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TAEF UPDATES

Highlights of the 2020 Yushan Forum



Thursday, October 8, 2020

Entering its 4th year, the Yushan Forum explored the prospect of 'Forging a Resilient Future Together.' In the time of a pandemic, TAEF emphasized the importance of building a resilient global society. Under the impact of the coronavirus, the conference was held in both virtual and physical fashion. In addition to the opening ceremony and keynote speech, there was also a dialogue on the New Southbound Policy, a session on civil society capacity, partnership, and a roundtable dialogue.

According to Chairman Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao of TAEF, "This year's Yushan Forum offers an opportunity for us to re-examine our partnership, think about rebuilding mutual benefit, trust, openness, and strengthen the resilience of our partnerships for a common future. Resilience also means more participation from governments, business, and civil society groups, cooperating to deal with diverse issues and challenges."

President Tsai Ing-wen said, "Any political attempt to prevent Taiwan from sharing its experience and making contributions does not serve the collective interests of the region."

Read more

ASIA ENGAGEMENT CONSORTIUM UPDATES

Taiwan AID

NGO Leaders Forum



Thursday, October 8, 2020

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the NGO International Affairs Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and to highlight the achievements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in assisting Taiwanese NGOs in international participation, the 2020 NGO Leaders Forum was organized to discuss the importance of our NGOs' concerns. The topic was to strengthen the ability of my country's NGOs to connect internationally, to enhance the use of Taiwan's NGO resources to be in line with Taiwan's overall diplomatic strategy, and to promote tripartite cooperation and exchanges between the government, enterprises and NGOs, deepening partnerships.

Read more in Mandarin

NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY NEWS

Taiwan News

UNESCO Peace Chair says India Does Not Include Taiwan in 'One China'

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

In an interview with Indian media on Tuesday (Oct. 13) a UNESCO Peace Chair stated that to his knowledge, India does not include Taiwan in its definition of "one China."

On Oct. 7, after full-page advertisements appeared in Indian newspapers announcing that India's WION would broadcast a 25-minute special report on Taiwan's National Day event, the Chinese embassy in Delhi sent a threatening letter to Indian media outlets, admonishing them that there is "only one China in the world" and that the autocracy in Beijing is the "sole legitimate government representing the whole of China." In defiance of Chinese pressure tactics, Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga, spokesman for the New Delhi office of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), on National Day (Oct. 10) posted

100 signs displaying the Taiwanese flag and the words "Taiwan Happy National Day October 10" outside the Chinese embassy in Delhi.

Since then, Indian media outlets have continued to publish reports about Taiwan and its status as a separate country from China. On Tuesday, TheNews21 interviewed Madhav Nalapat, a UNESCO Peace Chair and prominent Indian academician and columnist about his take on Taiwan.

[Read more](#)

REGIONAL HEADLINES

BBC

Thai Protests: Large Gatherings Banned Under Emergency Decree

October 15, 2020

The Thai government has announced an emergency decree to combat protests in Bangkok, which includes banning large gatherings.

A televised announcement read out by police said "many groups of people have invited, incited and carried out unlawful public gatherings in Bangkok".

It said urgent measures were needed to "maintain peace and order".

Protesters have called for curbs on the king's powers and for the resignation of Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha.

[Read more](#)

SCMP

China- Cambodia Free Trade Deal Highlights Beijing's Push for Economic Influence in Southeast Asia

October 15, 2020

Cambodia, which is among Asia's poorest countries, has been an important ally to China in recent years, but trade volume between the two is relatively small

New trade pact between Beijing and Phnom Penh came together in less than a year without 'much political interference'

The relatively speedy free trade deal that China sealed with Cambodia this week to cut tariffs and boost investment highlights Beijing's intention to strengthen its economic influence among Asean members amid a growing rivalry with the United States in the region.

[Read more](#)

AP News

Philippine Congress Enters Crisis Over Leadership Standoff

October 12, 2020

A large faction of Philippine legislators in the House of Representatives elected a new leader Monday, but the incumbent speaker declared the vote a "travesty" in a tense political standoff between two allies of the president.

President Rodrigo Duterte warned last week that he would intercede if the leadership row between House Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano and Rep. Lord Allan Velasco threatens the passage of next year's budget. The 4.5 trillion peso (\$90 billion) budget is crucial in helping finance the government's response to the coronavirus pandemic in a country with the largest number of confirmed infections in Southeast Asia.

Read more

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