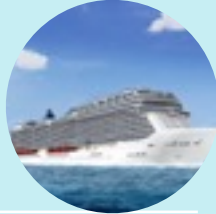




NEWSLETTER

Ships companies and ships linked to us:



We are working with 20 shipping companies, and have 777 men and 166 women on ships, a total of 943 crew and staff under management.

We welcome:

Surya Bahadur Tamang
Bikram Shrestha
Barden Gurung
Ishwor Gurung
Raj Bahadur Gurung
Basanta Bahadur Ghimire
Bijay Gurung
Bimal Gurung
Dinesh Thapa
Jeewan Gurung
Krishna Baruwal
Manoj Gurung
Nabin Gurung
Niraj Malla
Parjwol Gurung
Punkaj Ale
Sitaram Nepal
Sumit Gurung



MARINA



MARINA

We publish this month a photograph Marina of Oceania Cruise.

If you have pictures or postcards of your ship, please send them in to us for future Newsletters.

GI (HK) BUSINESS

We are providing security services for 27 Hong Kong Clients and have 84 security staff employed.



Content

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- World Security p.3-7
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- Hong Kong News p.11-12
- Conclusion p.13



WORLD SECURITY

Economics

The talks between the US and China on trade are proceeding as I write; there are now hopes that a trade war will be averted, and markets are already rising. There is no news of note to relate at the moment.

Nuclear

There have been no developments, either in **North Korean** or **Iran**.

Europe

Tension remains high between **Russia** and **NATO**, and between Russia and the **Ukraine**.

The government of the **United Kingdom** has failed to come up with a solution to the withdrawal of the country from the EU. Only until 29 March, the planned exit date, remains. A man was shot dead by dissident Irish republicans in front of his partner and 11-year-old child in Belfast in Northern Ireland.

In **Italy** a right-wing gunman shot and injured 6 African asylum seekers in Mascerata.

Russia - 5 people were killed and 5 injured in a shooting carried out by an Islamic State militant at a Christian church in Kizlyar, Russia. The attacker was killed by police officers.

THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE ARAB WORLD

Conflict continues in **Syria**, **Libya** and **Yemen** with many attacks and large numbers of casualties. **Iraq** continues to suffer a large number of terrorist attacks.

The blockade of **Qatar** by Saudi Arabia and its allies drags on.

Turkey

3 soldiers were killed and 7 wounded in attacks carried out by the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) near the Iraq border. 2 civilians were killed and 19 injured after nine rockets were fired from Syria in the city of Kilis and the district of Reyhanlı.

Egypt

3 security force members were killed and 5 injured by a roadside bomb in the north of the Sinai Peninsula.

Palestine

An Israeli was stabbed to death in a terror attack at a bus station outside the West Bank settlement of Ariel. A security guard was lightly wounded in a stabbing attack in the settlement of Karmeit Tzur in Gush Etzion. The attacker was killed. An explosive device wounded 4 Israeli soldiers near the border fence with the Gaza Strip.

Algeria

5 soldiers were killed and 2 wounded in an explosion in Tebessa province near the Tunisian border. 2 soldiers were killed and 1 wounded in a terrorist attack in the municipality of Djellal.

ASIA

Tension continues in both the South China Sea around the **Spratly and Paracel** Islands and in the Sea of Japan around islands held by **Japan** but claimed by **China** and **South Korea**.

Afghanistan and Pakistan

Violence remains widespread in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Thailand

3 people were wounded when a bomb exploded near a school in Yala's Yaha district. Six bomb blasts in the Pattani province injures 9 people, including the Yaring district chief. 3 female students and 3 local security volunteers were injured when a bomb exploded near a primary school in the Mueang Yala district in Yala province.

The Philippines

2 civilians were killed and 4 wounded by Abu Sayyaf in Sulu. Abu Sayyaf militants killed a soldier and wounded 2 others in a firefight in Patikul in the Philippine province of Sulu; 2 terrorists were killed. A soldier and a rebel of the New People's Army were killed in a shootout in the municipality of Sergio Osmeña Sr. in the province of Zamboanga del Norte. 5 soldiers were injured in a roadside bombing in Datu Unsay, Maguidanao. 6 members of the Special Action Force were wounded in an attack by New People's Army rebels in Barangay San Jose in Antipolo. 2 police officers were wounded after two improvised explosive devices exploded in Baras in the province of Rizal. 5 soldiers and 3 civilians were wounded in an ambush by members of the New People's Army in General Luna, Quezon province.

Indonesia

A knife-wielding attacker wounded 4 church-goers in Yogyakarta, before being shot by police. Armed separatists shot dead an Indonesian soldier during a gunfight at a market in Sinak in the Puncak Jaya regency in the Indonesian province of Papua.

India

Kashmir remains disturbed and terrorist attacks continue in many rural areas of India, almost on a daily basis, causing many casualties.

Myanmar

A bomb exploded at a bank in the city of Lashio in northern Myanmar, killing at least 2 people and injuring 22. Three bombs exploded in Sittwe, the capital of Myanmar's Rakhine state, slightly injuring a police officer.

The Malacca Straits

There is no news this month of piracy in the area.

AFRICA

Somalia

There are no reports this month of Somali piracy. Fighting continues in the country between the government and its foreign allies and Islamic militant al-Shabaab fighters, with many civilian casualties in terrorist attacks.

Kenya

4 people, including 3 teachers, were killed and 1 injured when Al-Shabaab militants attacked Qarsa Primary School in Wajir County.

Boko Haram Sunni Muslim terrorists continue to attack military and civilian targets in **Nigeria**, causing many casualties this month.

Chad

2 soldiers were killed in a Boko Haram ambush in the Lac region.

Mali

At least 4 civilians were killed by Islamists in the Gao region of northern Mali. Jihadists killed 2 soldiers in a series of coordinated attacks on police stations and barracks. 5 civilians were killed and another 18 wounded in central Mali when their passenger vehicle struck a landmine. 2 soldiers from France's counter-terrorism force in West Africa were killed and another was hurt when their vehicle struck a landmine in northeast Mali. 6 soldiers were killed by an improvised explosive device about 7 km east of Dioura in the Ségou region. A terrorist killed a water and forestry officer in Douentza. 4 UN peacekeepers were killed and 4 wounded after their vehicle hit an explosive device in Mali's central Mopti region.

Cameroon

At least 2 civilians were killed in an attack by the terror group Boko Haram in Kolofata of Cameroon's Far North region. 6 people were killed and 2 injured in the town of Hitawa by Boko Haram. At least 6 people were killed and 5 injured in a Boko Haram attack in the department of Mayo Tsanaga. Boko Haram terrorists killed 6 people in different attacks in Cameroon's Far North region. At least 4 people were killed in two suicide bombings by Boko Haram in the localities of Bourvare and Goumouldi, in the north of Cameroon; 6 were injured.

Democratic Republic of Congo

3 people were killed in an attack on a hospital by Ugandan Muslim rebels of the ADF. 5 people were killed and 1 injured in an ADF attack on the locality of Ngite. 5 people were killed and 8 injured by Ugandan Islamist rebels in the Beni territory.

Civil conflict continues in **South Sudan**.

THE AMERICAS

Venezuela continues its slide into poverty and anarchy.

Colombia

Terrorists threw a grenade at a house in Ituango and killed a 3-year-old girl. Attacks were made on bridges, roads, railways, pipelines and electricity lines. A peasant leader was shot dead for paramilitaries for the Autodefensas Gaitanistas de Colombia in Taraza, Antioquia Department. A soldier was killed by guerrillas of the National Liberation Army (ELN) in the municipality of Valdivia, in the department of Antioquia. Terrorists killed a policeman and injured 3 civilians in the capital of Arauca. Two oil wells were blown up in the department of Casanare in Colombia. In the department of Norte de Santander terrorist detonated explosives along the Caño Limón–Coveñas pipeline. A bomb exploded in the Paloquemao sector of Bogotá. 1 police officer was killed and 1 injured in an attack by dissidents of the former Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in the municipality of Puerto Rico in the department of Meta. 3 Venezuelans died in the municipality of Tibú, department of Norte de Santander, in an attack by the ELN. At least 5 soldiers were killed and 13 wounded in a bomb attack against a Colombian army caravan in a rural area of the city of Cucuta, bordering Venezuela. 1 soldier was killed and 4 injured in an assault by the ELN in the rural area of Convención.

Ecuador

2 soldiers were injured in an attack by dissidents of the former Colombian FARC guerrilla against Ecuadorian soldiers on the border with Colombia.

Bolivia

12 people were killed and 50 others injured in two bomb attacks in the Bolivian city of Oruro.

NEPAL NEWS

Economic diplomacy with RoK: For a prosperous Nepal

Economic diplomacy is an essential part of Nepal's foreign policy. After the promulgation of the long-awaited constitution, completion of the three-tier elections and formulation of policies, the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal is now urging global investors to invest here for the country's economic development. Nepal's first ever participation in the World Economic Forum (WEF) has promoted Nepal's desire to attract global investment to achieve sharp and simultaneous economic growth in all sectors. It is hoped that the upcoming International Investment Summit in March 2019 and Visit Nepal Year 2020 would draw more global participation in Nepal's economic development to achieve "Prosperous Nepal and Happy Nepali". In this context, it can be useful to discuss Nepal's bilateral relationship with one of the top five

investors in Nepal, the Republic of Korea (Korea). Having lived there for more than 20 years, my views on the bilateral issues may be supportive in determining how both the countries can benefit.



This way, both countries can harness significant economic benefit through economic cooperation. In addition, a highest level visit between the two countries would further pave the way for "Prosperous Nepal and Happy Nepali".

Source: The Himalayan Times

One Dead, Two Injured In Nepal Bomb Blast



A man died and two were injured in a bomb attack outside a telecom company office in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepali police said Saturday.

The explosion occurred on Friday outside the office of private telecom company Ncell in Lalitpur district.

Nepal has enjoyed a relatively peaceful

environment since the end of a decade-long civil war which concluded with a peace deal struck in 2006.

"One victim died while undergoing treatment, the other two are recovering in the hospital," Nepal Police spokesman Uttam Raj Subedi told AFP.

The blast shattered windows of other buildings in the area.

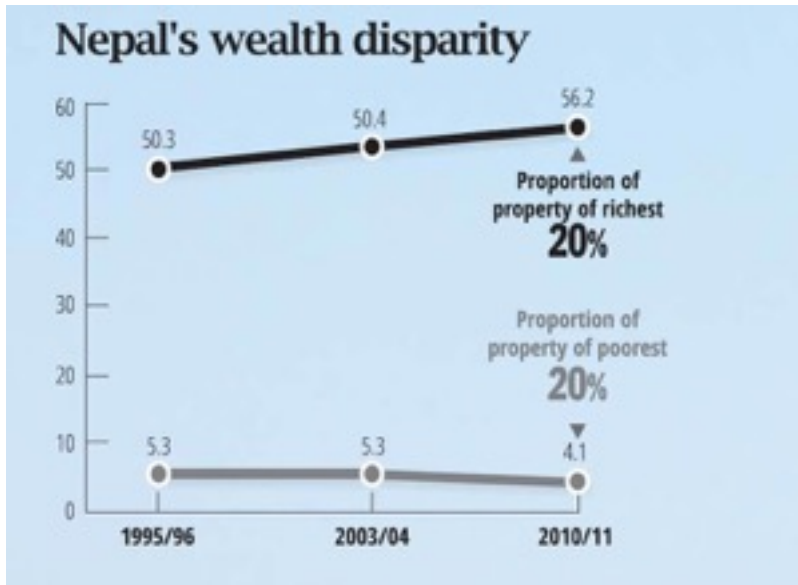
There was no immediate claim of responsibility but police have arrested six people. Mr Subedi said that there were reports of arson attacks on other Ncell towers in the country and that a police investigation was underway.

Ncell, Nepal's largest private telecom company, is part of Malaysia-based Axiata Group Berhad.

Source: NDTV

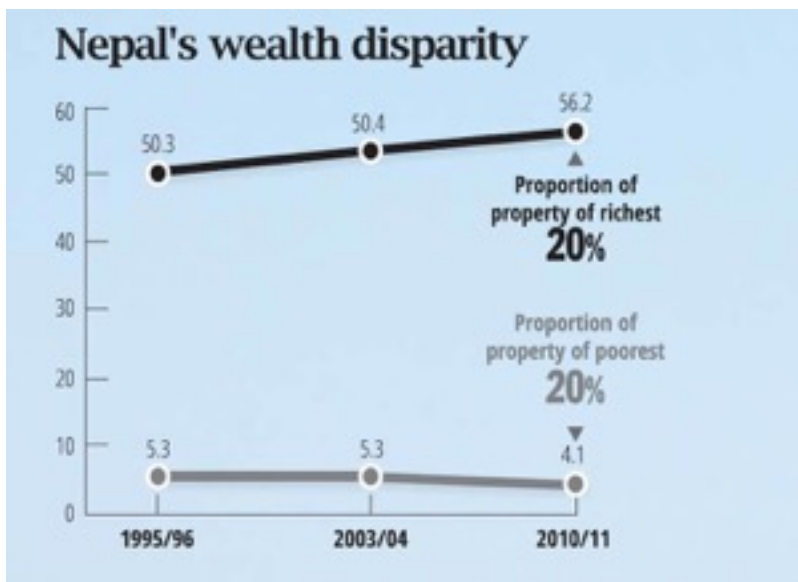
Nepal's great income divide

Nepal's growing income disparity is pushing the country towards instability and conflict



It may seem like a contradiction: Nepal's poverty rate has dropped from 42% to 21% in two decades, but the gap between the richest and poorest Nepalis has widened considerably.

While remittances from Nepali workers abroad has helped reduce overall poverty, 10% of rich Nepalis now own property worth an astounding 26 times more than the 40% of the poorest. The income gap has also become wider: earnings of the top 10% of richest Nepalis has grown three times more than the poorest 40%



To be sure, it is impossible to make everyone rich, and there will always be inequality in society because of individual capacity and ability. But an unnatural imbalance in wealth and income can lead to resentment, and be a precursor to social conflict.

Nepal's Maoists waged an armed struggle from 1996-2006 arguing that the 'objective conditions' for revolution were ripe due to inequality, social injustice and discrimination. However, 13 years after the war ended, and with the former guerrillas having been elected to government multiple times, Nepal is more unequal than ever.

Source: [Nepali Times](#)

HONG KONG NEWS

As China tightens its grip on Hong Kong, Taiwan emerges as Asia's hub for foreign media

The choice to set up shop in Taiwan over Hong Kong is significant: long the preference for Asian editing desks, Hong Kong's status as a journalism hub is facing an uncertain future after kicking out its first foreign journalist, Financial Times Asia news editor Victor Mallet.

Deutsche Welle's decision is also an indication that Taiwan, long overshadowed by its relationship to China, might finally be getting more international recognition.

Foreign media outlets are slowly, but surely, expanding their presence in what is one of Asia's only liberal democracies.

Still 'less than a country'

On social media, commentary surrounding Taiwan often focuses on how it contrasts with other parts of the Chinese world, particularly Hong Kong, where many observers note legal and political freedoms are dwindling ahead of the "One Country, Two Systems" principle expiring in 2047.

Many news outlets, however, still decline to refer to Taiwan as a "country" as the United Nations does not recognize it as such and Beijing claims it as a province under the One China policy.

[Source: Hong Kong Free Press](#)

Hong Kong chief Carrie Lam blasts claim that new immigrants from China are burdening health system

Chief Executive Carrie Lam has said that Hong Kong people should not adopt an exclusionary attitude over immigrants, amid claims new arrivals are putting a strain upon the city's healthcare resources.



Under the one-way permit scheme, 150 people can move to Hong Kong from the mainland each day. The Hong Kong government has no power to vet who can come. Some activists and medical staff at overburdened facilities have been complaining that new immigrants are significant users of the public healthcare system, though no official records are kept.

‘Bursting point’

Lawmaker Claudia Mo criticised Lam as saying that she used the term “exclusionary” in order to ignore the core of the controversy surrounding the one-way permit scheme.

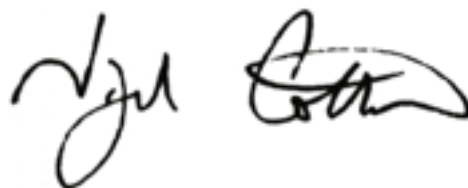
“We are not repelling new immigrants. Our medical professionals have been saying that even if the service is at bursting point, they would not act any less professionally because of skin colour, background or race of patients,” she said. “The issue is about the number of one-way permit holders. Hong Kong cannot sustain that number – we cannot have 150 people coming to Hong Kong every day,” she said. “We are not saying we oppose family reunions entirely – we never said that, because we also believe it is a kind of human right.”

Source: [Hong Kong Free Press](#)

Conclusion

As you can see from the accounts of terrorist activity that I outline above, Islamic violence is spreading this year in Africa (now engulfing Cameroon, Mali and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as the other countries of the region that had begun to suffer over the last few years), in Asia (the Philippines and Thailand) and in the Middle East and North Africa. The collapse of society in Venezuela has caused violence to spill over into Ecuador and has worsened the deteriorating security situation in Colombia. The old areas of conflict (Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen, Somalia) remain lawless and violent. The year has in truth got off to a bad start.

ISIS/ISIL may be almost completely destroyed in Syria, but its members and allies have taken root elsewhere. Remember this, keep your eyes open and help stop this violence coming to your ship, your passengers and your colleagues.



Nigel Collett
Managing Director