

REGIONAL

Burma's Opium Output Rises Despite Eradication Effort

REUTERS

NEW YORK - Opium poppy cultivation in Burma has risen for the sixth consecutive year despite a state eradication campaign, a U.N. report said yesterday, throwing doubt on government assertions that the problem would be over by 2014.

Unprecedented eradication efforts managed to destroy almost 24,000 hectares of poppy fields in the 2012 season, running from fall 2011 to early summer this year, more than triple the previous year's total.

But the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime said land used for cultivation in Burma, the world's second-top producer of opium after Afghanistan, still increased 17 percent to its highest level in eight years.

Burma is forecast to produce 690 tons of opium in 2011 to '12 according to the report, up from 610 tons—about 10 percent of the world's opium—the previous year, the UNODC said. Afghanistan produces about 90 percent.

Land in the Burmese part of the Golden Triangle—a lawless region of Burma, Thailand and Laos home to vast drug trafficking operations—is scarce and

many poor farmers opt to use it for poppies, which earn them 19 times more per hectare than rice, according to the UNODC report.

Four out of every 10 households surveyed in poppy-growing villages grew the crop themselves, but other households participated in the cultivation and harvesting, making it vital to the economies of whole communities.

Production of opium is closely linked to ethnic insurgencies inside Burma, said Gary Lewis, UNODC regional representative.

"There is no question that there is a strong connection between the conflicts in the country and the most immediate sources of revenue to purchase weapons, and in many instances this is both opium and heroin and methamphetamine pills," he said.

"The areas of highest cultivation intensity are also the areas of ongoing or suspended conflict. The emergence of peace and security is therefore an essential ingredient in tackling the poppy problem."

The government of President Thein Sein, in power since March 2011, has reached cease-fire agreements with many of the ethnic minority rebel groups that had

fought central government for decades, but full resolution of the conflicts is some way off.

Sit Aye, legal adviser to Thein Sein, said in February that the government wanted to wipe out the opium problem by 2014.

Neighboring Laos has also seen an increase in cultivation. The UNODC report estimated that land dedicated to growing poppies jumped 66 percent from the 2011 season. But output in Laos, at 41 tons, pales in comparison to that of Burma.

The vast majority of regional demand comes from China, helped by porous borders in the country's

southwest. China accounts for more than 70 percent of all heroin consumption in East Asia and the Pacific. The number of registered users has risen at least 22 percent since 2002, standing at 1.1 million by 2010, according to UNODC.

With China's demand for opium increasing and driving up production in Southeast Asia, it is becoming ever more important for governments to find realistic ways to curb cultivation and bring farmers out of poverty, Lewis said.

"Eradication alone is not the answer," he said. "The real answer is to provide sustainable alternative livelihoods."

Burma Rejects Call for Asean Ministerial Meeting

SINGAPORE - Burma has rejected calls for a special Asean foreign ministerial meeting to address resumed violence between its majority Buddhist and minority Muslim communities, Malaysia's state-run Bernama news agency reported Tuesday evening. Asean Secretary-General Surin Pitsuwan told reporters, during a visit to Malaysia, that Burma did not give its consent for the meeting, which was proposed amid concerns that a widening of the conflict in the western part of the country could destabilize the whole of Southeast Asia. "I have written to the foreign ministers of Asean, urging them to meet and address the Rohingya issue," Surin was quoted as saying. He said Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, the current Asean chair, agreed with him and issued a letter calling for a meeting on the matter. "But it was not a consensus. Myanmar believes that it's an internal matter," Surin said. He said he has cautioned Burma that "your internal matter could be ours the next day if you are not careful." (Kyodo)

Clinic Nurse

with International SOS (Cambodia)

International SOS is the world's leading international healthcare, medical and security assistance, and concierge Services Company. Operating in over 70 countries, International SOS provides integrated medical, clinical, security, and customer care solutions to organizations with international operations. A global team of over 8,000 employees led by 970 full-time physicians and 200 security specialists provides services including planning, preventative programmes, in-country expertise and emergency response to 66 percent of the Fortune Global 500 companies. Our International Clinic in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, is currently looking for a dynamic talented individual who is willing to take challenges and fill the position of Clinic Nurse.

Core Responsibilities

- Provide the highest possible level of nursing care consistent with international standards
- Patient assessment and monitoring
- Plan and implement patient care program
- Prioritize health problems and intervene appropriately to assist the patient in complex, urgent or emergency situations, including initiation of effective emergency care
- Maintain and process patients' records and report patients' conditions to doctors/physicians
- Attend ongoing training as required to maintain updated on skills and knowledge of best nursing practices
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Key Requirements

- A degree in nursing or related fields
- At least 1 year experience in nursing
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- Team player and ability to work in a culturally-diverse working environment

Interested applicants meeting the above requirements should send their CV, a cover letter, and copies of degrees, certificates, and other relevant documents to the below address no later than 23 Nov 2012. Application sent through email please state "clinic nurse" in the subject of your email; otherwise, your application may not reach us.

Contact Details: International SOS (Cambodia) Ltd

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Strategic Talent Management

Course Objectives

All organizations need to better value their people, recruit the best, train and develop talents and above all keep them happy at work so that they will stay longer to deliver exceptional results. This seminar will

Seminar Contents

- What is Talent Management?
- Assessing the Organization
- Recruiting and Selecting Talents
- Talent Training and Development
- Leading Talents
- Talent Retention Programs

Who Should Attend

This course is designed for CEOs, business owners, senior managers who value people as the most important asset and wish to more effectively recruit, develop and maintain their talents in order to increase their productivity of the company or organization.

Date: 10 November, 2012

Venue: Hotel/Restaurant (Phnom Penh)

Time: 8 am to 5 pm

Language: Khmer

Duration: 1 day

Fee: USD 75 (Exclude any taxes)

The fee includes: Lunch, Refreshments,

Seminar materials and Certificate of Participation

Trainer Profile



Mr. Pech Bolene has had 15 years experience in management. He started his management career at a very young age of 17 as a branch manager. From 1997 to 2008, Mr. Bolene managed more than 1,000 employees for one of the biggest educational institutions at that time. Now Mr. Bolene is a very successful entrepreneur, investor, and Chief Executive Officer. He's currently the Chairman & CEO of Westline Education Group, and an Investor in Education, Media, Training and Research companies. He manages and invests in the following schools and

companies:

- The Westline School, The Namline School and
- Educational Development Institute (Training, Business Consulting, Project Development, Recruitment, and Research) and other businesses.



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