

# **AN EVALUATION OF COMMUNICATION POLICY IN NEPAL**

**Submitted By**

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## RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that this dissertation entitled “**An Evaluation of Communication Policy in Nepal**” by **Shashi Nath Marasini** has been prepared for the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master’s of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication. To the best of my knowledge, the study is based on both primary and secondary data, evaluated and analyzed different communication policy of Nepal.

I, therefore, forward it to the dissertation committee for approval

June, 2006

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## **APPROVAL LETTER**

This dissertation work entitled “**An Evaluation of Communication Policy in Nepal**” by **Mr. Shashi Nath Marasini** is prepared for the partial fulfillment for the requirement for the degree of Master’s in Journalism and Mass Communication.

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**Shashi Nath Marasini**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Information and communication, which are indispensable infrastructures for development, possess great importance for the overall development of a nation. The contribution of the information and communication has played an important role creating a healthy civilized and cultured society based on justice and morality as ensured by the constitution of Kingdom of Nepal 1990. The democratic policy adopted by the country in political perspective means to govern oneself by uniting on another, whereas from the economic point of view it means to go hand in hand with prosperity. The great responsibility for encouraging and motivating people involves in overall development of nation through massive peoples participation while disseminating such underlying implications of democratic policy depends on the efficiency of the communication sector.

Realizing the importance of communication sector, this study is focused on evaluating communication policy of Nepal, on the basis of primary and secondary data. The study is focused on Five year development plan and Government policies: communication policy–2028, communication policy–2049; long term communication policy–2059 and legislative policy to evaluate communication policy of Nepal.

Content analysis and sampling methods are used to collect the data. According to data and information, it is found that, there is a gap between the target and progress of the policy. Policy level targets are not fulfilling because of governments unwillingness. Physical targets are not fulfilling due to the lack of budget, lack of infrastructure and lack of efficiency in bureaucracy.

## ACRONYMS

EMS	Express Mailing Service
FM	Frequency Modulation
HMG	His Majesty Government
IPDC	International Program for the Development of Communication
ISD	International Subscriber Dialing
MOIC	Ministry of Information and Communication
NPC	National Planning Commission
NTC	Nepal Telecommunication Corporation
STD	Subscriber Telephone Dialing
TV	Television
UN	United Nation
UNESCO	United Nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
UPU	Universal Postal Union
VDC	Village Development Committee

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# CHAPTER - I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Policies, strategies and planning are applications of theory to reality, usually in the form of social, political, economic and cultural actions. Moreover, large-scale action communications requires, first a coherent and well-defined policy and second a well-articulated strategy and plan. UNESCO has defined communication policy as "sets of principles and norms established to guide the behavior of communication system". This broad definition might include both the long-range and short-range orientation of communication objectives which "are shaped in the context of society's general approach to communication". Accepting this general observation, communication policies in the framework of the present study are defined as systematic, institutionalized principles, norms, and behaviour that are designed through legal and regulatory procedures and/or perceived through historical understanding to guide formation, distribution, and control of the system in both its human and technological dimensions. Furthermore, communication policies (or the perceived lack of such policies) reflect the prevailing cultural, political and economic behaviour of a given system. On the other hand, communication planning refers to both general and specific strategy and to operations to achieve given policy goals, whether long-range or short-range.

Institutional interest in communication policy and planning research has grown over the last ten years. At the international level, UNESCO has published a series of studies on national communication policies, and the World Bank has conducted feasibility studies and has published a number of monographs on "Communication support" planning and a book on telecommunication and economic development. The United Nations Development Program, the United Nations Centre for Transnational Corporations and the International Telecommunications Union have prepared regional and international telecommunication plans and carried out studies on the economics of communication. The report of the International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems (the Mac Bride Report) and the declarations and deliberations of UNESCO and the International Program for the Development of

Communication (IPDC) have given further impetus to the questions and problems of communication policies. The Intergovernmental Bureau of Informatics (IBI), the International Institute of Communication, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, and a number of other organizations have carried out studies on broadcasting, computers and telecommunications interaction policy.

At the national level, both developed and developing countries have carried out studies on long-term communication policy and the impact of modern technology on culture and society. A number of development aid institutions as well as national foundations have research programs in these areas. When all the governmental as well as academic institutions engaged in policy and planning research in developed and developing countries are added to the list, the emerging field of communication policies, strategies and planning seems to cover a wide-ranging area of professional and scholarly activities.

Participation in communication Policy formulation asks - who is involved? A very pertinent question is "Who is concerned with communication policies and their formulation?" Communication policies, because of their wide scope, require responsible participation at many different levels:

**Government executive:-** Since communication cuts across established administrations and is a political factor, experience in other fields indicates that the basic orientation of policies, and the co-ordination required for their concretization and translation into planning, calls for endorsement by the highest authorities of the State. Because many media are economical only when applied on a large scale and integrated into the total process of social communication, co-ordination needs to be reflected throughout the political and administrative hierarchy. This is rarely possible unless authorized from the top. At the same time, it is important that the concepts of communication policy and communication planning should not be equated with constraint and censorship, with "dirigisme at the top". On the contrary, both should be concerned in assuring individual freedom of expression and communication within systems which are compatible with the needs for social dialogue.

Legislative bodies play an important role both through the laws concerning to communication matters they may adopt and through the allocation of budgetary resources. Unless there is understanding of the significance of communication among legislators and close co-operation with others, there is little prospect for achieving the desired co-ordination and assuring the constructive role of communication in society. Sub-commissions on communication policies and planning may be a useful matter for legislative bodies to consider.

Authorities in charge of social and economic plan are Co-ordination of communication systems, integration into the social and economic objectives of the country, and allocation of important resources required for a rational development of communication infrastructures call for decisions by the planning authorities.

Individual ministries and their planning boards refer not only to those ministries directly in charge of communication resources and their use, but also to all other ministries which are involved in some form of communication and are potential users of the media - education, agriculture, labor, health, etc., as well as the technical and social services which depend on them or operate with relative independence in their domains. Experience has shown that the integration of media into substantive fields such as education or agriculture is likely to remain marginal unless it is provided for in the specific planning of these fields. Since the Ministry of Finance will directly affect the development and use of media through the fiscal and customs policies, it may be equally concerned at the planning level.

**Communication enterprises:-** In the first place, the "mass media", but also telecommunications, data storage and retrieval, as well as the industries which produce the required hardware and can supply software, such as information and programs to the media systems.

Professional organizations, whose members are involved directly in the media - professional associations, labor unions - as well as the industries which include staff of academic, training and research institutions concerned with communication. They exist in all countries and the situations vary according to the structure of the different media. While most of these have as a first aim the protection of their conditions of

work, many of them are also concerned with maintaining professional and technical standards. There also exist international federations of national associations, as well as of individuals, of professional and technical workers in the mass media intended to assist the members and to promote co-operation between them. Such professional organizations (at whatever level), and when they function well, play an important role in improving technical efficiency and in cultivating among their members recognition of the role of the mass media and of their own responsibilities.

The citizen has a direct stake in communication policies. The values and choices which guide communication affect his personal interest. He is a communicator in his own right and requires access to the media for participation and expression. He should be able to benefit from the potential services of communication - objective information, education, vocational orientation and training, satisfaction of leisure time and cultural identity. There are different ways in which the citizen may influence communication policies - through representation, through voluntary organizations which are directly concerned with the content and conduct of the media or represent social and cultural forces who seek access to communication, through forms of direct action and through public debate (including debate through the media). The methods for citizen participation will vary among societies, but its importance cannot be emphasized enough.

The social scientist can make an essential contribution to formulate communication policies by supplying both quantifiable and non-quantifiable information on the structure of society as well as on the content and impact of the messages carried out by the communication system.

The role of the economist is crucial though confined. He sees himself as a rationalist in the multidisciplinary policy-making process and attempts to organize and bring consistency to it. His effort entails continuous attempts to encourage decision-makers to adopt organized approaches to decision-making and to return to basic data for each decision. His job is, then, to develop improved techniques for collecting data and analyzing the results in terms which can readily be used by those who make policy decisions. The communication economist should be capable not only of evaluating the alternatives presented to him by others, but of widening the range of alternative



methods of achieving a given objective. He is also expected to define the cost and benefit implications of various sets of objectives and to trace least-cost strategies for policy-makers and planners. He cannot, however, be expected to make the final choices among policy objectives, or to formulate definitive plans.

Communication policy and planning is as yet an emerging area. A survey by Saved Rahim of seven well-known journals of communication from 1966 to 1976, found that the terms "policy", "planning", or "strategy" appeared in titles or subtitles of only 0.7 percent of the articles. Further, Rahim cited his own bibliographic research in 1976 which revealed that questions of communication planning and policy were mostly raised in the narrow context of adopting a new communication technology to a development program, with sparse attention to overall concepts, theories, and methods. Although we have seen a progression of policy research and a rise in the number of national communication policies during the last decade, writing on communication strategy and planning as it relates to development remains somewhat fragmented, simplistic, bureaucratic, and market-oriented. With the exception of a dozen monographs and highly analytical essays, the remaining literature seems to be a variety of "how-to-do" pamphlets usually prepared under the sponsorship of agencies and organizations involved with "development communication" or "communication support" projects. This is by no means to minimize the efforts undertaken in this area, but only to alert the reader to the great profusion and variety of works that characterize the area of communication strategy and planning.

Telecommunication policy in developing countries seems to be fragmented and diverse. With the exception of a few farsighted nations such as Brazil, India, and the People's Republic of China, the developing nations of the world have little cohesive communications policy. It is generally accepted in those nations that control over information and communication resources is fundamental to sovereignty and development, yet a formal telecommunication policy is rare.

## **1.2 The Concept of Communication Policy**

Society has certain basic needs if it is to operate normally – needs for information, for control, for continuity of norms and values. Thus, communication is co-extensive with

society: an essential condition of social living is the sharing of information and values with others. Indeed, society as a whole might be viewed as a network of channels of information and institutions for communicating ideas, demands and decisions. Above all in the most under-developed societies such communication will involve 'a fusion of high technology and special professionalized processes of communication with informal society-based and not-specialized processes of person to person communication'.

In developed societies, as a whole the special professionalized process of communication—the mass media—has become highly significant institution in that:

1. Increasingly they constitute for the majority of people one of the single more powerful means in the process through which the culture of society—its persistent habits, values and ideas—is at once transmitted and reshaped; through which the community comes to be conscious of itself and the possibilities of progress and renewal. Characteristically the mass media conveys in great part the ethos of the social order in which they operate; yet at any time they also provide the means for response and potential challenge to that order.
2. In the modern State which requires of its citizens an active, continuing and informed participation in community affairs they constitute a vital component of that network of communications which are so necessary, particularly in a democracy.
3. Of their nature highly technical and specialized, the mass media, and the ancillary services to which they give rise, take up resources which constitute an important sector of the economy.
4. They seem likely, in view of their present rapid development, to prove ever more influential in the modern pattern of living.

Faced with these developments we need to examine both the values to be endorsed by our society and the role of the mass media in the attainment of its goals. Although the relationship between mass communications and modern society remains in most respects problematic, it seems clear that 'the effects of mass media on individuals, groups, social institutions and social relationships are highly dependent on how the

media are used and controlled'. Explicit policies of communications development may then be a need of the time. Development here means 'using, enhancing and combining resources so as to yield new and better returns and consciously doing this by assisting the process to the desired end'. Attempts to work out a policy of this kind have so far been rare; certainly in democracies precedent and evolutionary practice rather than design have been the norm.

Nevertheless, an examination of the actions, attitudes and assumptions of the major participants in any such venture—the State, the media institutions, the professional communicators and the public—may reveal, at least implicitly, the likely elements of any such policy.

Within any given society a communication policy does in fact exist, whether or not it is formulated in a coherent, explicit and systematic corpus regulating its functioning.

The behavioural norms which constitute the policy may be explicit or implicit; they may or may not take written form in legal or constitutional instruments; they may be fragmentary or comprehensive; they may be mutually integrated or not; they may be simply indicative or absolutely compulsory, but in one manner or another the collection of norms forms part of a communication policy.

When, in face of the lack of a specific corpus of law on the subject it is asserted that 'No communication policy exists', even then it can be maintained that this lacuna is in practice a policy. Verging on the absurd it can be said that in such a case we have the easy policy of having no policy.

In any case, it is indisputable that a given country's communication policy emanates from ideological concepts, economic and social situations and the value judgments which buttress them at the social level.

To begin with, and solely in order to provide a starting-point, we will adopt, as a general statement, the definition proposed by UNESCO in 1974: 'A national communication policy is a set of prescriptions and norms laid down to guide the behaviour of communication institutions in a country.' It should be understood that in

this case, in order to get round conceptualizations limiting communication policies to topics and areas which are not always articulated when we speak of communication policies it would be more exact to say that we are speaking of communication strategies.

This forces us to recognize the unavoidable linkage of communication policies to a particular ideological framework of reference and a specific notion of economic and social development to which the communications stratagem or policy must obviously correspond.

In the particular case of Peru, a rational effort to understand the meaning, depth and prospects of the Peruvian experiment in the establishment of a national communications policy must oblige us, first of all, to draw attention to three basic points.

The first is that this experiment starts from the conviction, that it is not possible to claim even to have the communication phenomenon correctly focused if we detach it from the social process as a whole, from the conflict or interests obtaining in the society and more particularly from the production relations existing. All of this naturally involves implications of an ideological order which are unavoidable and clear-cut value concepts.

The second is that in the choice between the multiple meanings which can be given to the term 'policy' we are choosing, for this attempted approximation, the most elementary definition. 'A policy is a way of conducting a matter so as to attain an end.' This definition, despite and because of its simplicity, allows us to avoid even more serious and in addition distorting simplifications such as giving the term 'policy' the meaning of a mere combination of mechanisms for decision-making, execution, evaluation and supervision, and it forces us to 'place' these mechanisms in relation to the value concepts which guide them in their location within the framework of a given social system.'

The third is that in the case of Peru, the attempt to establish, for the first time, a real national communications policy does not start from an extended but un-integrated

diagnosis of the situation of this specific aspect of social development, but rather takes as its starting-point the requirements and needs created by a process which is seeking and beginning to shake up and transform the economic and social structures.

### **1.3 An Overview of Communication Policy in Nepal**

#### **1.3.1 History of Planning Commission in Nepal**

With the initiation of planned development process, a planning agency by the name of Planning Commission was constituted for the first time in Nepal in 1956 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister\*. To make it more capable and effective, The Yojana Mandal (a planning body) was set up the same year in accordance with the Yojana Mandal Act, 1957. Besides the responsibility of plan formulation, the Yojana Mandal was entrusted with various executive powers. Following the overthrow of the multiparty democratic system in 1960 and with the initiation of Panchyat political system thereafter, Rastriya Yojana Parishad (National Planning Council) under the Chairmanship of late King Mahendra was constituted. As the decisions of the Council were treated as equivalent to that of the cabinet, the Council was regarded as the highest authority in the sphere of economic planning and policies. In the beginning, a separate Secretariat was set up to serve the Council. However, with the creation of the Ministry of Economic Affairs in 1962, the Ministry itself carried out the functions of the Secretariat. Various activities relating to development budget and foreign aid were directly brought under the purview of the National Planning Council.

In 1963, the National Planning Council was dissolved and a new central planning body, with an identical name, was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. All the Ministers were designated as Ex-officio members and the Ministry of Economic Affairs was renamed as the Ministry of Planning.

In 1968, all the works related to development budget and foreign aid hitherto carried out by the Ministry of Economic Planning was assigned to the Ministry of Finance. The National Planning Council under the Chairmanship of the Chairman of Council of Ministers was replaced by the National Planning Commission, under the

Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, and a separate Secretariat was set up to serve it. A comprehensive study on the functions and responsibilities of the central planning agency resulted in the preparation of the report in 1972 and the National Planning Commission was reconstituted accordingly.

Planning activities were carried on in accordance with the Report on Central Planning Agency 1972. In 1987, some minor changes were introduced in the structure of National Planning Commission. With the restoration of democracy, following the people's movement of 1990 and the establishment of constitutional Monarchy in the country, some changes were made in the structure and organization of National Planning Commission in 1991. The reconstituted Commission was headed by the Prime Minister and consisted of a full time Vice-Chairman and five Members and a Member-Secretary. The Chief Secretary and the Finance Secretary were included as the Ex-officio Members.

### **1.3.2 History of Communication Policy in Nepal**

In Nepal, policies of communication emerged with the first constitution 2004. This constitution guaranteed 'Right to press freedom' first time.

With the initiation of planned development process, first five year development plan was implemented in 2013 B.S. Then the policy formulation process and the vision of the government started developing towards the communication sector.

After the suggestion of the press commission-2015 about the communication medium and development of journalism Government attracted towards the communication policy.

Three year communication policy-2028 had represented National effort for the development of organizational structure of mass communication. The analysis and suggestion of Royal Press Commission 2038 was crucial for the development of communication policy when communication policy 2028 was implemented according to its suggestion the name of the Information and Broadcasting ministry changed into communication ministry. According to its suggestion post service and

telecommunication service both are the under of the communication ministry. Before this, these services were under the different ministry.

This policy has given different objective, policy, plan and organization of communication ministry, Information department, Broadcasting department, post service department, printing press of government and press council.

Before this policy, the organizational structure was different; there was not secretary of the communication ministry. Secretary of home panchayat ministry had the responsibility of communication ministry.

In the process of the implementation of the report 'Royal Press communication 2038' Communication Policy was improved. Communication policy 2049 and ninth development information and communication sector was changed. According to present policy Information Department is coordinating body between spokes person of the ministry and press. These policy and plan target to establish an information unit in information department. According to the concept of 'Communication Village' Information department, press council and Federation of Journalist have established. In ninth year plan there was the policy to develop information department as a central body of information.

In communication policy 2049 there are the following policies: Newspaper policy, Broadcasting policy, Information policy, News of the government, media policy, post service policy, Film policy, Telecommunication policy, Department management policy, Institution management policy. Communication policy 2049 has adapted the open market oriented policy.

After the formulation of broadcasting act 2049 and regulation 2052 government monopoly in the broadcasting sector has broken. Radio and TV from the private sector started to broadcast.

Ninth development plan has given the great importance to the information and communication sector. It realized that if the communication facilities can be spread in the rural area of the country, economical development and poverty elevation will be

easy. To implement the concept of ninth plan, long term communication policy 2059 was formulated.

There are 16 main policies of Information and communication sector in long term communication policy-2059. Among these policies, developing Information and communication in the rural area, by the end of twelfth plan, and fulfilling the objectives of per one hundred person fifteen line telephone are important. According to spirit of constitution 2046 developing the information and communication medium, developing press council as a representative institution of the press medium, spreading the Radio, TV and Internet all over the country, developing advertising profession as a national industry was also the target of this policy.

Because of the liberal provision about the communication in constitution 2047, liberal policies have been formulating so information and communication sector has uplifted. But there are some problems, to solve the problem we need different legal policies among them 'Right to Information Act' is one. In the absence of this act communication field is facing difficulties at present time.

Constitution 2047, Press and Publication Act 2048, National Broadcasting Act 2049, Communication Policy 2049, Long Term Communication Policy 2059 and Tenth Development Plan are functioning at present time, but now, there are many problems. To address these problems we need different policies. In the process of the policy formulation present need and problem should be understood. That is the need of the present time.

#### **1.4 Theories of Development**

Theories are both base and byproduct of the research. Research can modify old theory and established new theory. Policies use to formulate on the base of the development theories. The study of communication policy is also related with development theory. On the base of these theories we can conduct the research. The research can add new facts in the theories. Theories of development are relevant for the study. So, I have studies some development theory in my thesis work.



### **1.4.1 Evolutionary Theory**

Evolutionary theories see development as a process which is inevitable and replicable. They have postulated "general trends in the development of all human societies usually lead to the formation of a series of stages of development" (Roxburgh, 1979:14).

They are based on notions that, as natural organisms have evolved to "higher" forms, so will human beings. Preston argues that this position was reached inductively. "...The idea of the individual pursuit of perfection was transformed into a naturally guaranteed social process" (Preston, 1982:20).

Such evolutionary notions have been the basis for two separate theoretical approaches to development: Marxist, and structural functionalist or modernization theory. While they represent very different beliefs about the nature of societies they will be discussed together because of their reliance on very similar assumptions about the historical inevitability of the development process.

### **1.4.2 Marxist Theory**

Marxist evolutionary theories focus on a necessary progression of social forms through a set of developmental stages; one of the most crucial transitions is from "feudalism" to "capitalism" to "socialism" and then ultimately to "communism". Progress will be achieved through the development of capitalism, the rise of class as the major basis of social differentiation and conflict: after class struggle the inevitable socialist revolution socializes the forces of production and finally brings about the abolition of class society and the advent of communism.

Within such a framework, development is measured in terms of whether or not a particular society is along this evolutionary ladder. This can be measured through an analysis of "modes of production" and "ownership of the means of production" as defined by Karl Marx.

As Chilcote (1984) has stated, the end point of this process of development would be:

"The creative use of work and leisure and the elimination of a commodity and money economy; inequality classes and the state; and alienated labor" (Chilcote, 1984:5).

Capitalist industrialization is seen as being a necessary part of this process.

The strategy for development adopted by such orthodox Marxists is one of centralized, state controlled, socialist industrial development; it focuses on the development of large scale, state, mechanized, agricultural and industrial enterprises. It depends on the existence of a centralized state bureaucracy which controls the use and distribution of natural, human and financial resources. The state would be responsible for developing a centralized organization, technical expertise and the necessary physical infrastructure. A high degree of national self-reliance in natural resources, labor and capital would be required.

Under such a system the state would be responsible for determining the nature, size and forms of industrial and agricultural production. The aim would be to provide employment for all to satisfy domestic consumption needs. Emphasis would be placed on producing adequate quantities of essential goods and services at the lowest possible cost rather than on developing elaborate or sophisticated consumer goods. It would aim to provide equality in access to services and basic needs as well as enhanced opportunities and outcomes for talented individuals.

Finance for such a system would be obtained through state appropriation of surplus production and the state would be responsible for the evaluation and policing of the system. Consumption would be contained to ensure maximum surplus is available for appropriation.

One goal of this strategy would be independence from the capitalist world economy and institutions. The ability of the state to achieve such independence would depend on the availability of a range of natural and human resources and the ability of mass production techniques to enable production of adequate resources to maintain control over and support of the population.

### **1.4.3 Modernization Theory**

Structural functionalists or "modernization" theories dominated discussions about development in the 1950s and 1960s. They have also viewed development as the evolution of societies from "traditional" to "modern" forms. The major proponents of modernization theories have been Parsons (1951) and Rostow (1960), (see also Dube, 1988; Webster, 1984; Bernstein, 1979). Modernisation theorists saw development as being achieved through the accumulating of capital, the creation of entrepreneurial elite who would wean people away from traditional ways, industrialization, the development of "modern" family, educational and political institutions and values and the operation of free market economics protected by the rule of law of the social democratic nation state.

They placed emphasis on increased productivity and efficiency through the application of modern scientific discoveries and technologies and the maintenance of political stability so that free market economics could operate unimpeded. This highly "rational", modern approach would provide the means to transform the backward, rural hinterland of less developed countries.

Development is seen by such theories as the inevitable result of industrialization and its modernizing influences. Thus, in order to promote development, it would be necessary to promote an increase in the available agricultural surplus and industrialization in an attempt to replicate the process which has occurred in "advanced societies".

Modernization theorists measured development in terms of increased G.N.P. and the adoption of "modern" social institutions and assumed that any increase in economic growth would inevitably raise the standard of living of the mass of people through a "trickle down" effect and an increase in the capacity for consumption of the society.

In order for such economic development to occur traditional values, social relationships and institutions based on familial, caste and ethnic loyalties would have to give way to more "modern" economic relationships such as those found in Western industrialized countries. The West would assist by actively diffusing ingredients for

development such as "modern" values, technology, expertise and capital (Harrison, 1988:149).

The history of industrialization in the West and particularly Great Britain was used by modernization theorists as a blueprint for development throughout the world.

#### **1.4.4 Dependency Theories**

Dependency theories arose in the 1960s as a response to the failure of the growth of industrial centers in some countries in Central and South America to provide the benefits of development which modernization theories assumed would "trickle down" and affect whole societies.

As Browett (1981) argues, there is as yet no unified theory of dependency within the development literature. There are however many writers who have referred to notions of dependency in their definitions and discussion of development. Two major proponents of dependency theories are Baran (1973) and Frank (1969). Browett states that two concepts of dependency can be isolated, though these are not mutually exclusive.

"On the one hand, dependency is seen as a form of boundary interchange, or as an external relationship. In this approach, the central emphasis is upon consistently unequal and asymmetrical core-periphery inter-relationships of dominance and dependence between component parts (invariably national economies) of single world capitalism. On the other hand, dependency is seen as a conditioning factor which distorts and alters the internal functioning and articulation of the elements of the dependent social formation" (Browett, 1981). This second concept emphasizes dominant relationships, within nations and between them.

The major themes of dependency theories are that development and underdevelopment are the opposite sides of one process, that development in one region occurs only at the expense of development in another region and that all societies are part of the one world system which originated in colonization and capitalist expansion (Harrison, 1988:150). Any economic surplus is drained from

underdeveloped societies or regions which stagnate and become more underdeveloped.

Instead, he saw the current underdevelopment of some countries as the product of unequal exchange relationships between the core (advanced capitalist) metro poles and the peripheral (exploited) satellites. He rejected the notion that development is enhanced by the diffusion of capital, institutions and values, to the underdeveloped countries and the poorer regions within them.

"Analogous to the relations between, development and underdevelopment on the international level, the contemporary underdeveloped institutions of the so-called backward or feudal domestic areas of an underdeveloped country are no less the product of the single historical process of capitalist development than are the so-called capitalist institutions of the supposedly more progressive areas" (Frank, 1969:5).

Therefore, Frank suggests a hierarchy of metropole-satellite relationships, where appropriation of surplus is always in favour of the metropolis. Such a hierarchy will continue to exist despite national political change such as independence from colonialism or bourgeois-domestic revolution, because the world capitalist system is based on the extraction of surplus from satellite areas. Dependency theorists would argue that the success of some previously underdeveloped countries, such as the Newly Industrializing Countries (NICS) including South Korea and Taiwan, has been achieved at the expense of other parts of the Third Worlds.

#### **1.4.5 Neo-Marxist Theories**

While neo-Marxist theories would not necessarily deny the problems of dependency in underdeveloped countries and identify strongly with orthodox Marxist theories, they differ from both in several ways. Their criticism of the dependency theories centre on their primary focus on unequal exchange and their failure to analyze development in terms of modes of production and access to the means of production.

Laclau's criticisms of Frank focus on his definition of capitalism. Frank sees "the relationship between the exploiters and the exploited as the fundamental contradiction

of capitalism" (Laclau, 1971:25). One of the leading neo-marxist theorists, Laclau sees this as an enormous assumption and points out that such unequal exchange relationship occur in all forms of society.

Laclau criticized the dependency theorists for accepting the premise that the presence of feudal relations of production in a country would involve acceptance of a dualist thesis. He agrees with Frank that "development does generate underdevelopment, except that we base our reasoning on relations of production and not only on those of the market" (Laclau, 1971:31). Laclau emphasizes the need to "try instead to trace the origins of dependence in concrete modes of production; the first step we must take is to remove all talk of a single unique contradiction" (1971:34).

Through three analyses of modes of production the neo-marxists attempt to provide a more substantial account of complicated sets of social relations. They emphasize that a range of modes of production can exist within a society at a particular point in time. They point out, for example, that feudal or semi-feudal modes of production can co-exist in mutually supportive ways with capitalist modes of production provided they do not challenge the political subordination of certain classes.

### **1.5 Statement of the Problem**

The task of planned development process had been undertaken by almost all countries of the world. Nepal also being an underdeveloped country embarked upon planned development since 1956. Since, Nepal Government has been implementing several plans and policies. But the performance of planned development and their policies has not been satisfactory as it is clear from the report of annual survey.

In this context, the information and communication sector, which is a crucial infrastructure for development, plays a vital role in overall development of the country. The task of bringing positive changes on day-to-day lives of citizen by providing continuity to development programs in a suitable manner depends on the effectiveness of communication. It is indisputable that the development, expansion and effective mobilization of information and communication can play an important role in bringing together every citizen in the process of nation building by raising their awareness. Therefore the communication on policy of the government is crucial for

the development of the nation, that's why, I have taken up this area for my study and observe how far communication policies process has been successfully formulated and implemented in our country.

In a world standing on the gateway of the twenty-first century, it is already understood that the coming era is the era of communication. The developed nations have already started to develop advanced communication technology and make their multifarious use. The communication service equipped with highly advanced electric communication. System has already come into utilization in our country through at a limited scale, however, the majority of the population is still marginalized even from minimum communication services in this context there is the challenge to formulate and implement the communication policy. That's why; I have chosen communication policy as a research problem in my study.

After the restoration of democracy constitution 2047 was promulgated. Its liberal provision about the press freedom like provision of Article 11, Article 13 and Article 16 gave very historical and good opportunity for the development of communication sector. Liberal constitutional provision and liberal policies about communication gave the way for the development of communication sector. There are printing press and publication act 2048, National broadcasting act 1949 for the communication sector because of these laws communication sector is developing very much. But in Article 16 of the constitution there is the provision of Right to information but according to the spirit of constitution to function the Article 16 there is not the Act. In the absence of Right to information act there is the problem to get information from the executive.

According to planning commission reports, in the development plan, communication sector has got higher priority but in the plan transportation and communication sector has merged in same budget; so the Journalism sector has got fewer amount of budget than transportation. Thus, very few amount of budget is allocated for the communication sector.

According to the suggestion of the press commission, Government has formulated communication policies like communication policy 2028, communication policy 2049 and long term communication policy 2059. These policies have given shape and

direction of the communication sector. But the target of these policies is not fulfilled in the period of time so the communication sector is still facing the different problem. One of the major problems in this sector is that there is gap between target and progress.

Nepal is developing country. People in this country are illiterate and poor so there is digital and Information gap between 'the haves and have-nots'. To solve these problem communication policy is very crucial. But communication on sector itself is in problem and there are some problems in the process of communication policy formulation. These problems are:

- 1 In the process of budget distribution communication and transportation are under the same topic so bigger amount of the budget is spent for the transportation and few is spent for the communication sector.
2. Right to information Act is not passed through the legislation.
3. There is gap between target and progress of the communication policy.
4. There is digital gap between rich and poor.
5. There is information gap between rich and poor.
6. Policy market is seemed to be ignorant about the problem of grass root level.
7. The many provisions in long term communication policy 2059 about the development of communication and development of infrastructure in the rural area are not fulfilled.

So, we have taken up this area for my study to research how far communication policies are able to address to solve the problem of the communication sector.

## **1.6 Significance of the Study**

Information and communication, which are indispensable infrastructures for development, possess great importance for the overall development of a nation. The contribution of the information and communication has played an important role in creating a healthy civilized and cultured society based on justice and morality as envisaged by the constitution of kingdom of Nepal 1990. The democratic policy adopted by the country in political perspective means to govern oneself by uniting one



another, whereas from the economic point of view it means to go hand in hand with prosperity. The great responsibility for encouraging and motivating people to involve in over all development of nation through massive people's participation while disseminating such n underlying implication of democratize policy depends on the efficiency of the communication sector. The act of maintaining sustainability of and continuity to development by bringing positive change people's daily lives through every development work conducted by the nation depends on the effectiveness of the communication. In a geographically remote and economically and educationally backward country like ours, it is indispensable that the development, expansion and proper mobilization of the communication sector can play an effective role in creating awareness and consciousness to every citizen and bringing them into the mainstream of national development. So, there is the challenge to formulate the communication policy according to our development policy. In this context, this study aims at finding out the communication policy formulation and implementation process. Therefore, the study can give significant contribution to the following.

- (a) The study expects that such a study can give the true picture of the communication policy in Nepal.
- (b) The study reflects the effectiveness of the communication policy.
- (c) The study will give the picture of target and progress of the communication policies.
- (d) It will be useful as guideline to researcher for further detailed studies.
- (e) The study will be useful as a guideline for planner, policy maker and social workers.

The activities of information and communication play an important role in enhancing socio-economic capacity of nation by making individual, community and country informed and activating their daily activities. So communication sector is very crucial for the development of nation. The research of communication policy paves the way to the policy maker. It draws real picture of communication sector of Nepal. Such type of research is necessary to show the real picture of communication sector to student, scholars, planner and journalist. In that sense this research is significant for communication sector.

## **1.7 Objectives of the Study**

Every study should have objective. I have also chosen some objectives according to the nature of the study. Keeping in the view all the major components of communication policy, the major objective are as follows:

- (1) Studying the status of the government communication policies.
- (2) Knowing the communication strategies in development plan.
- (3) Studying the practical approaches to communication policies.
- (4) Evaluating the communication policy and their strategies.

## **1.8 Limitation of the Study**

Delimitations of the study are marked according to the time, financial resources, value and reliability the delimitation of the study can be stated as follows:

1. The study is conducted in communication policy of Nepal.
2. The study is based on library method.
3. The main sources of data are both primary and secondary.
4. This study is conducted on the limitation of time and economic resources.

## **CHAPTER - II**

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Before studying communication policy it is necessary to know the concept of policy. After knowing the basic concept of policy it becomes easy to know about communication policy. According to Oxford Dictionary: 'Policy is a plan of action agreed as chosen by a political party, a business etc.' on the basis of this concept different literature of policy and communication policy is studied.

#### **2.1 Definition of Policy**

There are different definitions of policy. I have studied different definitions of the policy to know the concept of the policy because it paves way for me to know and to make basic concept of communication policy. So, some definitions of policy are presented here.

According to Report of the Meeting of experts on communication policies and planning in Latin America 4-13 July 1974, "A national communication policy is a set of prescriptions and norms laid down to guide the behaviour of communication institution in a country".

According to Yehezkel Dror, "Public policy is a general directive on the main lines of action to be followed".

According to Thomas Dye, "Public policy is whatever governments choose to do or not to do".

According to Anderson, "Policy decisions are made by public officials that authorize a give direction and content to public policy action".

According to Chandler and Plano, "Policy analysis is a systematic and data-based alternative to intuitive judgments about the effects of policy or policy options. It is

used for problem assessment and monitoring as a 'before the fact' decision tool and for evaluation".

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, sixth edition 2000, "Policy is a plan of action agreed as chosen by a political party, a business etc.".

## **2.2 International Review of Literature**

Traditional studies described the institutional in which public policy was formulated. But unfortunately the linkages between important institutional arrangements and the content of public policy were largely unexplored (Thomas Dye).

A proposed course of action of a person, group, as government providing obstacles and opportunities which the policy was proposed to utilize and overcome in an effort to reach a goal or realize an objective or a purpose (Carl Friedrich).

The acquisition and dissemination of information about public policies have become a major theme in social sciences, especially in the discipline of public administration. The use of such knowledge for making, managing and evaluating public is generally termed as 'public policy' (R.K. Sapru).

In countries where the problem of poverty is less serious, there is great pressure on governments to accelerate national development, adopt and facilitate necessary institutional changes, increase national production, make full use of human and other resources and improve the level of living (Development Administration, current, approaches and trends in public Administration for National Development, 1975).

Modern urban man is born in a publicly financed hospital, receives his education in a publicly supported school and university, spends a good part of his time traveling on publicly built transportation facilities, communicates through the post office or the quasi-public telephone system, drinks his public water, disposes of his garbage through the public removal system roads, his library books, picnics in his public park is protected by public police, fire and health systems, eventually, he dies, again in a hospital and may even buried in a public cemetery. Ideological conservatives not

withstanding, his everyday life is inextricably bound up with government decisions on these and numerous other public services (Michael Feitz).

Policy analysis is a technique to measure organizational effectiveness through the examination and evaluation of the effort of a program. Public policy analysis is thus nothing more than estimating the impact of public policy on the government program (R.K. Sapru).

'Communication policy' was defined, at the meeting of experts on communication policies in Latin America held in Bogota in July 1974 as an integrated, explicit and enduring set of principles and standards of behaviour applicable to institutions centrally in the mass communication process of a country. (UN, 1977)

The concept of communication on policies has only arisen, although the facts and actions that it describes are thousands of years old; communication policies are as old as politics themselves. The development of communication policies into a separate field appears to refer to social problems arising out of increasingly complex communication. (Ott B. Rojele, 1971)

The discussion should proceed on a definition of communication policies as the totality of measures by the state and social organization directed at regulating the process of social communication. One point in this definition appears especially important to me and is therefore worth accentuating: the state is not exclusively active in communication policies, nor should it be according to the constitution of the Federal Republic of Germany. (Peter Glotz, 1969)

But little was achieved through departmental planning. In 1955 a central planning board was established and on October 9, 1955, King Mahendra issued a Royal proclamation announcing first five-year plan. The outline of first five year plan was also announced. However, it was only in September 21, 1956 the main features of first five years plan was released. And it took two more years to accept the revised draft of plan by King Mahendra. In 14 March, 1958 King Mahendra accepted this and

backdated the beginning of the plan to 21 September, 1956, the day the draft had been published. (Ibid p.183)

The behavioural norms which comfit into the policy may be explicit or implicit, they may or may not have taken written form in legal or constitutional instruments, they may be fragmentary or comprehensive, they may be mutually integrated or not, they may be simply indicative or absolutely compulsory but in one manner or another the collection of norms forms part of a communication policy (UN 1977); explicit policies of communications development may then be a need of the time. Development here means 'using, enhancing and combining resources so as to yield new and better returns and consciously doing this by assisting the process to the desired end: (T.J. Barrington, Vol. 13, No.3, 1965 p. 180)

If there is centralization in decision-making, another set of questions arises: How does this centralization of authority take place? How do those in positions of authority come to power? How do they retain power? What do they use the power for? Does power remain by and large with specific groups as those who are white or wealthy or what have you? Does the command over resources - tangible or others such as means of communication - rest with those in authority and power? (UN 1977, M.V. Desai)

The need of planning for backward countries is much bigger for advanced countries. The government has to do many things which can be in advanced countries being left to entrepreneurs. It has to create industrial centers, to put through an agriculture revolution to control the foreign exchanges most strictly, and of ordinary economic legislation. And all this has to be done through civil services that are usually much inferior to that of an advanced country. Why, then, do backward countries take more readily to planning? Because their need is also so obviously much greater and it is also this that enables them to carry it through in spite of error and incompetence (W. Arthur, Levis, 'The Principle of Economic Planning' p. 127)

If the steps necessary to reach chosen or given goals can be linked with a set of principles, all the actions that take a society towards those goals will fall into a pattern. These steps can be taken as being devised from a framework of policy. When

communication as social and purposive activity is used to reach the given ends, it assumes the linear elements of a communication policy. (M.V. Desai, UN, 1977)

The 'development' means the process of moving away from under-development, rising out of poverty; it is sought and perhaps actually attained by means of planning for development (Gunnar Myrdal, New York: Mintage Book, 1971)

The Nepali Congress government pursued the policy of communication according to top priority to the development of transportation and communication. B.P. Koirala in this first Radio speech after becoming Prime Minister listed expansion of transport and communication in the priority list of government action (Gorkhapatra, May 29, 1959).

The top priority given to the development of transportation and communication by Nepali Congress government becomes clear from the fact that in the budget of 1959/60 nearly half of the development budget (47.6 percent) was allocated to the development of transportation and communication; it is 16.1 percent high than the last budget. (Budget speech 1959/60)

The general policy in Colombia has been one of renovation, expansion and modernization of communication systems on the basis of available resources and with relatively short term objectives formulated along democratic lines and reflecting the instant aim of intending coverage to the country's most distant regions. (UN, 1977)

The policy of public communication in every society, and in the socialist society which is being developed in Yugoslavia, is determined by many factors. One essential factor is man's need to receive information and ever greater possibilities of satisfying this need. It goes without saying that the encouragement of the freedom of thought and speech and the right to information depends on the nature of production relationships in society. In addition to anthropological and socio-political factors, other factors in society influence the policy of public communication. It is essential to take into consideration the following issues: the material basis of development and functioning of the system of the society and pertinent legal norms; the cultural level of

individual social groups; the impact of tradition, the foreign policy orientation of a country, and the situation in inter-state and international relations. (UN, 1977)

In positive terms, the communication policy must be well-designed so as to foster those developments which would contribute to the maximization of national potential. In negative terms, those elements in communications activities which tend to undermine effective marshalling of national potential need to be weeded out. (UN, 1978)

Japan is exceptional among Asian countries in the sense that it has achieved amazingly rapid economic growth in the past 100 years. There are many factors which contributed to such growth and development, but the communication policies upheld by the Japanese government, since the middle of the nineteenth century should not be neglected as one of the most effective and encouraging forces behind the modernization and industrialization of the country. (UN, 1978)

A country's communication policies are so intertwined with its social, political and economic developments that it is impossible to separate them; communication is in deed a function of the social, political and economic realities of any country. Every communication is purposive. Every time man's communication behaviour is to a large extent influenced by the environment. Thus, communication policies have no separate existence of their own; they cannot be isolated from other developments and institutions in the society. In effect, communication policies must vary with the environment, the social context, and can not mean the same thing all the time. Certainly, this is true of communication policies. In Kenya they are inseparable from the social matrix. Indeed, to examine them - those rules and norms that govern communication, communication behaviour in the nation - is to examine all those developments and institutions that are a function of communication. And communication is the basis of every aspect of life, now and in the past. (UN, 1980)

The 1980s was a decade in which many developing countries adopted significant changes in economic policy with a reorientation towards a market-based approach to development policy in which the private sector plays a major role. This contrasts



sharply with the earlier post independence period, when development planning was widely adopted throughout the Third world. So, where does development planning now stand as a part of development policy management? (UN, 1994)

After studying different policy, it is cleared that communication policy is interrelated with social economic, cultural and political situation of the country, so communication policy cannot be separated from social system because it is also a part of larger social system.

### **2.3 National - Review of Literature**

Communication Policy is new topic for researcher in Nepal. There is not sufficient literature in this topic, I studied different plan books and research. From these researches material available literature is studied.

Through predominance of the role of communication sector in the process of national development is a proven reality, the communication services in Nepal have remained quite insufficient till now. The situation is such that it has not been possible to supply different communication facilities to urban areas as per demand and almost all villages of our country are deprived of modern communication facilities. The construction of radio stations in required places of the country has just recently been completed for the medium wave transmission of Radio Nepal. (NPC, 2049)

The activities of information and communication play an important role in enhancing socio-economic capacity of the nation by making individual, community and country informed and activating their daily activities. Timely and enough information can contribute to achieve high economic growth by lowering the cost of production and diversifying market. As a result of growing possibilities of use of new technology available in the information and communication sector, there is possibility that gross domestic product of service sector can be increased remarkably due to the development in the sectors like, telephone services, radio, television, paper and magazines, postal services and international information transferring services. (NPC, 2053)

Like transport, communication also forms a part of the infrastructure needed for the all-round development of the country. In a country like ours, where the bulk of the territory is mountainous and where air transport is in short supply, telecommunication stands out head and shoulders above other means of communication on this account; telecommunication has been receiving sufficient attention since the last decade. (NPC, 2037)

Postal service in Nepal began in 1875 when runners, soon replaced by lancers, carried Government documents, bearing one rupee stamps between Kathmandu and the districts of Gorkha, Pokhara and Palpa. Four year later this facility was opened to the public and quickly become popular. In 1881, a few post services were opened and stamps issued in 1.2 and 4 annual denominations thus selling pattern with an extended form continuing today. A year later, 47 post offices were opened across the country under a general post office in the capital known as the 'Hulak Goswara'; the letter was supplied in 1951 by the office of the director of posts. (NPC, 2013)

Various projects were conducted during the sixth plan period for the development of information and publicity sector, evetudecy (1) Radio Nepal (2) Nepal Government press (3) Information Department (4) National news agency (5) Gorkhapatra Corporation (6) Ratna Recording Corporation (7) Royal Nepal Film Corporation. During the sixth plan period, there has been good progress in the programs conducted under Radio Nepal, Information Department, HMG press National News Agency, Gorkhapatra Corporation and Royal Nepal Film Corporation. (NPC, 2049)

Communication policy draft commission was organized by Nepal Government, it has formulated the communication policy by collecting suggestions from exports, intellectuals and consumers. (MOIC, 2049)

According to the spirit and concept of the Ninth plan objective of formulating the long term communication policy was found. Accordingly, long term communication policy was formulated. (MOI c, 2059)

The realization of the spirit of constitution 2047, and its priority; freedom of speech and expression, right to information making the communication medium competitive, reliability and effectiveness are in our objectives. (MOI c, 2059)

The first five-year plan had allocated 33.30 percent for the development of transportation and communication. (Mahat,)

Given the circumstances, it is not surprising that the Rana administration never produced a budget. Even had they wanted to produce one, it would have been an impossible task. There was simply no way to gather the rests of information necessary to produce a budget. The cash book and all other accounts had to come to Kathmandu's Kumari Chowk for audit. But the Kumari Chowk had no way of producing the sorts of data a modern finance ministry required. The system was designed to produce revenues, not budgets accountability was its watch word. (Stiller, L.F. and Yadav, R.P. Planning for people 1979, p:23)

After revolution while Nepal became the member of UNO in 1955, Nepal started receiving assistance on bilateral and multi-lateral basis and the volume of the foreign aid received by the country the financial support of foreign countries is increasing in each subsequent years. At the same time it is worth noting that on development expenditure is increasing. During the period of 1952-70, about 40 percent of the total foreign aid has been spent on the development of transport and communication, about 20 percent on industrial development and 15.6 percent on agricultural sector. But Nepal has not been able to utilize the foreign aid capital properly, whatever project tied aids such as building roads, establishing industries. The aids given to Nepal have never been turned towards the objectives, and have been taken only as budgetary support (Panta K.R, Foreign Aid and Economic Development of Nepal.)

Even though policies undertaken after the restoration of the Multi-party Democracy in Nepal have been moving toward the right direction, it is not found that the achievements gained in the economic and social sectors meet the expectations of the majority of the people. Even though achievements appear in such some sectors as education, health and social sectors particularly in the last decade, Nepal falls under the group of the countries ranked as the lowest of the world from the human

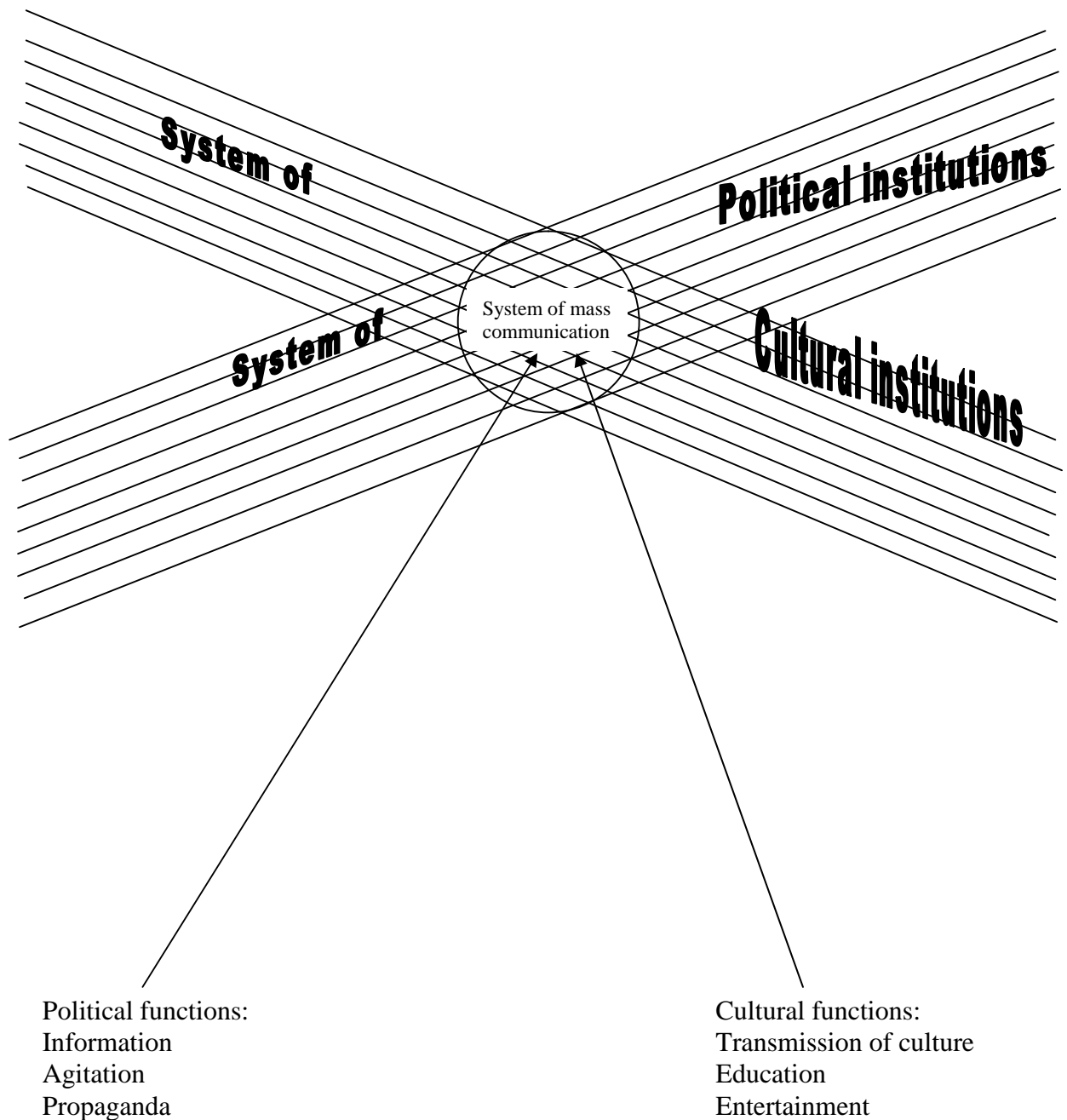
development point of view. Nepal Government by realizing such situation has taken the poverty alleviation as the principle goal of the national development. For the attainment of this goal, Nepal Government has taken broad and sustainable economic growth, social sector development, targeted program and good governance as the principal foundation of development strategy. In this context, Nepal Government is of the opinion that the telecommunication sector must play significant role for the overall development of the country. (MOIC, 2004)

The information and communication sector, which is a crucial infrastructure for development, plays a vital role in overall development of the country. The task of bringing positive changes in day-to-day lives of citizen by providing continuous development programs in a suitable manner depends on the effectiveness of communication. It is indisputable that the development, expansion and effective mobilization of information and communication can play an important role in bringing together every citizen in the process of nation building by raising their awareness consistent with the free, liberal and competitive economic policy adopted by the country, it has become important to promote commercialization in the development and mobilization of communication sector to secure economic achievements. In doing so, the sector can become self-reliant and can contribute to minimize the economic burden of the nation. At the same time, the development of communication sector can help in reducing poverty, as its development can lead to the development of social sector, which ultimately contributes to the overall development of the country. In the present context of the private sector being attracted to invest in the communication sector, it is equally important to welcome such efforts to create a new age communication system in a healthy and competitive manner (Planning commission).

The chief constraint in Nepal's development planning efforts has been identified by the authors as its administration development finance does not constitute a major constraints as they have expressed their opinion, foreign and untapped sources of internal resourced of the country are abundant. Absence of technical man power in important fields and failure to mobilize human resources have been suggested as the two important secondary constraints in Nepal's development planning efforts. (Stiller and Yadav's, 1979)

After studying different National Literature, it became clear that Nepalese plan and policies are very clear about the importance of communication for the national development. According to National Planning Commission: 'The activities of information and communication play an important role in enhancing socio-economic capacity of the nation by making individual, community and country informed and activating their daily activities'.

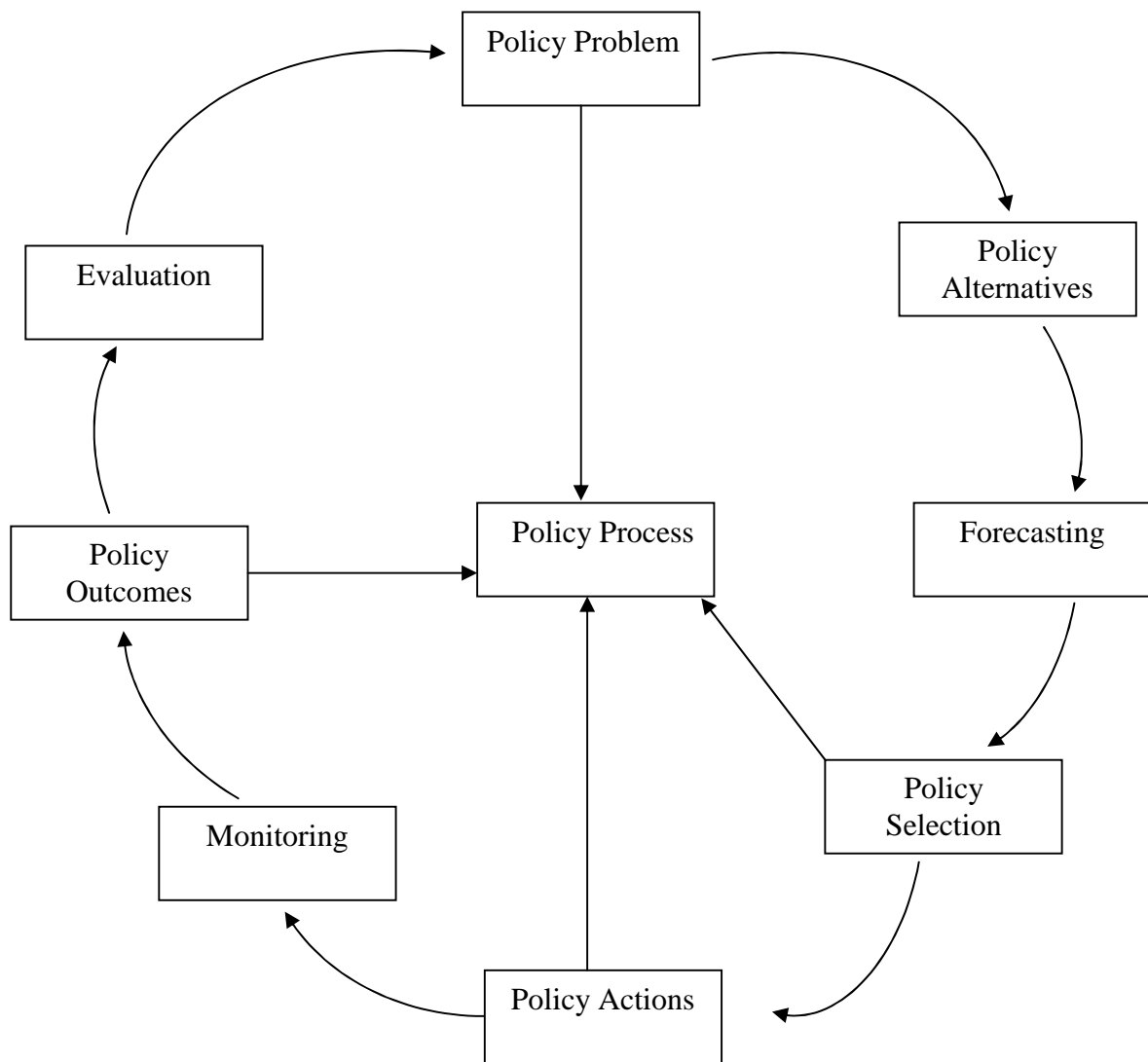
## 2.4 Conceptual Framework



**Figure 1: System of mass communication**

This figure shows that system of mass communication has main two functions: Political function and Cultural functions. Political functions are information agitation and Propaganda. Cultural functions are transmission of culture, education and entertainment.

## 2.5 Process of Policy Formulation



**Figure 2: Cycles in the policy process**

This figure shows the cycles in the policy process. The cycle begins and ends in the policy problem. It is never ending process. There are many steps in this cycle. These steps are policy problem, policy alternatives, forecasting, policy selection, policy action, monitoring, policy outcomes and evaluation.

## **CHAPTER – III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Research Design**

Research methodology determines activities to achieve the main objectives of the study. This study is based on descriptive and exploratory. This study is both qualitative and quantitative in nature. To evaluate the communication policies content analysis method is appropriate. To know the vision of the communication student and journalists are sampling the appropriate procedure; so these methodology procedures are applied in this study

#### **3.2 Scope of Study**

The topic of the study is the communication policy in Nepal but it is very broad subject area. Specially, the study is focused on the status of communication in five year development plan. So the study is focused on first five-year plan to tenth five-year plan and Government policies; communication policy-2028, communication policy-2049, long term communication policy-2059 and legislative policy.

#### **3.3 Sources of Data**

This study is based on both primary and secondary data; secondary data are collected from the content analysis of five year development plan, communication policy 2028, communication policy 2049, long term communication policy 2059 and legislative policy. Primary data are collected from a well structured questionnaire. There are 100 respondents, among of them 75 respondents are student of mass communication and 25 respondents are journalist. Among 75 student of mass communication 25 are in bachelor's degree and 50 are in master's degree.

#### **3.4 Content analysis**

To evaluate the communication policy content analysis method is used. The content of first five-year development plan, communication policy 2028, communication policy 2049, long term communication policy 2059 and legislative policy is analyzed to evaluate the communication policy in Nepal.



### **3.5 Sampling procedure**

To collect the information, the probability sampling procedure is used; for this 100 sample size is chosen. They are the student of mass communication and journalist. Among of them 75 students and 25 journalists are chosen randomly. Among 75 students 25 are from bachelors level and 50 are from master's level. Interview method is also used to collect the information.

### **3.6 Information collection and processing**

Secondary data is collected from the library method and primary data is collected from the questionnaire; collected information are checked to remove possible errors before analyzing the data, and editing is carried out for maintaining consistency and accuracy.

### **3.7 Technique of data analysis**

Collected data have been analyzed descriptively. First of all information from the development plan of communication policy 2028, communication policy 2049, long term communication policy 2059 and legislative policy is analyzed to evaluate the communication policy; collected information from the questionnaire, collected data and information are presented and analyzed in simple tabulation by process of percentage and number.

## **CHAPTER - IV**

### **CONTENT ANALYSIS**

While evaluating the communication policy, content analysis method is used. The content of five-year development plan, communication policy 2028, communication policy 2049, long term communication policy 2059 and legislative policy is analyzed to evaluate the communication policy in Nepal.

#### **4.1 Status of Communication in Five-Year Development Plan**

The task of planned development process had been undertaken by almost all countries of the world. Nepal also being an underdeveloped country embarked upon planning process since 1956. Nepal Government has been implementing several plans and policies. To evaluate the status of communication in Five-Year development plan targets and progress of these plans are studied.

##### **4.1.1 First Five-Year Development Plan (2013-2018)**

First plan was implemented from 2013 B.S. to 2018 B.S. targets and progress of first plan for communication sector are presented here.

##### **Targets**

1. To extend and improve the efficiency of the present postal system within the country and to acquire promptly membership in the universal postal union (UPO).
2. For wireless communication under the five-year plan, equipment, maintenance facilities, personal training and organizational improvement will be synchronized, reaching at each stage the best combination of efficiency and economy in operations.
3. For telephone communications, new construction during the period of the five-year plan as well as improvements in existing facilities will be phased in accordance with priority needs and availabilities of equipment and trained personnel.

## **Progress**

1. Total of 413 post offices opened.
2. Telephone services have been extended to the whole of the Kathmandu valley and the wireless connections have been spread all over the kingdom.

The first plan was focused on postal service and telephone services. The data of target and progress shows that the physical target has fulfilled in these period; 413 post offices opened and phone services have been extended. This shows the first plan targets to develop physical infrastructure. More or less it achieved success.

### **4.1.2 Second Three-Year Development Plan (2019-2022)**

Second plan was three-year development plan. It was implemented from 2019 B.S. to 2022 B.S. Targets and progresses of second plan for communication sector are presented here.

## **Targets**

1. The attention of the second plan will be centred on consolidation and improvement of the existing post offices rather than the multiplication of number.
2. During the second plan period 600 additional telephonic connections will be issued.

## **Progress**

1. In the three year plan period, emphasis was led on consolidation of the existing postal system. The general post office the center was expanded and seven zonal post officers were established to supervise and control the postal serves between zones.
2. In the field of wireless installation, seven zonal control stations were established, and 50 wireless centers under there control stations were also installed. An international telecommunication system was completed with two circuits linking from Kathmandu, Delhi and Calcutta. With the establishment of two teleprinter centers, prompt communication of news from foreign countries has become possible.

The existing 1000 telephone lines at Kathmandu have proved insufficient, and steps have been taken to add some 4,000 more lines. Installation of a 300 lines system with a local exchange in Biratnagar has been completed and will start functioning during the first year of the third plan period. The Nepal -Pak telecommunication project is nearing completion and will start functioning at the beginning of the third plan.

Second plan targeted to improve existing post office and add 600 additional telephone connections; according to this target post office center was expanded and steps were taken to add some 4,000 more lines. This figure shows that the targets of the plan were not fulfilled. It was near to goal.

#### **4.1.3 Third Five-Year Development Plan (2022-2027)**

Third plan was implemented from 2022 B.S. to 2027 B.S. Targets and progress of third plan for communication sector is presented here.

##### **Targets**

1. The number of post offices is insufficient for present needs. Therefore, the post offices will be increased and existing officers will be expanded and improved. The organization of the postal system will be modified and other steps will be taken to improve efficiency and service.
2. The following telecommunication projects will be carried out during the Third Plan:

**Completion of Present Schemes:** Installation of an additional 4,000 lines in Kathmandu, plus a 600 lines exchange at Patan will be finished Installation of additional 300 lines in the Singha Durbar Secretariat will also be completed. Installation of the 300 lines system in Biratnagar will be finished during the first year.

**East-West micro Wave:** The present telephone system within Nepal extends eastward from Kathmandu through Dhankuta, Jaleswor and Janakpur to Biratnagar and westward to Palpa. This line is old and not properly functioning. Hence, this will be replaced by micro-wave system. This system will be capable of carrying messages continuously through hundreds of channels and will not be affected by he monsoon.

Fifty percent of the total project will be completed during the Third Plan and the remainder will be carried over to the next plan.

**Trunk Call Service:** The following services will be established under this scheme.

1. The telephone service between the towns in India and Kathmandu will be operated through an 8-channel carrier system. There will be a direct contact between Kathmandu and Patan through one of these channels. The other channels will be used to maintain contact with other towns.
2. There will be five circuits between Kathmandu and Birgunj. A direct link from Kathmandu to Hetauda, and Hetauda to Birgunj will be established as separate circuit. Under this system, direct contact between Hetauda and Bhainse, Hetauda and Amlekhgunj, and Birgunj and Simra will be possible. Of these five circuits, one circuit will be specifically used to contact Palung-Hetauda vicinity from Kathmandu.

**Telegraph System:** A Six-channel V.T.T. telegraph system will be established to communicate messages from Kathmandu to India and various other centers. A three-circuit telegraph line from Kathmandu will be extended to Birgunj through Bahainse, Hetauda, Amlekhgunj and Simra.

Six English script teleprinter sets will be installed in Kathmandu for receiving news from India. Further, there will be four teleprinter sets for news service between Kathmandu and Birgunj. These English script teleprinter sets will be replaced by Nepali script teleprinters in the future.

**Telephone Exchange:** In Birgunj, a 300 lines automatic exchange and a trunk exchange services will be established. There will be four direct lines, and two booking and inquiry lines. For the trunk call service between Kathmandu and other districts of the country, a trunk exchange service having four inquiries and booking lines will be established. The international trunk exchange will also be started in Kathmandu. Public call centers with ten magneto board systems will be established in Palung, Bhainse, Hetauda, Amlekhgunj and Simra.

## **Progress**

During the Third Plan period, the publication of 130 booklets, 19 folders and 25 scenic posters were undertaken. Also, 2 feature films and 19 documentaries were prepared. These documentaries and films were shown in various parts of the country through the mobile teams. Similarly, machineries worth about £56,000 were made available for the development of H.M.G. Press one lino-type machine was provided to Gorkhapatra Corporation. By means of the routing machine made available to H.M.G. Printing Press, 4,390 blocks and 1,655 photographs were prepared. Similarly in the field of broadcasting, 374 community listening centres were set up in different panchayats. A 100 kilowatt shortwave transmitter was installed facilitating transmission abroad as well. Some officials were sent abroad for training on radio programming and other technical subjects.

Third plan targeted to increase post office and install additional lines and services. It fulfilled the physical targets. During this period in the field printing press and broadcasting sector was improved, 37.4 community listening centers were set up in different panchayats and a 100 kilowatt short wave transmitter was installed.

### **4.1.4 Fourth Five-Year Development Plan**

Fourth plan was implemented from 2027 B.S. to 2032 B.S. Targets and progress of Fourth Plan for communication sector is presented here.

#### **Targets**

##### **a. H.M.G. Printing Press**

During the Fourth Plan, new machinery and buildings will be provided in order to modernize and improve the H.M.G. Press, Nice technicians will be sent to the U.K. for two year's training so that there will be well trained personnel to run the programs of the new printing press. Construction of the building and installation of necessary will be completed, and printing work will be started during the Plan period.

##### **b. Film Production**

The interest of the people towards film production in Nepal has been growing over the past few years. Nepal Government has also produced a number of feature films film

production is expensive, especially when processed outside the country. So far, films produced by the Department of Publicity have been prepared in Indian laboratories. If these works were done inside the country, there would be considerable savings in expenses and time. Therefore, one of the programs will be to produce process films within the country. The main objective of this project is to create the necessary facilities for the production of films inside the country by constructing a studio and a laboratory a suitable building will be rented for the installation of the new film laboratory.

### **Broadcasting**

It is necessary to make broadcasting services more effective if local people are to be benefited about national efforts. During this plan period, the existing 10 kilowatt medium wave transmitter will be converted into a regional station, and another regional station will be established in the western hill.

### **Progress**

Physical policy, improvement of HMG press and physical targets about broadcasting service were improved in this period.

Fourth plan targeted to develop physical infrastructure of HMG Press, film studio and a laboratory suitable building and broadcasting. In this period these physical targets were fulfilled. The policy level targets were not focused in this period.

### **4.1.5 Fifth Five-Year Development Plan (2032-2037)**

Fifth Plan was implemented from 2032 B.S. to 2037 B.S. Targets and progresses of Fifth Five-Year Development Plan for communication sector are presented here.

#### **Targets**

1. Every institutions scope of operation will be given according to the Governments resources, needs of development projects, economical status of the country.
2. According to market logic project will be run and to make the institution self dependent as a permanent capital government share will be provided.

3. Government will provide subsidy and loan to run, the institution except the self income of the institution.
4. To fulfill the objective of the government 'communication for development' institution can advertise in the contract basis.

### **Progress**

During the fifth plan period 4,750 telephone lines were added to bring the total to 13,670 in the final year of the plan (1979/80). Under the micro-wave communication system major works on the establishment of new links were completed. Besides, old wireless equipment in 8 districts were replaced by transistorized sets operating open solar energy and initial steps had been taken toward setting up an earth station, which will facilitate satellite communication with the world.

Fifth plan targeted to fulfill policy level plan and physical plans among these plans, physical target was fulfilled but policy live target did not fulfill. This policy targeted to fulfill the objective of government "communication for development" except this policy level target, different physical targets were fulfilled. During the fifth plan period, 4,750 telephone lines were added to bring the total to 13,670 in the final year of the plan (1979/80).

### **4.1.6 Sixth Five-Year Development Plan (2037-2042)**

Sixth Plan was implemented from 2037 B.S. to 2042 B.S. Targets and progresses of Sixth Plan for communication sector are presented here.

#### **Targets**

To develop appropriate means of communication for inter-district contact, to provide local telephone facility in all zonal headquarters, to expand international trunk service by means of satellite communication, and to develop solar powered wireless communication service these will be the broad policy guidelines of the sixth plan.

#### **Priority**

Priority will be given to the task of completing those projects which were in different stages of construction of local telephone exchange, and establishment of the earth



station. Various programs have been targeted in this period under the title of other communication information and publicity sector, information department, His Majesty Press, National news agency, Gorkhapatra corporation, Royal Nepal film corporation and Ratna Recording corporation.

### **Progress**

Various projects were conducted during the sixth plan period for the development of information and publicity sector, including (1) Radio Nepal (2) Nepal Government Press (3) Information Department (4) National News Agency (5) Gorkhapatra Corporation (6) Ratna Recording Corporation and (7) Royal Nepal Film Corporation. During the sixth plan period, there has been good progress in the programs conducted under Radio Nepal, Information Department, HMG press, National News Agency, Gorkhapatra Corporation and Royal Nepal Film Corporation.

Various projects were conducted during the sixth plan period for the development of information and publishing sector, there has been good progress in the programs conducted under Radio Nepal, Information department, HMG press, National News agency, Gorkhapatra corporation and Royal Nepal Film Corporation.

### **4.1.7 Seventh Five-Year Development Plan (2042 - 2047)**

Seventh Plan was implemented from 2042 B.S. to 2047 B.S. Targets and progresses of Seventh Plan for communication sector are presented here.

### **Targets**

The policies to be adopted to fulfill the objectives of the seventh plan are given below:

1. The development of publicity and broadcasting media that help to promote international feeling will be emphasized and existing media and service will be strengthen and made effective. Beside tourism, development approach will also be adopted in publicity and broadcasting.
2. Special priority will be given to the qualitative standard of publicity and broadcasting service and wide publicity and broadcasting of economic and social development programs.

3. Publicity and broadcasting units will be well organized to make them more efficient. The corporation engaged in these works will be made self reliant.
4. Works for the development of the media necessary for the promotion and dissemination of the country's art and culture will be maintained, various units in this sector will be activated.
5. More attention will be given to carry the general public the information on national and international trends and broadcasting and publicity on development.

### **Progress**

Following progress has been achieved during the seventh plan period.

<b>a. Postal services:</b>	<b>No.</b>
1. Setting up of post office	
- Area post office (Ilaka Hulak)	80
- Additional post offices	260
2. Expansion of postal routes	24
3. Construction and extension of buildings	
- Construction of new buildings	3
- Completion of buildings under construction	12
- Extension of building	1
4. Expansion of monetary services:	
- Money order service through post offices	90
- Saving bank services through post offices	25
 <b>b. Telecommunication services</b>	
1. Expansion of local telephone lines	51,980
2. Expansion of Telex exchange capacity	256

### **c. Radio Transmission services**

Medium wave transmission has already been operational from Dhankuta, Dharan and Bardibas during the seventh plan period and the construction of medium wave radio stations at Surkhet and Dipayal has been started.

**d. Television services**

Against the plan, target of extending television services in the country by undertaking feasibility study. Works relating to the link Biratnagar transmission centre with the Kathmandu centre has also been to link the Pokhara centre with the central transmission has been completed. Construction work of the studio building of the Nepal Television has also been started.

**e. National News Service**

Construction of buildings has been completed with the people's participation at Doti and Bharatpur of the development of national news service. Equipment has been supplied to the National News Committee in accordance with the objective of making available some office equipment, news collection and printing equipment to the committee during the plan period in order to improve the quality of news services.

**f. Printing Services**

Works relating to procurement of additional printing machinery, construction of store rooms and buildings etc. and the feasibility study of security press have been completed in order to increase the printing capacity of the press under the Department of Printing. During the Plan period, 38 newsreels were prepared by the Department of Printing as the responsibility of preparing documentaries and newsreels has been shifted from the Department of Press Information to the Department of Printing. Distribution of 353,000 Posters portraying different important personalities of the country was done during the Plan period.

**g. Press Information Services**

As the preparation of the documentary films, newsreels and poster publication and distribution under the Department of Press Information have been shifted to the Department of Printing, the review relating to this has already been done under the Printing Services head.

**h. Gorkhapatra**

Works relating to the addition of printing equipment for the publications of the Gorkhapatra Corporation, arrangement of delivery van etc. for timely sale and distribution of daily publications, repair and maintenance of the central building with

the addition of a floor have been completed. An offset press, a composing machine, a camera, a photo lens, an enlarger, a composing and page making desk and a computer have been purchased. Three wheeler vans and bicycles have also been purchased for quick delivery of published materials.

Main target was carrying general public information on national and international trends and broadcasting and publicity on development. To fulfill this target, different physical targets were aimed. These physical targets were setting up of post office, expansion of postal routes, expansion of monetary service and telecommunication services. These targets are fulfilled in this period so we can say that this plan was successful in its targets.

#### **4.1.8 Eighth Five-Year Development Plan (2049-2054)**

Eighth Plan was implemented from 2049 B.S. to 2054 B.S. Targets and progress of Eighth Plan for communication sector is presented here.

##### **Targets**

- Special attention will be paid to develop telecommunication and postal services to enhance trade, industry and tourism and to meet increasing communication requirements of the country.
- The existing telecommunication services will further improved and expanded by adopting appropriate technology in order to provide reliable easily accessible and quality services both nationally as well as internationally. In the process, ISD and STD services will be provided to all district headquarters. Requirements of telecommunication services of industrial, commercial and urban subscribers will be met wherever feasible.
- In view of the government's social obligations, rural telecommunication services will be provided by adopting technology appropriate to the geographical features of the country.
- Necessary improvements will be made in order to deliver postal goods quickly and reliably.
- Necessary steps will be taken towards the establishment of a second channel in the medium wave by strengthening and expanding radio broadcasting services.

Steps will also be taken to initiate radio broadcasting through frequency modulation (FM) in the private sector.

- The coverage of television will be expanded through appropriate technology and its use in the educational sector will be enhanced.
- Royal Nepal Film Corporation will be made self reliant before taking necessary steps to privatize it in the future.
- The Department of Press Information will be equipped with enough physical facilities to ensure an uninterrupted flow of information. Further, necessary incentives will be provided to the private sector to ensure the adequate flow of information to the public through the development of healthy journalism.
- The public sector communication media will be granted more autonomy.
- Due emphasis will be given to the development of manpower for enhancing the service standards of telecommunication, television, radio, and postal services and other agencies under communication sector.

### **Progress**

While considering the importance of information and communication as a necessary physical infrastructure for the overall development of the country, constant attempts have been made and modern technology adopted for the development of the means of communication; and the information and communication service has gradually been made simpler and more reliable. The Eighth Plan has adopted the strategy to provide common type of communication service to the people and ensure balanced development of various means of communication whereas, on the other hand, it has pointed out the steps to attain a sustainable development of communication through the private sector participation in this sector with a view to making institutional development and communication means more self-reliant.

**Postal Services:** Ever since the inception of development plan, the expansion of post offices, the diversification of services, the construction of post office building, the improvement and the review of mail line, the postal link to all countries of the world and the timely restructuring of post offices have made the postal service world wide. During the Eighth Plan period, 3660 post offices have opened and a post office has served 5917 people. In the area of postal transportation and quality development,

necessary mailing line has been expanded; and internal express mailing service (EMS) to 33 places of the country and international express mailing service (EMS) to 20 foreign destinations have already been operated. Some arrangement has been made for postal transportation.

During the Eighth Plan period, the construction of district post office buildings in Bhojpur, Chiawan and Ramechhap have been completed, and the construction two area post offices buildings in Rangeli of Eastern Development Region and Tikapur of Far-western Development region has been completed. The construction of post box building in the Western regional postal directorate has been completed. In the area of financial services, money order service in 85 post offices and postal bank service in ten post offices have been operated. In the front of general post office strengthening, additional 6000 post boxes have been arranged and brought under operation during this period and working procedure has been made simple with the assistance of consultancy service from GTZ. In addition, CCTV installation work has been completed in order to increase the effectiveness of inspection and crime prevention. In the process of the preparing postal master plan, a framework of physical and training requirement for the next ten years has been prepared with the expert service received from the Universal Postal Union (UPU). With the objective of enhancing service standard and directing gradually towards self-reliance, a study report has been prepared with the assistance of UPU.

**Telecommunication Service:** Prior to beginning of the Eighth Plan, 27 districts of the country were deprived of telephone service; however, the telecommunication service has been made nation-wide by connecting all the district headquarters in the telephone service network during this period. In this connection, the telephone service has been extended to 1200 VDCs against the target of establishing 600 terminals in various areas.

While analyzing the telephone service situation by the end of the Eighth Plan, density of telephone service comes to be 100 people per line, which implies the total telephone line capacity equal to two hundred thousand. During the plan period, around 80 percent progress of the physical target has been achieved by installing 130

thousand lines as against the target of enhancing additional telephone line capacity by 161,000.

During this period, rural telephone service has been provided with the installation of telephone exchanges only in 29 places as the installation of rural telephone exchange of 150 to 200 lines has been begun in 31 places. The expansion of microwave digital transmission link and the application of optical fiber cable have been initiated in this plan.

**Press Information Service:** Among the programs under the Department of Information, no progress has been made in building construction due to the lack of budget allocation. The achievements of programs for journalism development and workshop/seminar, etc., programs are on the average. The preliminary facilities for information technology have been provided to the Department of Information with the objective of enabling the Department for contributing to the institutional development of journalism.

**Printing Service:** In the area of printing and publication, little progress has been made in the main programme – security printing due to the lack of required budget allocation. The financial progress of this sector is 1.06 percent due to the lack of progress in other programs as well. The maintenance and improvement of buildings have been done in order to prepare minimum physical infrastructure required for security printing.

**Frequency Management:** Under this program, a frequency monitoring station has been established with the release of Rs.14.3 million against the allocation of Rs.16.4 million under HMG/N and foreign assistance; this progress has been achieved as per the target.

**Radio Broadcasting Service:** The main programs under this agency are the establishment of the second medium wave channel and the training unit for manpower development through foreign resource mobilization; however, no work has been carried out due to the absence of foreign resource mobilization.

**Television transmission Service:** The rest of the four programs of Nepal Television except for calibration and establishment of maintenance centre have made progress as per the Plan.

The Eight Plan has adopted the strategy to provide common type of communication service to the people and ensure balanced development of various means of communication whereas, on the other hand, it has pointed out the steps to attain a sustainable development of communication through the private sector participation in this sector with a view to make institutional development and communication means more self reliant.

#### **4.1.9 Ninth Five-Year Development Plan (2054-2059)**

Ninth Plan was implemented from 2054 B.S. to 2059 B.S. Targets and progress of this policy for communication sector is presented here.

##### **Targets**

- Formulate a long-term plan for Information and communication sector.
- Establish a National Broadcasting Authority to launch transmissions of radio and television in effective way.
- Improve and expand transmission services
- Involve private sectors in development and extension of communication media in a competitive manner.
- Provide three telephone lines to every hundred people (2.5 through telecommunication corporation and 0.5 through private sectors), initiate mobile telephone service (ten thousand lines), initiate other value-added services (e-mail, internet, payphone etc.
- In line with one target of providing telecommunication services to all development regions through the participation of NTC and private sector, extend rural communication services in 2,700 new VDCs (1,800 through NTC and rest from private sector)
- Establish and operate rural exchanges with 150-300 lines in 61 places of 41 districts.
- Establish 100 areas (Ilaka) post offices and 800 additional post offices in VDCs to



expand postal service in each llaka and VDC.

- Improve physical capacity, quality of services enhance and improve financial services of post offices.
- Develop Department of printing as an institution to print security printing materials.
- Develop information sector in an integrated way so as to provide information and data related with Nepal from a single agency.
- Exchange news through computer network between eight main urban areas in order to make the service of National News Agency more effective.
- Develop Gorkhapatra Corporation as a publishing house.
- Create necessary environment for the development of motion picture sector.
- Arrange monitoring station and mobile monitoring vehicles and review frequency plan for effective frequency management.

### **Progress**

- Long-term policy on information and communication has already been prepared and implemented.
- Draft of legal infrastructure has been prepared to establish a National Broadcasting Authority in order to maintain a healthy and competitive environment for development, expansion and operation of broadcasting media. Transmissions of Frequency Modulation radio and cable television from the private sector have been started.
- Transmission of Radio Nepal has been improved by installing VSAT system; frequency Modulation radio has been started. Transmission of Nepal television has been linked with satellite system; transmission has been extended by establishing a regional transmission centre in Nepalgunj, and relay stations in some other parts and infrastructure development has been initiated for the transmission of second channel.
- Nepal Telecommunication Authority has been established to work as a regulatory body for the coordinated and competitive development of telecommunication sector. Activities have been initiated to encourage domestic and foreign investors to invest in the telecommunication so as to extend services in a competitive manner.
- Nepal Telecommunication Corporation has distributed 327,673 telephone lines,

including 201,900 new and 35,000 substitutes' lines during the period of Ninth Plan and the telephone density has been increased to 1.4 per hundred people. As the process of awarding license is in the final stage, private sector has not started providing basic telephone services. NTC has distributed more than 22,000 mobile lines and granting license to private mobile service providers is in final stage.

- There has been an encouraging involvement of private sector in providing additional telecommunication services like email and internet and limited pay-card phone services is in operation.
- The telephone services have been extended to 1,761 VDCs by the end of Ninth Plan, whereas the service was available only in 1200 VDCs in the beginning of the plan. NTC has extended telephone services to additional 600 VDCs during the plan period. As the process of awarding operation licenses for mobile services and basic telephone services and basic telephone services to the private sector is in final stage, they have yet to start their services.
- As per the program of establishing rural exchange with the 150 to 300 lines capacity in the developing rural areas, 57 such exchanges have been established and have begun operation.
- Additional postal services in 800 VDCs and 95 llaka postal services have been established and have begun services.
- Legal draft has been prepared to develop postal service as all institution that can provide commercial, competitive and qualitative service. Quality of services has been improved and money order services have been made effective by conducting programs to enhance physical capacities.
- Building construction has been started, as part of required infrastructure development to acquire capacity to print security printing materials in the country.
- As per the concept of developing communication village, Department of Communication, Press Council and Federation of Nepalese Journalists have been established at Tilganga in Kathmandu.
- In order to bring effectiveness in news collection, processing and distribution of National News Agency, computer networks have been established between the centre and Pokhara, Biratnagar, Bhadrapur, Nepalgunj, Birgunj and Butwal.
- Corporation's capacity has increased by using colour technology in its publications.

- Effort has been made to create an environment for the development of film industry by establishing Film Development Board.
- Limited equipment was added in the monitoring stations that were established during the Eighth Plan period.

Ninth plan targeted both policy level and physical according to that target long term communication policy prepared and implemented and different physical target were fulfilled. The policy targeted to establish a national broadcasting authority. Draft of legal infrastructure has been prepared to established national broadcasting authority. This plan targeted to involve private sector in development and extension of communication media in a comparative manner. This plan has different physical targets to fulfill with the help of private sector. More or less different physical targets were fulfilled in this period.

#### 4.1.10 Tenth Five-Year Development Plan (2059-2064)

Tenth Plan is running now. It is implementing from 2059 B.S. to 2064 B.S.

Policy and Programme Log Frame- Information and Communication Sector

Overarching National Objective: Poverty incidence of the Nepalese people (men and women) will be reduced significantly and in a sustainable manner.

Sectoral Objective: Remarkable contribution of Information and Communication in socio-economic development of the country.

Objective	Strategies	Indicators	Sources of Information	Major Programs	Risks and Obstacles
To ensure easy availability of news and information based on facts and truth to the general people on time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing Participation of private sector.</li> <li>• Clearing liabilities and responsibilities of private and government broadcasting services to develop expand and operate their broadcasting services in a competitive and coordinated manner.</li> <li>• Increase capability and effectiveness of postal service as an autonomous body.</li> <li>• Developing a security printing press by creating a favourable environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of television services in all parts of country.</li> <li>• Increase in availability of radio services.</li> <li>• Increase in availability and quality papers.</li> <li>• Increase in availability of postal services.</li> <li>• Increase in availability of E-mail and internet.</li> <li>• *Availability of security press.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four-monthly and annual progress report of Ministry of Information and communication.</li> <li>• Special survey report.</li> <li>• Field inspection report.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Expand television services to all people in an effective way.</li> <li>2. Expand radio services to all people in an effective way.</li> <li>3. Extension of security press services.</li> <li>4. Extension of telephone, e-mail and internet services in an effective way.</li> <li>5. Extension of quick and effective postal services.</li> <li>6. *Various activities of the development of film sector.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• continuous threat peace and security.</li> <li>• Continuity of the importance of information and communication in the development process of the country.</li> </ul>

	<p>within the country for all kinds of printing activities related with security printing, except printing paper notes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With an aim to develop healthy competition in the journalism sector and to bring effectiveness in flow of information, Department of Information would be developed as a centre of releasing information for general public in the country and abroad.</li> <li>• Encourage private sector in production of Nepalese films and develop Nepal as a centre for international film related activities.</li> </ul>				
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\*Quantitative targets are based on the economic growth rate of 6.2 percent.

Tenth Plan has taken the objective to ensure easy availability of news and information based on facts and truth to the general people on time to fulfill this objective this plan has targeted the participation of private sector and to fulfill different physical target. This policy targets to increase capability and effectiveness of postal service as an autonomous body. It targets to develop security printing press and it targets to develop healthy competition in the journalism sector. These targets are based on the economic growth rate of 6.2 percent.

#### 4.1.11 Distribution of Plan Budget in topic of communication and transportation

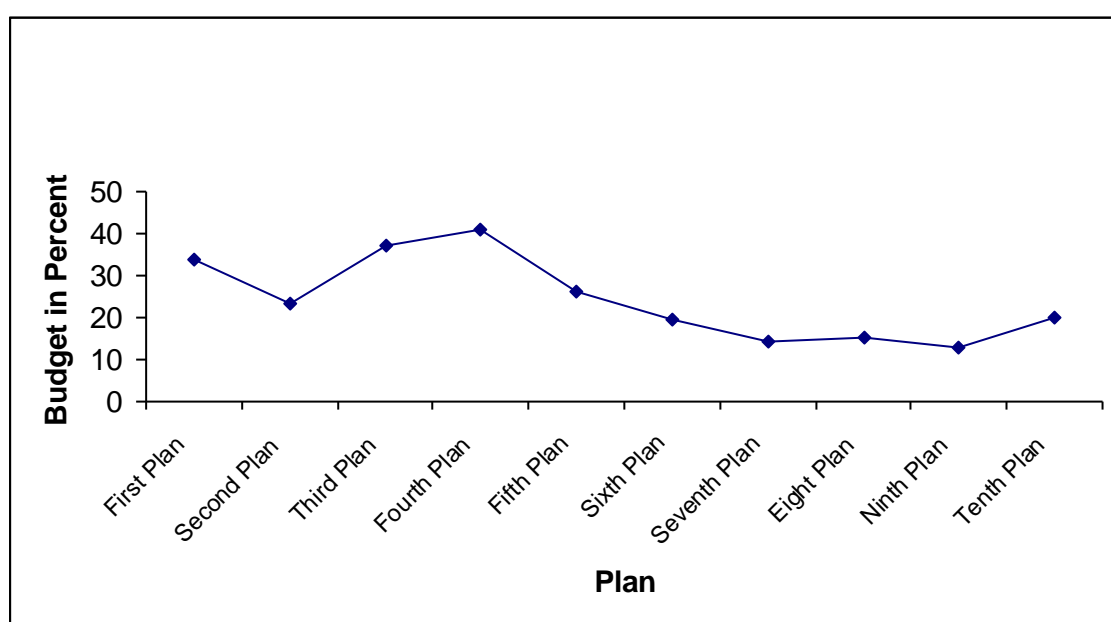
While knowing communication strategies in development plan, distribution of budget in plan in topic of communication and transportation is studied in this work, and presented in the table below.

**Table 1: Distribution of Plan Budget in topic of communication and transportation**

Plan	Period	Budget in percent
First Plan	2013-2018	33.80
Second Plan	2019-2022	23.29
Third Plan	2022-2027	37.20
Fourth Plan	2027-2032	40.86
Fifth Plan	2032-2037	26.38
Sixth Plan	2037-2042	19.40
Seventh Plan	2042-2047	14.4
Eight Plan	2049-2054	15.2
Ninth Plan	2054-2059	13
Tenth Plan	2059-2064	20.05

Source: Different plan of Nepal.

**Figure 3: Curve Line of table 1.**



In first, second, third and fourth plan communication and transportation has got the highest priority. In these plan post service and telecommunication has got higher priority. In another plan communication, Communication has not got highest priority like previous plan. Now tenth plan is running in this plan 20.05 percent budget is allocated for communication and transportation.

In the development plan, communication sector has got higher, priority but in the plan transportation, communication sector has merged in same budget, so the journalism sector has got fewer amount of budget than transportation thus very few amount of budget is allocated for the communication sector.

## **4.2 Communication Policies of Nepal**

Government has formulated and implemented different communication policies in the different period of time. These policies are very crucial for the development of communication sector. Among of these policies, communication policies related to journalism are presented here.

### **4.2.1 Communication Plan 2028**

When communication plan 2028 was implemented with the slogan of 'communication for development' (1) according to its suggestion 'Information and broadcasting ministry' changed into 'communication ministry' and one secretary was provided for this ministry before that there was not different secretary for this ministry. (2) Before the suggestion of this plan secretary of Home Panchyat ministry had the responsibility of communication ministry. Post service and telecommunication service were under the communication ministry (3) This plan had given the different objective, policy, plan for organization of communication ministry, Information department, broadcasting department post service department, HMG press and Press council. It also suggest to establish this department.

In this way this plan had given the way to the communication sector. According to its suggestion, there is an organizational structure for the communication. Under this structure different department are functioning. So, we can say that this plan is landmark for the development of communication sector.

#### **4.2.2 National Communication Policy, 2049**

In National Communication Policy 2049 there are the two types of policies. In one type there are the major policies for the communication in another type there are the policies for the different bodies. Among of them the major policies are following:

- (1) Policies about print medium.
- (2) Policies about Broadcasting medium
- (3) Policies about Information
- (4) Policies about Government medium
- (5) Policies about post service
- (6) Policies about Film
- (7) Policies about Telecommunication
- (8) Policies about management of department
- (9) Policies about management of corporation

##### **(1) Policy about print medium**

In this policy there is the target to develop this profession as a industry and to formulate a act for the empowerment of the working journalist.

##### **(2) Policy about broadcasting medium**

This policy targets to formulate a broadcasting act to regulate Radio and T.V. to regulate cable T.V. and satellite. Formulating a different act was also another major target, under a broadcasting act providing opportunity for the private sector to broadcast educational and entertainment oriented program by establishing F.M. broadcasting system

##### **(3) Policy about information:-**

This policy targets to provide information to the communication medium except the information prohibited by laws. Providing information effectively by the help of spokes person in different ministry.

##### **(4) Policy about Government medium:-**

This policy targets to give priority according to the importance of news subject, not to the post. This is the main point of this policy.



**(5) Policy about post service:-**

This policy targets to develop post service in the rural area.

**(6) Policy about Film:-**

This policy targets to develop environment to invest in this sector and encouraging producer to produce film in Nepali language and in different language.

**(7) Policy about Telecommunication:-**

This policy targets to develop the telecommunication system in the remote area of the country so, it targets to divide the country in three part and developing telecommunication system in six hour walking distance of the remote area.

**(8) Policy about management of department:-**

This policy targets to develop post service as a autonomous body, and developing printing department has taken as a security department of press.

**(9) Policy about management of corporation:-**

Decreasing the government ownership for the management of National News Agency and Gorkhapatra, corporation, and giving autonomy to the management of telecommunication, Radio and T.V. is the target of this policy.

After the restoration of democracy, according to the sprite of constitution 2047 this policy was formulated. It gives out live for the development of communication sector. This policy paves the way to implement constitutional provision and give way to develop communication sector. This policy targets to create pluralism on the media and creating access of communication medium to the people.

**4.2.3 Long Term Communication Policy 2059**

Ninth Plan has targeted to develop the country with the help of communication sector. This plan has given high priority for the communication sector. According to the sprite of Ninth plan long term communication policy-2059 was formulated.

Main policies for the development of information and communication sector:-

- (1) Utilizing new technology of communication to develop information and communication sector in the rural area.
- (2) By making autonomous to post service making it self dependent.
- (3) Developing the quality of security press and making it efficient.
- (4) Towards the end of twelfth plan with the objective of 15 line telephone per one hundred person, developing telecommunication in rural level.
- (5) Developing healthy, respective, professional and organized journalism.
- (6) Developing communication medium according to the sprite of constitution 2047.
- (7) Developing the information department as a information dissemination center of the Government.
- (8) Developing press council as a representative institution of the print medium.
- (9) Involving private sector for the management of Gorkhapatra Corporation.
- (10) Involving private sector in the management of National News agency.
- (11) Expanding Radio, T.V. and Internet information system equally in the country.
- (12) Establishing Broadcasting Corporation as a regulatory body to operate Radio and Television.
- (13) Developing Radio Nepal and Nepal Television as a National Broadcasting institution.
- (14) Encouraging the private sector to develop Nepal as a place for international film activity.
- (15) Developing advertising profession as a National industry.
- (16) Making the advertisement effective and interesting by monitoring accurate language style or cultural subject matter in advertisement.

This policy is continuation of communication Policy 2049. This policy refocuses on old policy and adds some new targets. This policy targets to involve private sector in the Government medium and expanding communication facility up to the rural level with the help of new communication technology. The policy targets to develop healthy professional and organized journalism according to the sprite of constitution.

### **4.3 Constitutional Provision about Press Freedom**

After commencement of democracy constitution 2047 was formulated. This constitution is known as liberal constitution because it has guaranteed fundamental rights for the people. Among these fundamental rights article 11-Right to equality, article 12-Right to freedom, article 13-Right to press and publication, article 16-Right to information and article 22-Right to privacy are related with press freedom. These articles are presented here.

#### **4.3.1 Right to Equality**

- (1) All citizens shall be equal before the law. No person shall be denied equal protection of the laws.
- (2) No discrimination shall be made against any citizen on the basis of caste, tribe or ideology or any of them.
- (3) The state shall not discriminate against citizens on the grounds of religion, race, sex, caste or ideology or any of them.

But special provisions may be made by law to protect or promote the interests of women, children, aged or who are physically and mentally incapacitated or people who belong to a class which is economically, socially and educationally backward.

- (4) No person shall, on the basis of caste, be discriminated as untouchable or be denied access to any public place or be deprived of the use of public utilities. Any act in violation of this provision shall be punishable by law.
- (5) No discrimination with regard to remuneration between man and woman for the same work shall be made.

#### **4.3.2 Right to Freedom**

- (1) No person shall be deprived of his or her personal liberty saves in accordance with law and no law shall be made which provides for capital punishment.
- (2) All citizens shall have the following freedoms:
  - a. Freedom of thought and expression.
  - b. Freedom to assemble peacefully and without arms.
  - c. Freedom to form unions and associations.
  - d. Freedom to move and reside in any part of Nepal and

- e. Freedom to choose any profession, occupation, trade or to start any industry.

But nothing mentioned in sub-clause (a) shall prevent the making of laws to impose reasonable restrictions on any act which undermines the sovereignty and integrity of the Kingdom of Nepal or which disturbs the harmonious relations subsisting among the people of different castes or communities, or on any act of sedition or defamation or contempt of court or the instigation of crime, or any act against public morality.

- (3) Nothing provided for in sub-clause (b) shall prevent the making of laws of impose reasonable restrictions on any act which undermines the sovereignty and integrity of the Kingdom of Nepal or causes disturbance in the law and order situation within the country.
- (4) Nothing mentioned in sub-clause (c) shall prevent the making of laws to impose reasonable restrictions on any act which undermines the sovereignty and integrity of the Kingdom of Nepal, or disturbs the harmonious relations subsisting among the various castes and communities, or instigates violence or any act against public morality.
- (5) Nothing mentioned in sub-clause (d) shall prevent the making of laws in general public interest or the imposition of restrictions on any act which disturbs the harmonious relations subsisting among the various castes and communities.
- (6) Nothing mentioned in sub-clause (e) shall prevent the making of laws to impose restrictions on any act which is against public health or morality, or to confer on the state the exclusive right to undertake specified industry, business or services, or to impose any condition or qualification to start any industry, business, or to choose any profession or occupation.

#### **4.3.3 Press and Publication Right**

- (1) No news item, article or any other reading material shall be censored.

But nothing shall prevent the making of laws to restrict any act which tends to undermine the sovereignty and integrity of the Kingdom of Nepal or disturbs the harmonious relations subsisting among the people of different caste or classes or communities, or any act of sedition or defamation or contempt of

court or instigation of crime, or any act against decent public behaviour or morality.

- (2) No press shall be closed or seized for printing any news item, article or any reading material.
- (3) The registration of a newspaper or periodical shall not be cancelled merely for publishing any news article or any reading material.

#### **4.3.4 Right to information**

Every citizen shall have the right to demand and receive information on any matter of public importance. Notwithstanding anything provided for in the Article, no person shall be compelled to provide information on matters which need to be kept secret according to law.

#### **4.3.5 Right to Privacy**

The person, house, property, documents, correspondence or information belonging to any person are inviolable except in conditions specified by law.

Constitution 2047 is known as liberal constitution for press freedom. Article 12, 13, 16 and 22 are related with press freedom. Because of these liberal provision communication sector has uplifted. But there are not law and regulation according to the sprite of constitution. In article 16 there is the provision of 'Right to information' but there is not 'Right to information act' so there is problem in practice.

## CHAPTER-V

### INTERPRETATION OF DATA

#### 5.1 Background Characteristics of Respondent:-

##### 5.1.1 Age

Age is an important factor to determine knowledge about society and special subject. In this study age group is classified to know the view of respondent according to their age. Respondent's age is presented in the table below

**Table 2: Distribution of respondents by their age**

Age	Number	Percentage
15-20	18	18
20-25	45	45
25-30	32	32
30 above	5	5
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 2 shows that, 18 percent respondent are 15-20 years of age, 45 percent respondent are 20-25 years of age, 32 percent respondent are 25-30 years of age and 5 percent respondents are above 30 years of age.

##### 5.1.2 Marital Status

Respondent's marital status is an important factor to know their view and knowledge. It gives different dimension to the study so respondent's marital status is presented in the table below.

**Table 3: Distribution of respondents their marital status**

Options	Number	Percentage
Married	33	33
Unmarried	77	77
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006

Table 3 shows that among 100 respondent 33 percent are married and 77 percent are unmarried.

### 5.1.3 Education:-

"Plants are developed by cultivation but men are developed by education". Educational status makes different in the thinking of the people. In these study respondents educational level is presented in the table below.

**Table 4: Distribution of respondents by their educational status**

Level	Number	Percentage
Intermediate	2	2
Bachelor	38	38
Master	60	60
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 4 shows that 4 percent respondents are from Intermediate level, 38 percent are from Bachelor level and 60 percent are from Master's Level.

## 5.2 Analysis of Communication Policy

### 5.2.1 Definition of Communication Policy:-

There are different definitions of communication policy. Definition gives introductory knowledge. So before studying communication policy we must have introductory knowledge. So I have used a questionnaire to check respondents understanding about definition of communication policy.

**Table 5: Distribution of respondents by their definition of communication policy**

Definition	Number	Percentage
The plan for systematic development of mass media.	49	49
The plan to regulate mass media.	9	9
The plan to action chosen by experts of communication	5	5
Plan to control mass media	5	5
Above all	32	32
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 5 shows that among 100 respondents 49 percent chose definition 'communication policy is the plan for systematic development of mass media'. 9 percent chose 'communication policy is the plan to regulate mass media'. 5 percent chose 'communication policy is the plan of action chosen by experts of communication'. 5 percent chose communication policy is plan to control mass media and 32 percent chose above all definition. According to this table majority of respondent agreed with the definition that communication policy is the plan for systematic development of mass media.

### 5.2.2 Necessity of communication policy:-

Without policy any development work or project is not possible. To development communication sector policy is needed. To know respondents view about necessity of communication policy this questionnaire schedule is used.

**Table 6: Distribution of respondents by their view why communication policy is needed**

Need	Number	Percentage
To give direction for mass media	14	14
To use communication medium for development of nation	31	31
To aware the people by right information	19	19
To give equal access of mass medium for all people of country	3	3
Above all	33	33
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 6 shows that 14 percent respondent agreed communication policy is needed to give direction for mass media. 31 percent agreed communication policy is needed to use communication medium for development of nation. 19 percent agreed communication policy is needed to aware the people by right information 3 percent agreed communication policy is needed to give equal access of mass media for all people of country and 33 percent agreed with above all option. According to this table majority of respondent agreed with all option of this question.



### 5.2.3 Communication Policy of Nepal:-

While studying and analyzing communication policy of Nepal, it is necessary to know what kind of communication policy is followed. To know stand point of Nepal, it is necessary to know what kind of policy is followed. Respondents view is presented in the table below in this topic.

**Table 7: Distribution of respondents by their view about communication policy followed by Nepal**

Policy	Number	Percentages
Which gives opportunity to private sectors to run media	11	11
Which gives opportunity to government to run media	15	15
Which gives opportunity to both government and private sector to run media	63	63
Others	11	11
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 7 shows that 11 percent respondent believed that Nepal is following open market oriented policy, 15 percent respondent believed that Nepal is following government controlled policy, 63 percent believed that Nepal is following mixed policy and 11 percent believed that Nepal is following other kind of policy. According to this table majority of the people believed that Nepal is following mixed policy.

### 5.2.4. Suitable Communication Policy

Before implementing any policy, its impact must be evaluated. After studying the effect of the policy any policy must be implemented. Any policy may be effective after studying the effect of this policy. To know respondent's view about communication policy of Nepal questionnaire is used and presented their view in the table below.

**Table 8: Distribution of respondents by their view about the suitable communication policy for Nepal**

Suitable Policy	Number	Percentage
Which provides opportunity to private sector to run media	33	33
Which provides opportunity to government to run media	3	3
Which provides opportunity to both government and private sector to run	63	63
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

**Figure 4: Bar diagram of table 8**

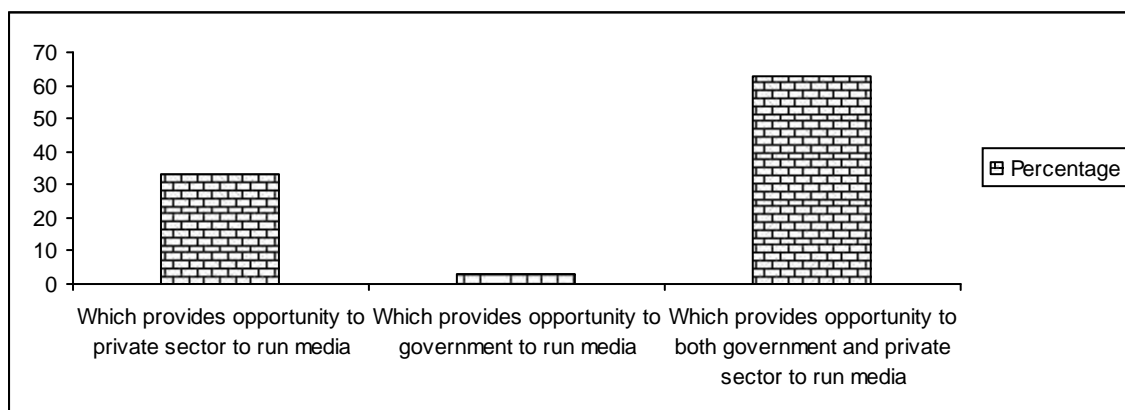


Table 8 and figure 4 show that, 33 percent respondent believed that open market oriented policy is suitable for our country, 3 percent believed that government control policy is suitable, 63 percent believed mixed policy is suitable where both government and private sector can run media.

### 5.2.5. Situation of communication sector in Nepal

Before formulation and implementation of policy situation must be analyzed. Real situation of communication sector should be known to formulate and implement communication policy. To know the respondents view about situation of communication sector questionnaire schedule was used. Respondents view is presented in the table below.

**Table 9: Distribution of respondents by their view about situation of communication sector of Nepal**

Situation	Number	Percentage
Most of the people do not have access on radio, TV and Newspaper	51	51
Most of people can not read Newspaper	13	13
Most of the people can not afford TV and Computer	30	30
Others	6	6
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

**Figure 5: Bar diagram of table 9.**

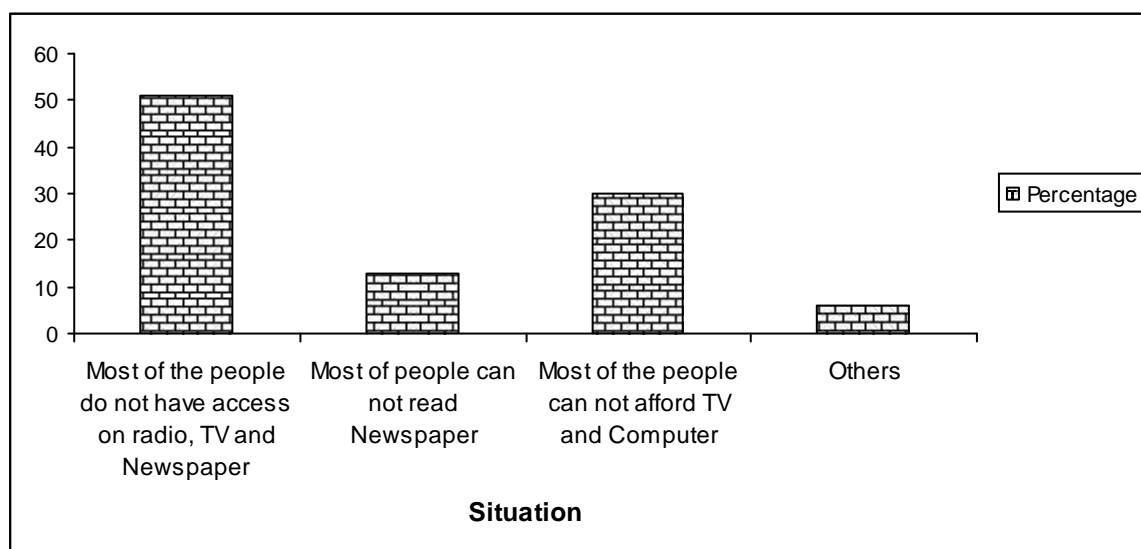


Table 9 and figure 5 show that, 51 percent respondent believed that most of the people do not have access on Radio, TV and Newspaper, 13 percent believed that most of the people cannot read newspaper, 30 percent believed most of the people cannot afford communication medium like TV and computer and 6 percent respondent believed that other kind of problem is also there in communication sector of Nepal. According to this table most of the respondent believed that most of the people do not have access on Radio, TV and Newspaper.

### 5.2.6 Access on mass media:

Technology creates gap between haves and have-nots. Because of digital gap people cannot be benefited equally. Such type of development does not lead us towards prosperity. Policy must be able to fill the gap so to know respondents view about access of people on mass media questionnaire schedule is used and presented in the table below.

**Table 10: Distribution of respondents by do not access on mass media of Nepalese people**

Access	Number	Percentage
Yes	83	83
No	17	17
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

**Figure 6: Pie chart of table 10.**

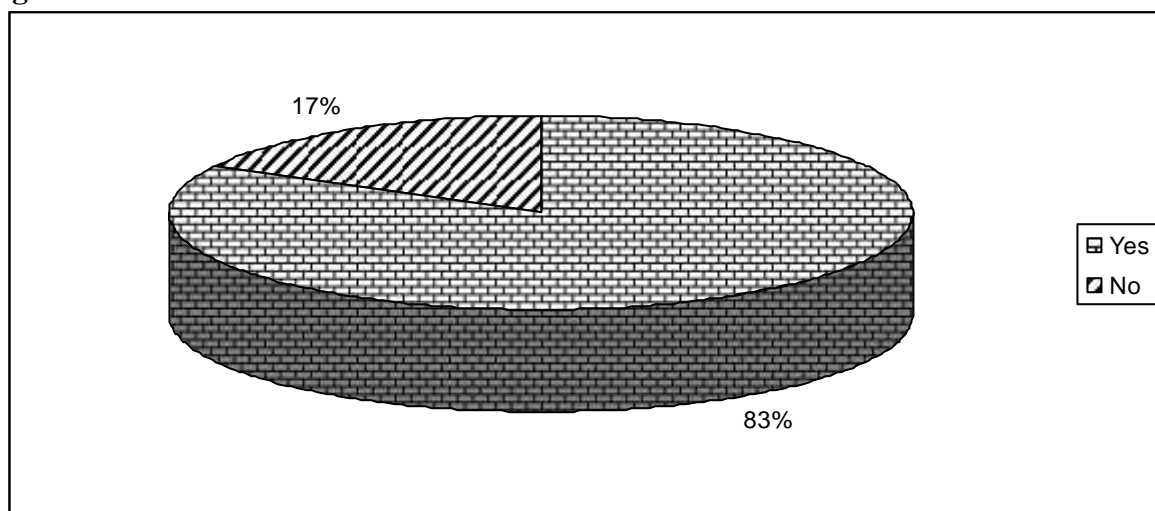


Table 10 shows that 83 percent respondent accepted most of the people do not have access on mass media like Radio, TV and Newspaper, 17 percent do not accept that people do not have access on Radio, TV and Newspaper.

This table shows majority of the respondent believed people do not have access on mass media.

### 5.2.7 Causes of law access on mass medium

There may be many causes that people do not have access on mass media; without finding the cause problems cannot be solved. Respondents view is presented in the table below.

**Table 11: Distribution of respondents by their view on do not have access on mass communication**

Causes	Number	Percentages
Poverty	31	37.35
Illiteracy	13	15.66
transportation all parts of nation	9	10.84
No access of electricity on rural area	6	7.24
Above all	24	28.91
Total	83	100

Sources: Field Survey, 2006.

**Figure 7: Bar diagram of table 11.**

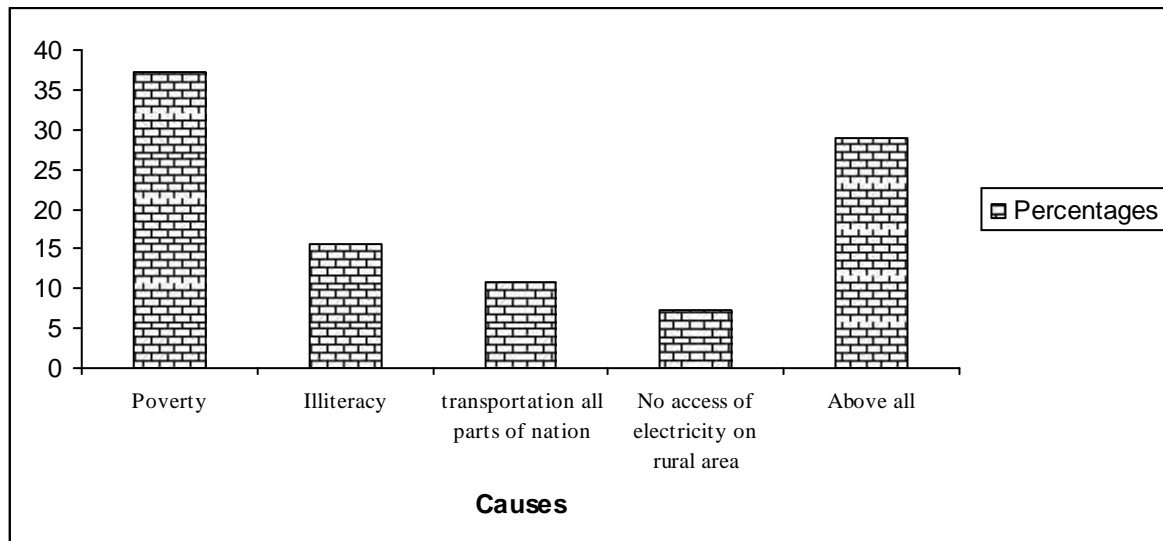


Table 11 and figure 7 shows that among 83 respondent, who accepted people do not have access on mass medium 37.35 believed that most of the people do not have access on mass medium because of poverty, 15.66 percent believed illiteracy is the cause of low access on mass medium, 10.84 percent believed that because of transportation difficulties most of the people do not have access on mass medium,

7.24 percent respondent believed people do not have access on mass medium because there is not transportation facility in all part of the nation and 28.91 percent believed above all option are the cause of low access on mass media of the people.

### **5.2.8 Long term communication policy**

Long term communication policy was implemented in 2059 BS. It is long term plan of communication sector. It was formulated according to the concept of Ninth development Plan. There is plan up to twelfth development plan. Respondent's knowledge about long term communication policy is presented below in the table.

**Table 12: Distribution of respondents by knowledge of long-term communication policy**

<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentages</b>
Yes	80	80%
No	20	20%
Total	100	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 12 shows that 80 percent respondents have knowledge about long term communication policy and 20 percent do not have knowledge.

### **5.2.9 Communication Policy Formulation**

Long term communication policy 2059 was formulated according to the concept of Ninth plan. Its main target was spreading communication facility in the rural area of the kingdom. In this topic respondents view is presented in the table below.

**Table 13: Distribution of respondents by knowledge communication policy was formulated according to the concept of Ninth Plan**

<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentages</b>
Yes	52	52
No	48	48
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 13 shows 52 percent respondent knew that long term communication policy was formulated according to the concept of Ninth plan and 48 percent did not have knowledge.

### 5.2.10 Main priority of long term communication policy

There are sixteen main point of long term communication policy among of them 'To develop the communication and information sector in the rural area is the main target of this policy' Respondents view in this topic is presented in the table below.

**Table 14: Distribution of respondents by their view about main target of long term communication policy**

Respondent's view	Number	Percentages
It is possible to meet the target	54	54
It is impossible to meet	46	46
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

**Figure 8: Pie chart of table 14.**

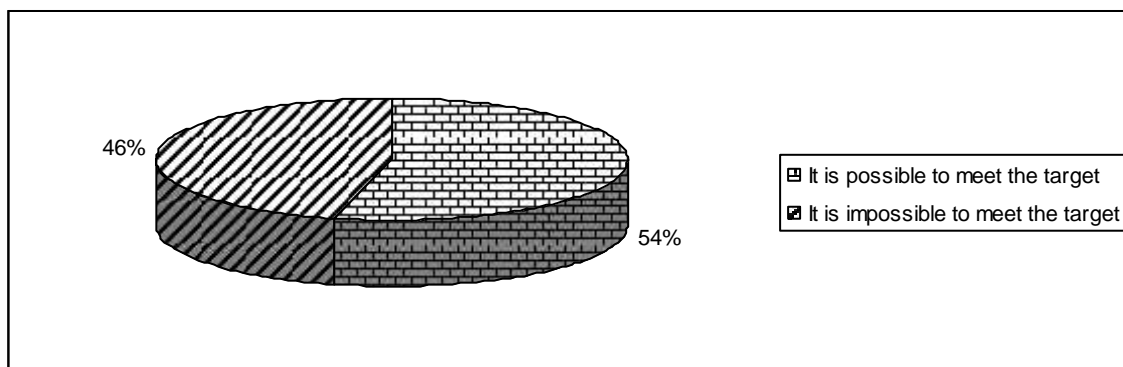


Table 14 and figure 8 show that 54 percent respondent thought that it is possible to meet the target, to develop the communication and information sector in the rural area. 46 percent thought it is impossible. This table shows that majority of the respondent are hopeful about the target of this policy.

### 5.2.11 Environment of Right to Information

Right to information is one of the right guaranteed by constitution, creating such type of environment is the target of this policy. Respondents view in this topic is presented in the table below.

**Table 15: Respondents view on present environment of Right to information**

Respondent's view	Number	Percentage
Yes	32	32
No	68	68
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 15 shows that 32 percent respondent believed there is good environment of getting and disseminating the information according to the target of long term communication policy and 68 percent believed that there is not environment of getting and disseminating information. This table shows that respondent did not believe there is right to information. In that sense respondent believed this policy is still unsuccessful to meet this target.

### 5.2.12 Existing environment of 'Right to information'

Right to information is a right guaranteed by constitution long term communication policy targets to make environment of getting and disseminating information. Majority of respondent did not believe that there is such type of situation. Why there is such type of situation? That is the major question. About this respondents view is presented in the table below.

**Table 16: Distribution of respondents by their view on existing environment of Right to information**

View	Number	Percentages
There is not such type of vision in constitution	11	16.18
There is not right to information act	14	20.59
Government authorities do not agree to give the information easily	36	52.94
Others	7	10.29
Total	68	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.



**Figure 9: Bar diagram of table 16.**

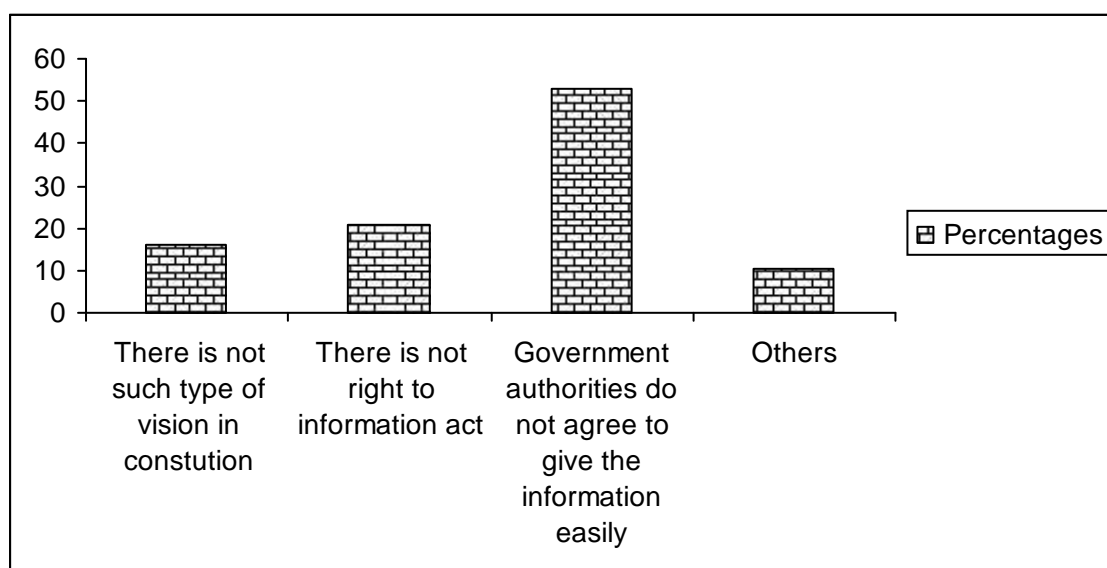


Table 16 and figure 9 show that among 68 percent respondent who believed that there is not right to information. 16.18 percent respondent thought that these is not such type of provision in constitution, 20.53 percent thought there is not right to information act, 52.94 percent thought Government authorities do not agree to give the information easily 10.29 percent thought there are other cause so there is not good environment of getting and disseminating information according to the target of long term communication policy.

### 5.2.13 Implementation of targets

All policies are vain unless implementing the targets. There may be some difficulties to implement policy. To know respondents view questionnaire is used presented in the table about the cause for not fulfilling the target of long term communication policy.

**Table 17: Distribution of respondents by their view on causes of not fulfilling the target of long term communication policy**

View	Number	Percentage
Because of inefficient bureaucracy	22	22
Lack of infrastructure and legal provision	39	39
Because of budget constraint	15	15
Targets are ambitious	9	9
Other	15	15
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 17 shows 22 percent respondent believed that Target of long term communication policy are not fulfilling because of inefficient bureaucracy, 39 percent believed targets of this policy are not fulfilling because there is lack of infrastructure and legal provision, 15 percent believed that targets of this policy are not fulfilling because of budget constraint, 9 percent believed that targets of this policy are ambitious so targets of this policy are not fulfilling and 15 percent believed that there are other causes so the targets of this policy are not fulfilling.

This table shows that majority of the respondent believed that targets of this policy are not fulfilling because there is lack of infrastructure and legal provision.

#### 5.2.14 Knowledge about Tenth development Place

Tenth development plan was implemented for the period 2059 BS to 2064 BS. Now it is running. It is necessary to have knowledge to analyze it. Respondent's knowledge is presented in the table below.

**Table 18: Distribution of respondent by their knowledge about Tenth development plan**

Knowledge	Number	Percentage
I have enough knowledge	11	11
I have little knowledge	72	72
I do not know	17	17
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

**Figure 10: Pie chart of table 18.**

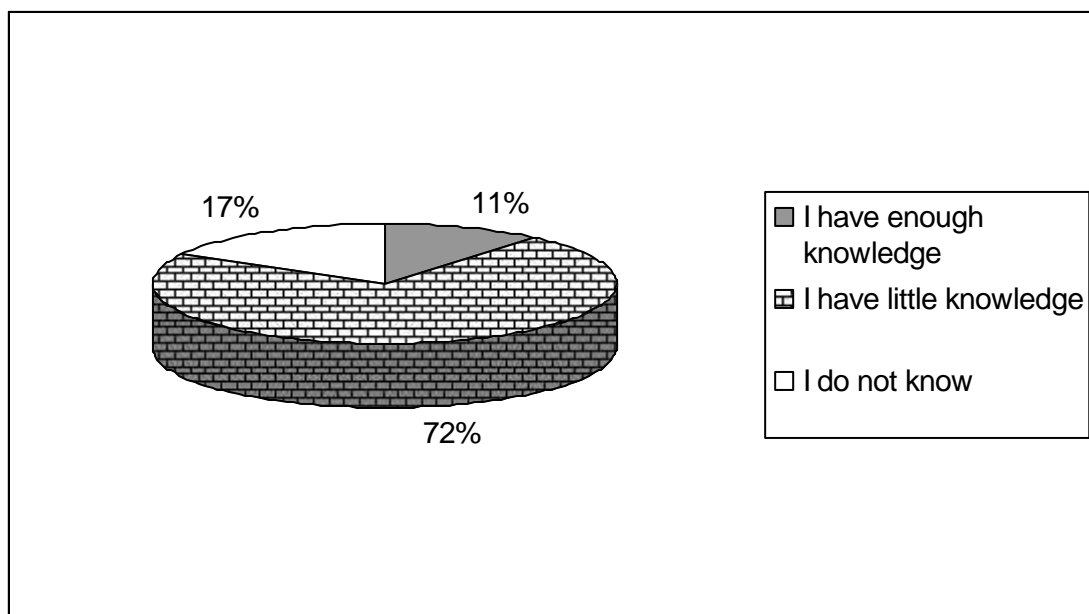


Table 18 and figure 10 show that 11 percent respondent had enough knowledge about tenth development plan. 12 percent had little knowledge and 17 percent did not have knowledge about tenth development plan.

### **5.2.15 Implementation period of Tenth Plan**

To check respondent knowledge implementation period of tenth development plan questionnaire schedule was used. Respondents view is presented in the table below. This table shows their knowledge.

**Table 19: Distribution of Respondent by their knowledge of Tenth development plan**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
BS 2059 to 2064	66	66
BS 2058 to 2063	34	34
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 19 shows that 66 percent respondent believed the Tenth development plan was implemented for 2059 B.S. to 2064 B.S. and 34 percent believed it was implemented for 2058 B.S. to 2063 B.S.

This table shows 66 percent respondents had knowledge about Tenth development plan.

### **5.2.16 Objective of Tenth Plan**

'Expansion, development and operation of information and communication sector to the rural areas is the objective of Tenth plan for communication sector. To meet the objective of plan different factor are important. Implementation sector, budget and environment of society are major factor. These factors are important to fulfill the objective of Tenth plan. In the present situation these objectives can be fulfilled. In this topic respondents view is presented in the table below.

**Table 20: View of Respondent about objective of tenth plan**

<b>View</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Right	70	70
Wrong	30	30
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 20 shows that 70 percent respondent thought 'Expansion, development and operation of information and communication sector to the rural areas is the objective of tenth plan that was right and 30 percent thought wrong. This table shows that 70 percent respondent have knowledge about Tenth plan.

#### **5.2.17 Possibility to success the target of tenth plan**

To success any development plan, there must be good combination of different factor. If one factor does not work it becomes difficult to success development plan. Like this Tenth development plan cannot become success without combination of budget, efficient implementation sector and good environment. In this subject respondent's view is presented in the table below.

**Table 21: Distribution of respondents by their view on possibility to success the target of Tenth plan**

<b>View</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	68	68
No	32	32
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 21 shows that 68 percent respondents were positive about the target to extend telephone service in all VDC of the country but 32 percent are negative they think this target cannot be fulfilled.

This table shows that majority of the respondent (68 percent) were optimistic about the target of Tenth plan.

### 5.2.18 Amount of Budget

'Expected budget for communication sector in Tenth plan is Rs. 7305.5 million in expected growth rate and Rs. 568.5 million in normal growth rate'. Any project cannot be completed without sufficient budget. Efficient implementation set is also important to use budget. In this topic respondents view is presented in the table below.

**Table 22: Distribution of respondents by their view on budget of tenth plan**

Sufficient amount	Number	Percentage
Yes	36	36
No	68	68
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 22 shows that 36 percent respondent believed that expected budget for communication sector in Tenth plan is Rs. 7305.5 million in expected growth rate and Rs. 563.5 million in normal growth rate is sufficient amount but 68 percent did not believe so. This table shows that majority of the respondent are not satisfied with the budge of Tenth plan for communication sector.

### 5.2.19 Press Freedom on 2047 constitution

Constitution 2047 was promulgated after the revolution of 2046. It is known as very liberal constitution. It is liberal for the press freedom. In article 12, 13 and 16 there are liberal provision about press freedom. Respondents view is presented in the table below.

**Table 23: Distribution of respondents by their view on provision press freedom in constitution 2047**

Option	Number	Percentage
Right to freedom of speech & expression	15	15
Right to publication	11	11
Right to information	8	8
Right to privacy	1	1
Above all	65	65
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

**Figure 11: Bar diagram of table 23.**

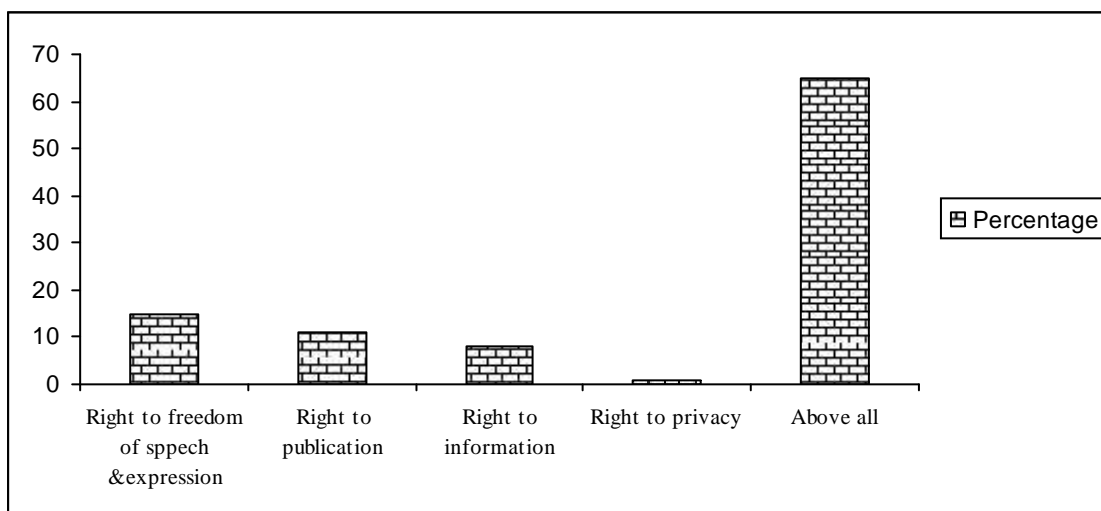


Table 23 and figure 11 show that 15 percent respondent believed that there is right to freedom of speech and expression in constitution 2047, 11 percent believed that there is right to publication in constitution 2047, 8 percent believed that there is right to publication in constitution, 1 percent believed that there is right to privacy and 65 percent respondent believed that there is all rights which are mentioned above.

The table shows that 65 percent respondent believed in constitution 2047 there is the provision of Right to freedom of speech and expression, Right to freedom of publication, Right to information and Right to privacy. These are the fundamental right and related with press.

#### **5.2.20. Constitutional provision liberal for press freedom**

Article 11 of constitution gives right to equality, article 13 gives right to printing press and publication and article 16 gives right to information. These provisions are liberal. So after restoration of democracy communication and journalism sector has developed very much. Respondents view about constitutional provision is presented in the table below.

**Table 24: Distribution of respondents by their view on liberal provision of press freedom in constitution**

<b>View</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	75	75
No	25	25
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 24 shows that 75 respondent believed that constitutional provision is liberal for press freedom but 25 percent believed that constitutional provision is not liberal.

### **5.2.21 Information from executive**

Constitutional provision is liberal about press freedom. Article 16 gives right to information. There is problem in practice respondents view in this topic is presented in the table below.

**Table 25: Distribution of respondents by their view on can people get information of public concern easily press executive**

<b>Option</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	22	22
No	78	78
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

Table 25 shows that 22 percent respondent believed that people have access on information of public concern but 78 percent respondent did not believe so. This table shows that majority of the respondent believed that people do not have easy access on information of public concern.

### **5.2.22 Causes of difficulties to get information from executive**

Majority of the respondent believed that it is difficult to get information from executive easily. Although, constitution has guaranteed right to information in article 16 respondents view on this topic is presented in the table below.

**Table 26: Distribution of respondents by their view on causes of difficulties to get information from executive**

View	Number	Percentage
There is not right to information get	11	14.10
People are not aware about their right	10	12.82
Executives are not agree to give information	54	69.23
Others	2	2.85
Total	78	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006

**Figure 12: Bar diagram of table 26**

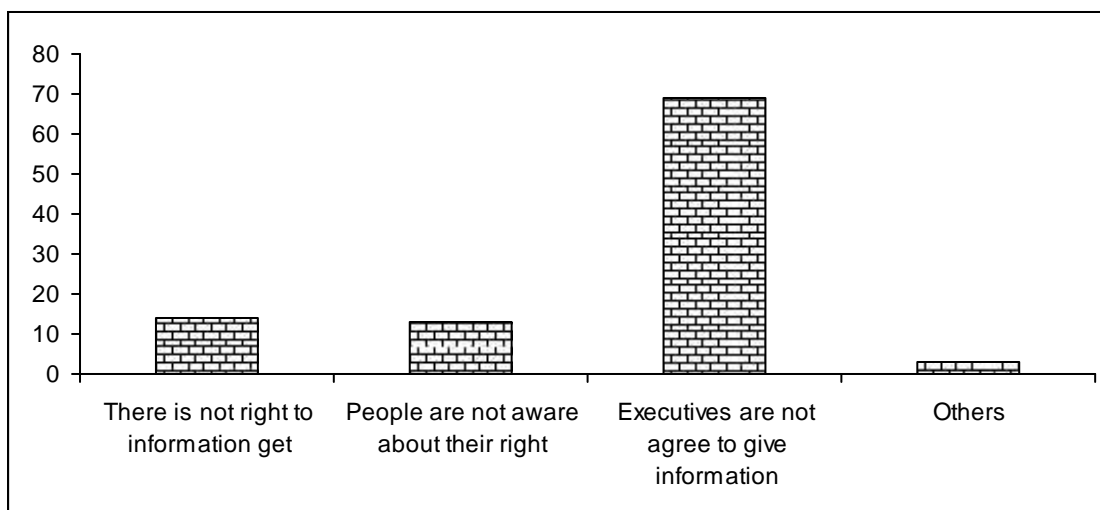


Table 26 and figure 12 show that among 78 respondent who believed that people do not have access on information of public concern, 14.10 percent believed there is not right to information act, 12.82 percent believed people are not aware about their right, 69.23 percent believed executive are not agree to give information of public concern and 3 percent believed that there are other causes so people do not have easy access on information of public concern.

Majority of the respondent (69.23%) believed executive is the cause for this problem.



## **CHAPTER -VI**

### **Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations**

#### **6.1 Summary**

This research is conducted for the partial fulfillment in Master's Degree in Mass Communication and Journalism, faculty of humanity, Tribhuvan University. This study concerns only with communication policy in Nepal. These policies are five year development plan, Communication Policy 2028, Communication policy 2049, Long term communication and legislative policy. The main purpose of this study is to evaluate the government communication policy in Nepal, to study the status of the government communication policies, to know the communication strategies in development plan and to study the practical approaches to communication policies are the other objectives of the study. For this purpose content analysis and questionnaire schedule were used as the main methodology, conducted to accomplish the study.

The information and communication sector is a crucial infrastructure for the development, plays a vital role in overall development of the country. The task of bringing positive changes on day to day lives of citizen by providing continuity to development programs in a suitable manner depends on the effectiveness of communication. It is indisputable that the development, expansion and effective mobilization of information and communication can play an important role in bringing together every citizen in the process of nation building by raising their awareness. So the title "communication policy in Nepal" was purposed.

Literature review is an essential aspect of any study of this kind. The researcher has, therefore, formulated objectives and methodology followed by related literature review.

Content analysis and questionnaire schedule was adopted for the purpose of data collection. The researcher has coded data using coding sheet. The coded data were utilized to interpret the information.

Another important part of this study is analysis and interpretation of data. Targets and achievement of development plan, causes of not fulfilling the targets, efficiency of implementation sector, way to solve the problem of communication sector, effective communication policy for the country and constitutional provision, are the fundamental element of this study.

- The first plan was focused on postal service and telephone services. The data of target and progress shows that the physical target has fulfilled in these period 413 post offices opened and phone services have been extended. This shows first plan targets to develop physical infrastructure. More or less it was success to do so.
- Second plan targeted to improve existing post office and add 600 additional telephone connections according to this target post office center was expanded and steps have been taken to add some 4,000 more lines.
- Third plan targeted to increases post office and install additional lines and services. It fulfilled the physical targets.
- Fourth plan targeted to develop physical infrastructure of HMG Press, film studio and a laboratory suitable building and broadcasting. In this period these physical targets fulfilled.
- Fifth plan targeted to fulfill policy level plan and physical plan among of these plan physical target fulfilled but policy level target did not fulfill.
- Various projects were conducted during the sixth plan period for the development of information and publishing sector. Good progress had been done in the programs conducted under Radio Nepal, Information department, HMG press, National News agency, Gorkhapatra Corporation and Royal Nepal Film Corporation.
- Main target was carrying to the general public the information on national and international trends and to broadcasting and publicity on development. To fulfill this target, different physical targets were fulfilled.
- The Eight Plan had adopted on the one hand, the strategy to provide common type of communication service to the people and ensure balanced development in various means of communication, on the other hand, it had pointed out the steps to attain a sustainable development of communication through the

private sector participation, in this sector with a view to make institutional development and communication means more self reliant.

- Ninth plan targeted both policy level and physical according to that target long term communication policy prepared and implemented and different physical target were fulfilled.
- Tenth Plan has taken the objective to ensure easy availability of news and information based on facts and truth to the general people on time to fulfill this objective this plan has targeted the participation of private sector and to fulfill different physical target.
- Communication plan 2028 had given the way to the communication sector. According to its suggestion now there is an organizational structure for the communication.
- National Communication policy 2049 paves the way to implement constitutional provision and targets to pluralism on the media.
- Long term communication policy 2059 is continuation of communication policy 2049. This policy targets to involve private sector in the Government medium and expanding communication facility up to the rural level. This policy targets to develop healthy, professional and organized journalism.
- Constitution 2047 is known as liberal for press freedom. Article 12, 13, 16 and 22 are related with press freedom. In the absence of proper laws there are difficulties to get the right guaranteed by constitution.
- 33 percent respondent believed that open market oriented policy is suitable for our country, 3 percent believed that government control policy is suitable, 63 percent believed mixed policy is suitable.
- 51 percent respondent believed that most of the people do not have access on Radio, TV and Newspaper, 13 percent believed that most of the people cannot read newspaper, 30 percent believed most of the people cannot afford communication medium.
- 37.35 percent respondent believed that most of the people do not have access on mass medium because of poverty, 15.66 percent believed that illiteracy is the cause of low access on mass medium, 10.84 percent respondent believed that because of transportation difficulties most of the people do not have access on mass medium. 7.24 percent respondent believed people do not have

access on mass medium because there is not electricity facility, 28.29 percent believed the poverty, illiteracy, transportation and electricity are the cause among of 83 respondent.

- 54 percent respondent believed that it is possible to meet the target of long term communication policy 2059 but 46 percent thought is impossible.
- 32 percent respondent believed that there is good environment to enjoy right to information but 68 percent believed that there is not such type of environment.
- 22 percent respondent believed that target of long term communication policy is not fulfilling because of inefficient bureaucracy, 39 percent believed lack of infrastructure and legal provision is the cause, 15 percent believed because of budget constraint, 9 percent believed that targets are ambitious and 15 percent believed there are other causes.
- 70 percent respondent believed objective of tenth plan was right but 30 percent believed that was wrong.
- 68 percent respondents were positive about the target of tenth plan but 32 percent were negative.
- 75 percent respondent believed that constitutional provision is liberal for press freedom but 25 percent believed that constitutional provision is not liberal.
- 22 percent respondent believed that people have access on information of public concern but 78 percent respondent did not believe.
- Among 78 respondents who believed people do not have access on information of public concern, 14.10 percent believed there is not right to information act, 12.82 percent people are not aware, 69.23 percent believed executive are not liberal and 3 percent believed there are other causes.

## **6.2 Conclusion**

As per the main objective of this study, five year development plan, communication plan 2028, communication policy 2049 and legislative policy were studied. From the study, it has become clear that there is gap between target and progress of the policies. Through the study, it reflects that there are many problems in the field of communication but policies are not sufficient to solve these problems. Most of the people do not have access on mass media, there is digital gap between haves and

have-nots and there is no good environment to enjoy. Right to information, policies have targeted to solve these problems but policies are insufficient to do so.

There are many causes to create such type of situation, there are not laws and regulations according to spirit of constitution, bureaucracy is inefficient, and there is lack of infrastructure and budget.

There are many causes so targets are not fulfilling according to policies. The major cause is government's unwillingness.

From this study, it is found that there is gap between real problems and policies. To fulfill such type of gap, research should be done. To solve policy level targets government willingness is needed. There is not Right to information act in the absence of this act targets of long term communication policy is not fulfilling, and spirit of constitution is not implementing. On the basis of this background, the following recommendations are presented.

### **6.3 Recommendations**

Constitution 2047, Press and Publication Act 2048, National Broadcasting Act 2049, Communication Policy 2049, long term communication policy 2059 and tenth development plan are implemented in present time. These policies are liberal and favourable for the development of communication sector, so communication sector has uplifted in the recent years. Yet, there are number of areas, where improvement is needed.

Here are some recommendations, to be considered, because it can make significant improvement in formulating and implementing communication policy not only in the study area but also in other similar subject area.

1. In our country, planners are ignorant about real situation of communication sector. To know the situation of communication sector research should be done before formulating the policy.
2. Impossible objective should not be included in policy.

3. There is gap between target and progress of the policies. To fulfill this gap cause must be identified.
4. Bureaucracy must be efficient to fulfill the target of policy so to develop efficiency in bureaucracy proper training must be given.
5. Sufficient budget must be allocated to fulfill the target of policy and allocated budget must be utilized properly.
6. According to spirit of constitution right to information act should be formulated to fulfill the target of long term communication policy.
7. To develop the environment of getting and disseminating the information media friendly culture should be developed.
8. To fulfill the target of policy necessary infrastructure and legal provision should be developed.
9. After completing project according to policy research should be done and further policy and plan should be formulated according to it.
10. People, professionals and experts view should be collected to know the real situation of communication sector. That helps to make a effective policy.
11. Poverty, illiteracy is the major problem of our country so plan should to be formulated to address such types of problems.

At last we recommend that research is the source of knowledge so, different research should be conducted before formulating the communication policy, policy maker and planner must be informed about the real situation of the communication sector. The best way to be informed about this field is research so researcher must conduct research before formulating and after implementing the plan and policy.

#### **6.4 Recommendations for the further areas of Research**

Due to the time, financial and methodological delimitation this study was focused on five year development plan, communication policy 2028, communication policy 2049, long term communication policy 2059 and legislative policy.

1. This study suggests following areas for further research. This study covers these communication policies which are directly or indirectly related to

Journalism. Similar types of study conducted in other policies might be useful for the sector of mass communication and Journalism.

2. Furthermore researchers are required to evaluate and analyzed that help to planner, bureaucrat researcher and student. Therefore, continuous study and assessment in this regard is suggested.

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**APPENDIX**  
**Questionnaire Schedule**  
**"Communication Policy in Nepal"**  
**Respondent's Information**

**Name:** ..... **Occupation:** .....

**Age:** ..... **Position:** .....

**Education:** ..... **Martial Status:** .....

**Class:** .....

**(Please give Tick ( ✓ ) mark in chosen option)**

1. What is the communication policy?
  - (i) The plan for systematic development of mass media.
  - (ii) The plan for to regulate mass media.
  - (iii) The plan of action chosen by expert of communication.
  - (iv) Plan to control mass media.
  - (v) Above all
  
2. Why communication policy is needed?
  - (i) To give direction for mass media.
  - (ii) To use communication medium for development of nation.
  - (iii) To aware the people by right information.
  - (iv) To give equal access of main medium for all people of country.
  - (v) Above all
  
3. In your opinion, what kind of kind of communication policy is being followed by Nepal?
  - (i) Which gives opportunity to private sector to run media.
  - (ii) Which gives opportunity to government to run media.
  - (iii) Which gives opportunity to both government and private sector to run media.
  - (iv) Others
  
- 3 (a) In your view, what kind of communication policy is suitable for Nepal?
  - (i) Which provides opportunity to private sector to run media.
  - (ii) Which provides opportunity to government to run media.
  - (iii) Which provides opportunity to both government and private sector to run media.
  
4. What kind of situation is there in communication sector of Nepal?
  - (i) Most of the people do not have access on Radio, TV and Newspaper.
  - (ii) Most of the people can not read Newspaper.
  - (iii) Most of the people can not afford TV and computer.
  - (iv) Others

5. Do you think most of the people do not have access on Radio, TV and Newspaper?  
 (a) Yes                      (b) No
6. If yes, why?  
 (i) Because of poverty  
 (ii) Because of illiteracy  
 (iii) Because there is not transportation facility in all part of nation.  
 (iv) Because there is not facility of electricity in rural area.  
 (v) Others
7. Do you know about long-term communication policy?  
 (i) Yes                      (ii) No
- 7 (a) Do you know this policy was formulated according to the concept of Ninth plan?  
 (i) Yes                      (ii) No
- 7 (b) 'To develop the communication and information sector in the rural area is the main target of this policy,' what do you think about it?  
 (i) It is possible to meet the target.  
 (ii) It is impossible to meet the target.
- 7 (c) 'To develop the environment of getting and disseminating the information is target of this policy' is there such type of environment?  
 (i) Yes                      (ii) No
- 7 (d) If no, why?  
 (i) There is not such type of promising in constitution.  
 (ii) There is not right to information act.  
 (iii) Government authorities do not agree to give the information easily.  
 (iv) Others
- 7 (e) Why the targets of this policy are not fulfilling?  
 (i) Because of inefficient bureaucracy.  
 (ii) Lack of infrastructure and legal provision  
 (iii) Because of budget constraint  
 (iv) Targets are ambitious.  
 (v) Others
- 8 How much knowledge do you have about Tenth development plan?  
 (i) I have enough knowledge  
 (ii) I have little knowledge  
 (iii) I do not know
- 8 (a) When it was implemented?  
 (i) B.S. 2059 to 2064                      (ii) 2058 to 2063
- 8 (b) 'Expansion, development and operation of information and communication sector to the rural areas', is the objective of tenth plan. What do you think about it?  
 (i) Right                      (ii) Wrong

- 8 (c) ' Extending telephone service in all VDCs of the country the major quantitative targets of this plan' is it possible?  
 (i) Yes    (ii) No
- 8 (d) ' Expected budget for communication sector in Tenth plan is Rs 7305.5 million in expected growth rate and Rs. 568.5 million in normal growth rate'. Is this amount sufficient to meet the objective of this plan?  
 (i) Yes    (ii) No
9. What kind of provisions is there in constitution 2047 for the press freedom?  
 (i) Right to freedom of speech and expression  
 (ii) Right to publication  
 (iii) Right to information  
 (iv) Right to privacy  
 (v) Above all
- 9 (a) Is constitutional provision liberal for press freedom?  
 (i) Yes    (ii) No
- 9 (b) Can people get information of public concern easily from executive in present time?  
 (i) Yes    (ii) No
- 9 (c) If not, why?  
 (i) There is not right to information act.  
 (ii) People are not aware about their right.  
 (iii) Executives are not agree to give information.  
 (iv) Others

Thank You for giving your valuable time to fulfill the questionnaire schedule.

**The End**