. Madhusudan Adhikari (NSA) Com. Mohan Bahadur K.C. (NESEA)

Com. Hari Bahadur Kunwar (PAN) Com. Hari Kumar Shrestha (ALGEN)

Com. Kapil Dev Oli (PIAAN)

Com. Bhim Bahadur Shrestha (UEA) Com. Purna Bahadur Budha (NPVLSA)

Com. Kamal Kharel (AUDAN) Com. Jitendra Baidhya (NMSRA) Com. Dipak Raj Subedi (HISTAN)

Com. Durga Osti (NEPA) Com. Gopal Pandey (PUCTA, Nepal)

Com. Basanta Basnet (NPA) Com. Bikram Mainali (NCPA) Com. Kiran Paudel (FPAFT)

Members : (Zonal)

Com. Dev Raj Karki - Mechi Com. Khadaa Bahadur Paudel - Koshi Com. Binod Basnet - Sagarmatha

Com. Bikram Bhandari - Janakpur Com. Bishnu Prasad Dhital - Narayani Com. Bhakta Raj Pokharel - Baamati

Com. Bandhu Raj Baral - Gandaki Com. Pingal Rai Gautam - Dhaulagiri

Com. Jhapat Bahadur Ranabhat - Lumbini Com. Udday Neupane - Rapti

Com. Mati Ram Sharma - Bheri

Com. Laxmi Prashad Chaulagai - Karnali Com. Dhananjaya Ojha - Seti

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