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TAEF UPDATES

TAEF Welcomes Vietnamese Scholars



Friday, January 18th, 2019

TAEF welcomes Prof. Nguyễn Văn Chính and his colleagues for a friendly visit. Prof. Nguyễn Văn Chính serves as Vice Director in the Center for Asian-Pacific Area Studies and International Relations, Vietnam National University (Hanoi). He was welcomed by TAEF Chairman Dr. H.H. Michael Hsiao and Executive Director Dr. Alan H. Yang. Both sides looked forward to increased exchange between Taiwan and Vietnam.

Read more

ASIA ENGAGEMENT CONSORTIUM UPDATES

TAEF X NCCU CSEAS

"China's Footprints in Southeast Asia" Book Launch

The poster features a red background with a repeating circular pattern. At the top, the title "CHINA'S FOOTPRINTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA" is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below the title, the date "2019" is prominently displayed in a large font, with "PM18:00~PM19:00" underneath it. To the right of the date, the text "與會人員" (Participants) is written vertically. Next to it, the names and affiliations of the participants are listed: 蕭新煌 (Chairman, TAEF), Maria Serena I. Diokno (Professor, Ateneo de Manila University), 楊吳 (Executive Director, NCCU CSEAS), 張登及 (Professor, NCCU), and 陳宗巖 (Assistant Professor, NCCU). Below the date and participants, the event location "02-15 台北書展 世貿一館 青春沙龍" is written in large white characters. At the bottom, the co-organizers are listed: "| 合辦單位 | TAEF x NUS Press x B.K. Norton x CSEAS x IIR".

Friday, February 15th, 2019

TAEF will be hosting the book launch of "China's Footprints in Southeast Asia" (National University of Singapore Press, 2018). Edited by TAEF Senior Advisor Dr. Maria Diokno, TAEF Chairman H.H. Michael Hsiao and TAEF Executive Director Alan H. Yang, this is the first book to survey China's growing role in Southeast Asia along multiple dimensions. It looks closely and skeptically at the multitude of ways that China has built connections in the region, including through trade, foreign aid, and cultural diplomacy.

The event will be held during the Taipei International Bookfare from 18:00-19:00 on February 15th, while the exact venue will be located at the Green Salon Area in Taipei World Trade Center Hall 1.

Read more

TAEF X NCCU CSEAS

SEASIA Biennial Conference 2019 Call For Papers

NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY NEWS

Focus Taiwan

Approved Investment from NSP Countries Soars Over 40% in 2018

Monday, January 21st, 2019

The amount of approved investment in Taiwan from countries targeted by the government's New Southbound Policy (NSP) jumped more than 40 percent year-on-year in 2018, according to data released by the Investment Commission under the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

The 18 countries under the NSP, which was launched by the Democratic Progressive Party government after President Tsai Ing-wen took office in May 2016, are the 10 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, along with Australia, New Zealand, and South Asian countries including India.

Read more

Focus Taiwan

Indian envoy touts ties with Taiwan on India's Republic Day



Thursday, January 24th, 2019

India's top envoy to Taiwan touted the relationship between the two countries on an event in Taipei to celebrate India's 70th Republic Day. Sridharan Madhusudhanan, director general of the India-Taipei Association, noted that direct investment from Taiwan to India has increased tenfold in the last year.

India and Taiwan also updated a bilateral investment agreement in December 2018, and jointly established an investment facilitation office in New Delhi exclusively for Taiwanese businesses, called "Taiwan Plus," the envoy noted.

[Read more](#)

Taiwan News

Australia and Taiwan Share Common Values

Wednesday, January 23th, 2019

Australia's top envoy to Taiwan, Gary Cowan, said that Australia and Taiwan share common values and a deepening relationship during a function celebrating Australia's national day in Taipei on January 23. Cowan observed that he had seen a lot of sharing between Australia and Taiwan over the last year: sharing of values and beliefs, of desire for regional peace and stability, and of economic partnerships.

[Read more](#)

SOUTHEAST ASIA / SOUTH ASIA / AUS / NZ NEWS

*The Times of
India*

**India to remain
fastest-growing
economy in
2019, 2020**

[January 17th, 2019](#)

Reuters

**Malaysia says
still negotiating
with China on
\$20-billion rail
project**

[January 30th, 2019](#)

BBC News

**Bangkok
schools closed
over 'unhealthy'
pollution levels**

[January 30th, 2019](#)

Toxic smog in Bangkok

India will continue to remain the world's fastest-growing large economy in 2019 as well as in 2020, much ahead of China. a UN report said recently.

According to the UN's World Economic Situation and Prospects 2019, India's GDP growth is expected to accelerate to 7.6 per cent in 2019-2020 from an estimated 7.4 per cent in the current fiscal ending March 2019. The growth rate may come down to 7.4 per cent a year later.

[Read more](#)

Malaysia is in talks with China over a \$20-billion rail project, the finance minister said on January 30th, just days after another cabinet minister said Kuala Lumpur had decided to cancel the contract.

After winning power last May, Malaysia's prime minister has vowed to renegotiate or cancel what he calls "unfair" Chinese projects authorized by his predecessor Najib Razak, voted out after nearly a decade in power amid a massive financial scandal.

[Read more](#)

has forced more than 400 schools to close for the rest of the week, to protect children from its harmful effects.

Thailand's capital city is experiencing some of its worst-ever air pollution levels, caused by ultra-fine dust particles known as PM2.5. Traffic exhaust, construction works, burning crops and pollution from factories are blamed for the haze. The government has tried seeding rain clouds, reducing traffic, and hosing down streets, with little impact.

[Read more](#)

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