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**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.

 <b>DVB TV</b>		<b>DVB RADIO</b>	
Sunday	7.15 pm	Saturday	Evenings
Monday	1.15 am / 7.15 am / 1.15 pm	Sunday	Mornings
Wednesday	8.45 pm	<b>DVB ONLINE</b>	
Thursday	2.45 am / 8.45 am / 2.45 pm	dvbdebate.com	24/7
Friday	8.45 pm	facebook.com/ dvb.debate	
Saturday	2.45 am / 8.45 am / 2.45 pm	twitter @dvbdebate	

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.

For any inquiries, remarks or questions, please call 01292743 (office hours), leave a comment on facebook.com/dvb.debate or email [debate@dvb.no](mailto:debate@dvb.no).

# DVB DEBATE



Welcome to DVB Debate,  
Myanmar's 1st open debate program.  
This week's debate question is:

***How to end slavery?***

If you have any remarks, suggestions or questions,  
please ask a team member,  
call 01292743 (office hours) or email [debate@dvb.no](mailto:debate@dvb.no).

## **This week's topic is MODERN SLAVERY**

### ***Historical context:***

Burma is well known for its use of forced labour. Conscription of local villagers by the government and the Army to work without pay is a long-established practice in Myanmar, as is the case in other developing countries that lack an established tax base. This practice dates back to British colonial times and was codified in the Town Act of 1907 and the Village Act of 1908. However the problem increased under military rule as the Tatmadaw routinely forced civilians to work on state infrastructure projects, such as the building of roads, bridges, military bases or even towns. The army has also been criticised for recruiting villagers as porters, or for tasks such as camp work and growing food for soldiers. Many people in Burma have also long been at risk of falling into the hands of traffickers. One of the longest running civil wars in modern history and a repressive military dictatorship has led to mass migration in Myanmar- both internal and international. Migrants are particularly vulnerable to modern slavery; there are reports of deceptive recruitment of women for sale as brides in China, or commercial sexual exploitation in Thailand and China.

### ***Facts & figures:***

- Burma ranks 42<sup>nd</sup> out of 162 countries in the Global Slavery Index.
- 384,000 Burmese people live in slavery (Global Slavery Index 2013, Walk Free Foundation)
  - Myanmar prohibits sex and labour trafficking through its 2005 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law
  - From January to September 2013, there were 69 human trafficking cases in Myanmar. (Human trafficking Task Force)
  - For every 1,000 people in Myanmar, around 400 will emigrate overseas. (IOM, 2012)

### ***Points of view:***

"We have never received any wages, not even a cup of tea, from the Army or the Border security forces for all the work we do for them year after year."

(A victim of forced labour)

"Burma's government has promised [to abolish forced labour] for years, but the situation has still not changed to the better in many of the nationality areas,"

(Ulrich Delius- The Society for Threatened Peoples)

"Forced labour is bad for business and development and especially for its victims. Our new report adds new urgency to our efforts to eradicate this fundamentally evil, but hugely profitable practice as soon as possible."

(ILO Director-General Guy Ryder)

"The Government has been implementing the plan of action for the elimination of forced labour in Myanmar by 2015 in collaboration with International Labour Organization, and it is believed that the exaction of forced labour will eliminate in 2015 or in earlier than the targeted period."

(President Thein Sein)

### ***Information links:***

[www.globallslaveryindex.org](http://www.globallslaveryindex.org)

[www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org)

[www.walkfree.org](http://www.walkfree.org)

[www.mol.gov.mm](http://www.mol.gov.mm)

[www.federationoftradeunionsburma.blogspot.com](http://www.federationoftradeunionsburma.blogspot.com)

[www.mip.gov.mm](http://www.mip.gov.mm)

[www.dvb.no](http://www.dvb.no)