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Essay 1: July 1 (1 lecture from BOT)

There were many graphs showed about the situation in CLMV. And to know that, Economics and Politics could not separate from the past even until now. So, the CLMV's economic development was impact by political stability too. To understand the political system for example Myanmar uses a multi-party democratic system, Laos and Vietnam use single-party system and Cambodia uses a multi-party democratic system. We had to read the news and follow what's going on nowadays.

To understand the soft power that China use was also important. Normally, I heard about the soft power from South Korea through their K-pop but now, China uses Asian link railway project as their tool to connect each countries with them.

I was quite surprised with the role of BOT as the financial sector development to facilitate trade and investment. They did better than I thought such as enhance cross border payment services, this was quite useful for people who had to use.

In my opinion, the topic was hard enough to understand but the guest speaker's English skill made it even harder. I did not try to judge anybody but this was the conclusion after I discussed with the fellow students.

In the afternoon, Ajarn Kiriya taught about the helpful tool that we can use through the internet. This was the worst section of all time because we did the same task for the whole 2 hours without doing or learning another things. It was like wasting our time, really it was like that literally.

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Essay 2: July 3 (1 lecture from Aj.Chol)

I like Ajarn Chol Bunnag class a lot. It was the first time I heard about SDGs from my whole life. SDGs comes from the full word of Sustainable Development Goals.

We learnt about the SDGs status of each country in CLMV including Thailand. I think it was an important thing that people always ignore it. It showed the quality of life we live. If we could eliminate negative externalities in the society, we would have strong sustainability in a long-run for the next generation.

Ajarn Chol showed us three pillars of sustainability which consisted of society, economy and environment and moved on to the Agenda 2030 , it was the set of UN's development goals to indicate how sustainability each region are.

To know about www.sdindex.org was something I could not find if I learnt from the text book alone. This was an useful website to show SDGs state in the shape of dashboard which was easy to understand when you looked at it. There was a direction to show the increasing and decreasing rate of SDGs.

The activities that Ajarn Chol gave impacts such a positive effect to us. He let us choose a country. We chooses Vietnam, out destination next week to be country for doing the research and find the academic research to analyze how it was lead to the 17 global goals. We classified it and put it into the PowerPoint. Presenting the summary of research and the connect of it to the global goals. Some of the research may link more than 1 global goals. Ajarn said that some might link all 17 global goals if we could find.

Ajarn told us if we forgot to add some global goals kindly. For my group, we could find 16 global goals and lacked one of the number 2 ; Zero hunger. It was hard to fins goal

number two while we had limited time to spend. Fortunately, Ajarn said that we followed what he ordered so, he was quite pleased with our presentation.

Without this activity, I might not remember any single of global goals indeed but here, after I finished it with my group, I thought I could remember some of them.

Essay 3: July 4 (lectures from Dr.Amornthep)

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This is one of the best guest speaker for the time being. Dr.Amornthep could classified each topics he taught and expressed it clearly. He let us think why should we invest in Laos and it could state here, Laos has cheap labor, land connects with China, has a lot of natural resources, has tax negotiation with EU and also tax benefit for investors who want to invest in Laos.

Dr.Amornthep talked about the fact that there were more Chinses people in the capital city of Laos because the tax benefit that Laos offered. I have never been in Laos but I could a kind of imagine how a city of Laos full of Chinses more than their own people. It had two sides to look at for the good side and bad side for this action. Before, I took course, I felt like it was too risky to invest in an undeveloped country like Laos but after _____ ?

We had the activities of brainstorming which industries should invest in Laos. One of fellow student gave an interesting answer, he said that we should invest in beauty industry for example, Salon and gave such a reasonable reason why. It was because Laos people like to watch Thai TV drama and when they look at Thai actress's beauty. It turned out that they would like to be beautiful like them. I was totally agree with him because Laos people was truly consume that kind of behavior.

In the afternoon section, Dr.Amornthep let us do a debate event. He divided us into 2 sides. The first side would represent Laos and the second side would represent Vietnam. I belonged to the Vietnam side, my group helped each other to find the strength and weakness of Vietnam in term of why the investors should invest in our country. We found the strength to show Laos side how good we were and find the weakness to counterattack Laos.

This was very fun to look two sides fought with each other. Some of my friend joined the mouth battle with honors. Some had the property as the umbrella to use while they were acting. And some who were not good at speaking still tried hard to speak for the team.

Eventually, there was no right or wrong for the facts we have said. However, the investors would select the country they would like to invest on their own. It depended on the type and their goal for the industry to step in.

Essay 4: July 5 (trip reaction to Chonburi)

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The journey started at 7.00 AM. , we arrived at Thai German Institute on time. To meet with the Executive officer who talked about this institute. He said that Thai German Institute brought all the knowledges from Germany. Everybody who learns with them would have a chance to practice with the prepared equipment ,not just study from the academic books like in the other places. And they also claimed themselves as the nonprofit company.

I listened to the main goal of them, they said that they would like improve Thai labor to have more skills because 20 years ago, there were a lot of foreigner inverters came to Thailand so, Thai government would like to offer skilled labor to these investors.

Hence, Thai German Institute provide a small course for maximum 15 persons to develop in technology skills. They have 80 technicians and around 100 people who do the supportive works.

To tell you the truth, I think the important part of this trip was due to the Q&A section. Both Ajarn and my fellow students asked the questions that lead to some useful answers. One of the question was how different between the course in Thai German Institute and Technical school. Executive officer answered about how problematic Technical school have. They are not effective and their equipment are broken almost all while Executive officer provides qualified equipment from Germany and also give certification when students finish the course. Thai German Institute set themselves in the higher position and they believe that even their course is around 7,000-12,000 baht , they still attract people who are interested in the knowledge they have.

One more interesting thing, Executive officer said that in the market, each company does not want Bachelor degree like everyone understands. These companies prefer people who know how to use the equipment and work in their companies well. That's something we 're lack in this industry.

Especially people who graduate from the Technical school seem to have more problem than people who graduated from top-ranked university. So, there will be only middle and large company size which come to take course. They are the one who know how to adjust from time to time and they will be the only small group who survive in the future. Show that more than 99 percent, companies send their workers to study from them while just 1 percent comes from student's will to learn.

After we had lunch in the canteen, we moved on to the next stop at VISTEC. From the first step until last, I still not understood why we had to visit here. It was something that not relate to CLMV or Thai economy at all.

We just listen to the introduction of VISTEC which is for people who want to study master degree or doctoral degree. It's belong to PTT group who give funds and all support to Thai new stars. The speaker introduced how good VISTC is and show the location and nice area around. We even visit the projects from their student hard working.

After that, we went home and arrived at Thammasat University at 19.00 PM. All Ajarns went to Pattaya for another meeting.