



**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

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**Monday, 20 July 2015**

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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 Dr. 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. Arun Vishwanathan, Conference Convenor

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

**11.15-12.45 PM      SESSION I: INTERPRETING THE TRANSITION IN MYANMAR**

Chair: Mr. Khin Maung Win

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. Rahul Mishra, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi – *'Myanmar's Aspirations and Future of Democratic Transition'*

**12.45-1.45 PM – Lunch Break**

**01.45-03.10 PM      SESSION II: INTERPRETING THE TRANSITION IN MYANMAR (II)**

Chair: Dr. K. Yhome

- ❖ Dr. Anshuman Behera, Assistant Professor, NIAS – *‘Insurgency, Drugs And Small Arms In Myanmar’*
- ❖ Dr. Priyanka Mathur, Assistant Professor, St. Joseph College, Bangalore – *‘Sectarian Conflict in Myanmar: The Rohingya Case’*
- ❖ Ms. Ramya PS, Junior Research Fellow, NIAS – *‘The Evolution of the Tatmadaw: Assessing Present Capabilities’*

**03.10-03.25 PM Tea/Coffee Break**

**03.25-04.50 PM      SESSION III: AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITIES (I)**

Chair: Prof. KUDO Toshihiro

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’*
- ❖ Ms. Suparna Banerjee, Senior Research Fellow, NIAS – *‘Mining Sector in Myanmar: Making sense of Resource Conflict’*

**04.50-05.45 PM      SESSION IV: AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITIES (II)**

Chair: Ms. Soe Nandar Linn

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**

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**Tuesday, 21 July 2015**

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

Chair: Mr. Khin Maung Soe

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'*
- ❖ 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, Jammu & Kashmir – *'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 PM - Tea/Coffee Break**

**12.05-01.30 PM      SESSION VI: 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 Majumdar, Fellow, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, 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**

**02.20-04.10 PM      SESSION VII: INDIA-MYANMAR ENGAGEMENT**

Chair: Dr. Pankaj Jha

Speakers:

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

**04.00-04.15 PM: Tea/Coffee Break**

**04.15-5.45 PM      SESSION VIII: MYANMAR: NORTHEAST PERSPECTIVE**

Chair: Dr. Sanjay Pulipaka

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'*

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**Wednesday, July 22, 2015**

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**09.45-10.00 AM – Tea/ Coffee**

**10.00-11.45 AM      *Session IX: TRADE, BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT CLIMATE IN MYANMAR: BARRIERS AND POTENTIALS***

Chair: Mr. Soe Myint

Speakers:

- ❖ Dr. K Venkataramani, Associate Director, Orkash Services Private Limited, New Delhi – *‘Recognizing Risks and Strategies for Indian industries in Myanmar’*
- ❖ Mr. Vernon Noronha, Defence Business Head, Tata Motors, Mumbai – *‘Tata Motors Business in Myanmar: Sharing Experiences and Lessons Learnt’*
- ❖ 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, & Dr. Mayilvaganan, Assistant Professor, NIAS – *‘Infrastructure Development in Myanmar: Outlook And Opportunities’*

11.45-11.50 PM – Vote of thanks – Ms. Suparna Banerjee

**12.30-01.30 PM - Lunch**