

MAOIST VOTED IN AS NEPAL PM: OFFICIAL



Aug 16, 2008. Lawmakers in Nepal have voted in the leader of the former rebel Maoists, Prachanda, as the Himalayan country's new prime minister, officials say.

The vote in Nepal's constitutional assembly ends months of political deadlock that followed the sacking of unpopular king Gyanendra and the abolition of the 240-year-old monarchy.

Prachanda was backed by 464 deputies, with 113 against, constitutional assembly chairman Subash Nemwang announced.

NEPAL BRACES FOR REVOLUTION WITH EX-WARLORD AS PM

Aug 16, 08. KATHMANDU (AFP) - Nepal, the world's newest republic, is set for more major change after the Maoist leader and former warlord Prachanda was appointed prime minister and promised to deliver a left-wing revolution.

The charismatic leader -- whose nom-de-guerre means "the fierce one" -- was overwhelmingly voted in as the impoverished country's most powerful man in a vote by lawmakers on Friday evening.

His ascent from rebel to national leader clears the way for his band of ultra-leftists, who feature on a United States terrorist blacklist, to plough ahead with their vow to radically reform the country.

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