**ECONOMY**

**Spending rules**

The government has announced new expenditure regulations to tighten spending on projects. Finance Minister Ram Pratap Pokhrel, who has taken over the role of finance minister following the resignation of Morang Phuyal, said that the new regulations, which have been drafted in a consultative manner, will be effective from the next fiscal year. The new regulations will only allow spending on goods and services that are essential for the operation of government programmes. The regulations also specify that the government will only spend on goods and services that are necessary for the effective implementation of the budget.

**Nepal Lever profits down**

Nepal Lever, a subsidiary of Hindustan Lever has reported a whopping 49 percent drop in net profit in the year ended March 2021. The company reported a profit of Rs 76 million for the year, a significant drop from the Rs 150 million profit reported in the previous year. The company attributed the drop in profit to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on its operations.

**Mind our business**

The Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI), the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Nepal in the near future, has exhorted the Nepalese business community to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Indian government. The FNCCI has urged the Nepalese business community to make their voices heard in the ongoing talks with India, and to express their concerns regarding the ongoing India-China border dispute.

**Sanitary ware**

India’s Hindustan has begun marketing its bathroom fittings and tiles in Nepal. The Indian company, which is already established in the Indian market, has launched its products in Nepal to tap into the growing demand for high-quality sanitary ware in the country.

**Do you agree with the Maoists demand for a new constitution?**

No. I don’t agree. First of all who are the Maoists to demand it? No one in the world has the right to demand anything from anyone.

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