



National Institute of Advanced Studies
International Strategic and Security Studies Programme

Conference on
MYANMAR AT THE CROSSROADS: CURRENT REALITIES, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES
20-22 July 2015

JRD Tata Auditorium, NIAS
Bangalore, India

Programme Schedule (as of 16th July, 2015)

Monday, 20 July 2015

9.30-09.45 am - Registration

09.45-10.45 am - Inaugural Session

Introductory Remarks: Prof. Rajaram Nagappa, Head, ISSSP, NIAS

Welcome Address: Dr. Baldev Raj, Director, NIAS

Keynote Address: Ambassador V.S. Seshadri, Vice Chairman, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi and former Ambassador of India to Myanmar (2010-2013) – *'Building Enduring Bonds with Myanmar'*

Vote of Thanks: Dr. Mayilvaganan, Conference Convenor

10.45-11.15 am – Group Photograph, Tea/Coffee Break

11.15-01.20 pm SESSION I: INTERPRETING THE TRANSITION IN MYANMAR

Chair: Mr. Khin Maung Win (TBC*)

Speakers:

- ❖ Dr. Sanjay Pulipaka, Consultant, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, New Delhi – *'Tatmadaw and the Changing Internal Dynamics in Myanmar'*
- ❖ Ms. Yola Verbruggen, Journalist & Political Analyst, Myanmar – *'Centre-Periphery Interaction'*
- ❖ Dr. Priyanca Mathur, Assistant Professor, St. Joseph College, Bangalore – *'Sectarian Conflict in Myanmar: The Rohingya Case'*

- ❖ Dr. Anshuman Behera, Assistant Professor, NIAS – *‘Insurgency, Drugs And Small Arms In Myanmar’*
- ❖ Dr. Rahul Mishra, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi – *‘Myanmar’s Aspirations and Future of Democratic Transition’*
- ❖ Ms. Ramya PS, Junior Research Fellow, ISSSP, NIAS – *‘The Evolution of the Tatmadaw: Assessing Present Capabilities’*

1.20-2.15 pm – Lunch Break

02.15-03.40 pm - SESSION II: AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITIES (I)

Chair: Prof. KUDO Toshihiro (TBC*)

Speakers:

- ❖ Dr. Elumalai Kannan, Associate Professor, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore – *‘Agriculture and Forestry Sector in Myanmar’*
- ❖ Ms. Soe Nandar Linn, National Consultant for World Bank's Public Financial Management Project, Ministry of Finance, Myanmar – *‘Natural Resources and Subnational Governance in Myanmar’* (TBC*)
- ❖ Ms. Suparna Banerjee, Senior Research Fellow, ISSSP, NIAS – *‘Mining Sector in Myanmar: Making sense of Resource Conflict’*

03.40-04.00 pm – Tea/Coffee Break

04.00-05.15 pm - SESSION III: AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITIES (II)

Chair: Dr. Elumalai Kannan (TBC*)

Speakers:

- ❖ Mr. Soe Myint, former Director General, the Ministry of Energy, Myanmar – *‘Energy Sector in Myanmar: Current Realities and Future Prospects’*
- ❖ Prof. KUDO Toshihiro, Research Planning Department, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Japan – *‘Industrial Development in Myanmar: Prospects and Challenges’*

07.00-8.30 pm – Welcome Dinner

Tuesday, 21 July 2015

09-30-11.50 AM SESSION IV: DYNAMICS OF MAJOR POWERS RELATIONS WITH MYANMAR

Chair: Mr. Khin Maung Soe (TBC*)

Speakers:

- ❖ Dr. Pankaj K Jha, Director Research, Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi – *'ASEAN and Myanmar'*
- ❖ Dr. Pongkwan Sawasdipakdi, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand – *'Thailand's Relations with Myanmar'* (*TBC)
- ❖ Dr. Shamshad A. Khan, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi – *'Japan -Myanmar Relations'*
- ❖ Prof. KUDO Toshihiro, Research Planning Department, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Japan – *'Two-Polar Growth Strategy in Myanmar: Seeking "High" and "Balanced" Development'*
- ❖ Dr. Jeganathan, Assistant Professor, Central University of Jammu, J&K – *'European Union Engagement with Myanmar'*
- ❖ Dr. K. Yhome, Fellow, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi – *'Situating Myanmar in the Emerging Geopolitics of Bay of Bengal'*

11.50–12.05 am - Tea/Coffee Break

12.05-01.30 pm – SESSION V: CHINESE STRATEGY AND ROLE IN MYANMAR

Chair: Prof. S Chandrashekar

Speakers:

- ❖ Mr. Khin Maung Soe, Communications & Socio-Economic Specialist, Urban Services Improvement Project, Mandalay, Myanmar – *'Chinese Role, Investment & Aid in Myanmar'*
- ❖ Ms. Sayantani Sen Mazumdar, Fellow, MAKAIAS, Kolkata – *'Myanmar-China Strategic Partnership'*
- ❖ Ms. Ramya PS, Junior Research Fellow & Dr. Mayilvaganan, Assistant Professor, NIAS – *'Facilitating Ties and Enhancing Cooperation: Yunnan Factor in China-Myanmar Relations'*

01.30-2.20 pm – Lunch Break

2.20-04.10 pm - **SESSION VI: INDIA-MYANMAR ENGAGEMENT**

Chair: Dr. Pankaj K Jha(TBC*)

Speakers:

- ❖ Dr. Udai Bhanu Singh, Senior Research Associate, IDSA – *'India's Myanmar Policy: Issues and Concerns'*
- ❖ Mr. Khin Maung Win, former Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs – *'India-Myanmar Relations: Perspective from Myanmar'*
- ❖ Mr. Rajeev Bhattacharyya, Journalist, Guwahati – *'Realities and Challenges on the Indo-Myanmar Border'*
- ❖ Dr. Pushpita Das, Associate Fellow, IDSA – *'Security Challenges and Management of India-Myanmar Border'*

04.10-04.25 pm: Tea/Coffee Break

04.25-5.45 pm – **SESSION VII: MYANMAR: NORTHEAST PERSPECTIVE**

Chair: Dr. Sanjay Pulipaka (TBC*)

Speakers:

- ❖ Dr. Rakhee Bhattacharya, Associate Professor, Northeast Studies Programme, School of Social Science, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi – *'Indo-Myanmar Development Agenda and 'Act East': Whither Northeast'*
- ❖ Dr. Amarjeet Singh, Associate Professor, Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi – *'Myanmar: Perspective from Northeast India'*
- ❖ Dr. Jiten Nongthombam, Centre for Myanmar Studies, Manipur University, Manipur – *'Security and Sustainable Development: Northeast in Indo-Myanmar Developing Dynamics'*

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

**10.00-12.20 pm – Session VIII: BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT CLIMATE IN MYANMAR:
BARRIERS AND POTENTIALS**

Chair: Mr. Soe Myint (TBC*)

Speakers:

- ❖ Dr. Madhab Paul, Managing Director, MiTA, Singapore – *‘Business environment in Myanmar: Existing Obstacles and Untapped Opportunities’*
- ❖ Mr. Rajesh Kapoor, Director, Confederation of Indian Industry, , New Delhi – *‘Industry Perspective on Bilateral Trade and Emerging Market in Myanmar’* (*TBC)

11.00-11.15 AM Tea/ Cofee Break

- ❖ Dr. Hippu Salk Kristle Nathan, Assistant Professor, NIAS & Mr. Sanket Sudhir Kulkarni, Doctoral Scholar, NIAS – *‘Indo-Myanmar Electricity Cooperation: Prospects and Challenges’*
- ❖ Ms. Kaveri Ashok, Junior Research Fellow, Ms Ramya PS, Junior Research Fellow, NIAS & Dr. Mayilvaganan, Assistant Professor, NIAS – *‘Infrastructure Development in Myanmar: Outlook And Opportunities’*

12.20-12.25 pm – Vote of thanks – Dr. Mayilvaganan

12.30-01.30 pm - Lunch