

dvbdebate.com facebook.com/dvb.debate Twitter @dvbdebate

DVB Debate is produced by DVB Multimedia Group Ltd. Co. The debate is recorded every Saturday morning in Yangon with a live audience, which is invited to join the discussion as well.

DVB DEBATE



BROADCAST TIMES		
TV	Sunday	7.30PM
	Monday	1.30AM
	Monday	7.30AM
	Monday	1.30PM
	Wednesday	8.45PM
	Thursday	2.45AM
	Thursday	8.45AM
	Thursday	2.45PM
	Friday	7.30PM
	Saturday	1.30AM
	Saturday	7.30AM
Saturday	1.30PM	
Radio	Saturday	Evening (after News program)
	Sunday	Morning (after News program)

* Videos are also available on DVB Debate's Youtube channel

DVB Debate aims to contribute to a new culture of open debate, in which anyone can participate and agree to disagree, in order to exchange ideas, create better mutual understanding and find solutions for societal issues to improve the future of Myanmar.

The team invites fellow media and debating clubs to join this initiative for open debate. A weekly press release, press picture and cartoon are available shortly after the recording. DVB Debate also has a modest budget to support local debating initiatives.

Welcome to DVB Debate, Myanmar's 1st open debate program.

This week's debate question is:

Can Burma's Poorest Break the Cycle of Poverty?

If you have any remarks, suggestions or questions, please ask a team member, call 01292743 (office hours) or email

debate@dvb.no.

This week's topic is POVERTY

Historical context:

Burma is rich in natural resources and was once amongst the most prosperous countries in Southeast Asia. However, rising inflation rates following independence from British rule in 1948 began its slide into poverty. After the 1962 coup d'état, the Military Government began the "Burmese Way to Socialism" nationalizing almost all industry, with catastrophic effect on the country's economy. This scheme, combined with over a decade of economic sanctions, overspending on the military and high inflation turned Burma into one of the world's most impoverished countries. Since civilian rule ended in 2011, the country's economy has grown significantly following lifting of sanctions and liberalization of the economy. But Burma's poorest are still stuck in the cycle of poverty.

Facts & figures:

- Myanmar ranks 23 on the index of World's Poorest Countries (Source – [IMF] -2013)
- 26% of 60 million population live under poverty line (Source – IMF -2013)
- In the fiscal year 2013-2014 the government allocated a 100billion Kyat budget for rural area development (Source- Ministry of Countryside Development)
- People living in rural areas in Myanmar are twice as poor as those in urban areas. (Source- Michigan University Research Dept. 2013)

Points of view:

LOCAL APPROACH:

"Regions and states will be given more authority from the state administrative power to enable to do local development"
(President U Thein Sein)

WORK TOGETHER:

"Our goal to cut our country's poverty index position No. 26 to No. 16 is achievable if everyone accepts it"
(Dr. Aung Htun Thet –Economist)

FOCUS ON RURAL AREAS:

"Real changes needed in rural areas have not been made yet; the current changes are still weak in implementation, actually"
(Dr. Soe Tun, President (temporary), Myanmar Farmer Association)

Information links:

<http://mingalarmyanmar.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.mm.undp.org/myanmar/en/home.html>

<http://myanmarfswg.org/>

http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/myanmar_statistics.html

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/myanmar>

<http://www.savethechildren.org/Myanmar>

<http://dvh.no/>