

# Duterte didn't really mean "separation" from U.S., Philippine officials say

Philippine officials sought on Friday to play down comments by President Rodrigo Duterte who announced his "separation" from the United States a day earlier, saying their country will maintain U.S. trade and economic ties.

Duterte made his comments in Beijing, where he was paving the way for what he calls a new commercial alliance as relations with long-time ally Washington deteriorate.

He told Chinese and Philippine business people at a forum in the Great Hall of the People that America had "lost now".

"I've realigned myself in your ideological flow and maybe I will also go to Russia to talk to Putin and tell him that there are three of us against the world - China, Philippines and Russia. It's the only way."

"With that, in this venue, your honours, in this venue, I announce my separation from the United States. Both in military, not maybe social, but economics also."

Duterte's efforts to engage China, months after a tribunal in the Hague ruled that Beijing did not have historic rights to the South China Sea in a case brought by the previous administration in

Manila, marks a reversal in foreign policy since the 71-year-old former mayor took office on June 30.

Trade Minister Ramon Lopez sought to explain Duterte's comments.

"Let me clarify. The president did not talk about separation," Lopez told CNN Philippines in Beijing.

"In terms of economic (ties), we are not stopping trade, investment with America. The president specifically mentioned his desire to strengthen further the ties with China and the ASEAN region which we have been trading with for centuries," he said, referring to the Association of South East Asian Nations.

He said the Philippines was "breaking being too much dependent on one side".

"But we definitely won't stop the trade and investment activities with the West, specifically the U.S."

Duterte's spokesman, Ernesto Abella, said the president's announcement was a "restatement" on his bid to chart an independent foreign policy.

Duterte wanted to "separate the nation from dependence on the U.S. and the West and rebalance economic and military relations with Asian neighbours" like China, Japan and South Korea, Abella said in statement. Underscoring that, the

Chinese and Philippines defence ministers meet in Beijing on the sidelines of Duterte's visit, and pledged to restore security ties, China's Defence Ministry said.

ANTI-U.S. PROTEST  
Duterte's tone towards China is in stark contrast to the language he has used against the United States, after being infuriated by U.S. criticism of his bloody war on drugs.

He has called U.S. President Barack Obama a "son of a bitch" and told him to "go

to hell". On Wednesday, about 1,000 anti-U.S. protesters gathered outside the U.S. Embassy in Manila calling for the removal of U.S. troops from a southern island.

Hundreds of left-wing demonstrators burned a replica of the U.S. flag at a rally in Manila on Friday as they called for an end to U.S. military agreements.

The United States, a former colonial power, has seen Manila as an important ally in its "rebalance" to Asia in the face of a rising China.

## Aggressive retail plan for Honor in Gujarat

**Ahmedabad:** Honor, Huawei's smartphone e-brand for digital natives, launched its first 'Make in India' phone Honor Holly 3 along with latest flagship Honor 8 and Honor 8 Smart. The company's first 'Make in India' smartphone, Honor Holly 3 launched in black, white and gold colors at an attractive price of Rs. 9,999 which is exclusively available at Flipkart and Amazon along with the Honor store.



with a 13MP rear and 8MP front camera for faithful color representation. Honor's is committed to further its Make in India commitment and plans to concentrate on further manufacture in India.

Honor has become aggressive as they are re-vamping their retail structure in Gujarat with over 30 distributors it has reached out to 1000 outlets and aims to reach 1500 by the end of this month. It has a reach of over 29 districts in Gujarat. Being is an important market for Honor it plans to open an exclusive service centre in Gujarat by the end of the year to further it plans to expand its reach and reaffirm its commitment to the market. (19-10)

## LANXESS wins ICC award for Responsible Care and Efficient Waste Management



**Ahmedabad:** LANXESS India Private Limited, a fully owned subsidiary of LANXESS AG, a global specialty chemicals company, has been acknowledged for its exceptional work for Responsible Care and Efficient Waste Management for the year 2015.

In a felicitation event held in Mumbai on 30th September, 2016, LANXESS India was conferred with two awards - I.C.C. Aditya Birla Award For Best Responsible Care Committed Company and I.C.C. Certificate of Merit For Efficient Waste Management. Dr. Jacques Perez, Managing Director and Country Representative, received the award on behalf of LANXESS India in the presence of other dignitaries from the chemical industry at a gala event.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Perez said, "We thank the ICC jury for recognizing the continued and sustained efforts of LANXESS India in offering products & solutions to address global megatrend challenges while contributing positively to the environment and society. Receiving such a prestigious award also reflects our commitment to Responsible Care." (1-7)

## MOBIL LAUNCHES MIS-SION MECHANIC UNNATI

**New Delhi,** ExxonMobil Lubricants Pvt Ltd has launched Mechanic Unnati - a market-focused program aimed at the development of commercial vehicle mechanics in India.

The program will be run between October 1 and December 31 this year, on a pan-national basis.

Mechanic Unnati is structured as a rewards and incentive program to recognize every mechanic's individual contribution. The top 50 mechanics chosen according to the program's guiding parameters will then receive training on new generation engine technologies, and their workshops could be upgraded to become Mobil Service Centres.

Mechanic Unnati's philosophy is aligned with the Government of India's Skilling India and the Automotive Mission Plan 2016, which highlights that availability of trained manpower will be a key factor

in the growth of the Indian automotive sector - one of the largest and fastest growing in the world.

Mr. Deepankar Banerjee, the newly-appointed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ExxonMobil's lubricants business in India, said at the program's launch on 1 October 2016, "There are many opportunities for growth in India. ExxonMobil, which markets lubricants under its Mobil brand, sees many opportunities for the development of expertise and people in the automotive sector. We are excited to bring our product technology leadership and expertise to support this growth. We believe in synergies through world class partnerships with leading original equipment manufacturers and component builders, and also in developing local human capital. The Mechanic Unnati program is also a reaffirmation of our commitment to our end-customers and consumers." (19-8)

## Authored article by Drew Johnson, Investigative journalist, The Daily Caller, Washington DC

In November, the India Expo Centre in Noida will host a collection of some of the world's most prominent government public health, finance and trade officials, as they discuss ways to curb global tobacco use. Unfortunately, even though the meeting is funded by taxpayers and is supposedly open to anyone who wants to attend, the media and the public will almost certainly be banned.

Every two years, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations' public health agency, holds the meeting, which acts as a parliament of 180 countries to discuss and ratify tobacco control measures including global tobacco taxes, rules on cigarette packaging and advertising, and regulations that impact vaping and e-cigarettes.

While the event, the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Conference of the Parties (COP), operates with the laudable goal of decreasing harm from smoking, there is an increasing sense of paranoia that has gripped the event. The WHO clearly wants to operate the event in a manner that ensures the public never knows about discussions and votes that take place at the COP - even though those discussions and votes impact billions of people around the world. (20)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Tackling Air Pollution

Today in the name of development that the urbanization and industrialization is taking place hastily is a problem than solution for human misery. It echoes the grave concern of each and every urban living Indian. Unplanned and haphazard urbanisation is the root cause for all the pollution related problems. The green building movement is an attempt to minimize and eliminate negative impacts and maximize environmental, economic and community/human benefits. Constructing green buildings effectively reduce air pollution through reduced energy use, the use of appropriate refrigerants, and the use of materials with low off-gassing and other steps. The reduction in use of fossil fuels at the building site also results in lower air pollution contributions at the site, while reduction in electricity use results in lower air pollution associated with power plants. It is clear that if a builder is constructing a green building, he can jump the queue waiting for an environmental clearance.

Vinod C. Dixit - Ahmedabad

## Mangala Oil Field crosses the mark of 300 MMBBLS

Leveraging the latest technologies has been the prime mover behind Cairn India Limited's contribution to domestic oil production. The company operates ~27% of India's domestic crude oil production and has yet again proven its technological capabilities as Mangala Oil Field in Rajasthan crosses the mark of 300 MMBBLS of cumulative production.

Mangala along with the Bhagyam, Aishwariya and Raageshwari oil and gas fields make up the Rajasthan block, where Cairn India's ambitious Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) program, the world's largest Polymer EOR project, is being implemented to help arrest natural decline and maintain production. Cairn India's trust with the best of technologies

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## A step towards towering Air Pollution with- HAWA BADLO

**Ahmedabad:** 2016 looks like the rise of a new India, which has finally awoken against the bad air and determined to change the air they live in. HAWA BADLO is a collective measure against air pollution, an initiative to spread awareness about towering air pollution and hazardous drop in air quality index and the measures to fight the same.

With the intention to make the country's air more breathable, this initiative has been taken by independent people's movement, to help the group, in building a sustainable environment for the

young India. HAWA BADLO campaign has initiated the movement from the capital city of Delhi to set the national example for every metro city in the country to follow. The movement also aims to create awareness against the air pollution which apparently happens to be 5th largest killer in India.

The movement already in its interim stages has witnessed various activities such as Gift A Mask and help the worst Victims of Air Pollution - Traffic Police, Raavankoroko: and multiple videos. (4-5)

## Dr Ketan Desai alarms over political onslaught on medical autonomy



**Ahmedabad:** A strong warning about continued political attempts around the world to marginalize autonomy and self-governance of the medical profession, including mauling and trampling on the trinity of professional autonomy, clinical independence and self-governance.

Dr. Ketan Desai, a former President of the Indian Medical Association, was delivering his inaugural speech as President of the WMA at the Association's annual Assembly in Taiwan.

He told delegates from more than 40 national medical associations: "In many countries like Turkey, India, and the United Kingdom, there are continued political attempts to undo or marginalize autonomy and self-governance of the medical profession, including mauling and trampling on the trinity of professional autonomy, clinical independence and self-governance."

"Yet professional autonomy is not limited to asking for the privilege to do what we want to do. It is less about physicians and more about patients' rights. It is the assurance that individual physicians have the freedom to exercise their professional judgment in the care and treatment of their patients without undue influence of any type from any quarter how so powerful and mighty they be." (19-10)

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 Regd. Office: 104, 105, 106, Chacharwadi, Vasna, Opp. Zydus Cadila, Sarkhej Bavia Highway, Changodar, Ahmedabad - 382 213.  
 Tel No: +91 79-26506030 Fax No: +91 79-26420408  
 Email: kaushik@pradiपोवर्सेस.com Website: www.pradiपोवर्सेस.com  
 CIN: L17290GJ2005PLC046345

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 Date: 21st October, 2016  
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## Islamic State attacks Kirkuk as Iraqi forces push on Mosul

Islamic State launched a major counter-attack on the city of Kirkuk on Friday as Iraqi and Kurdish forces pursued operations to seize territory around Mosul in preparation for an offensive on the jihadists' last major stronghold in Iraq.

Islamic State's assault on Kirkuk, which lies in an oil-producing region, killed 18 members of the security forces and workers at a power station outside the city, including two Iranians, a hospital source said.

Crude oil production facilities were not targeted and the power supply continued uninterrupted in the city. Kirkuk is located east of Hawija, a pocket still under control of Islamic State that lies between Baghdad and Mosul. With air and ground support from the U.S.-led coalition, Iraqi government forces captured eight villages south and southeast of Mosul. Kurdish forces attacking from the north and east also captured several villages, according to statements from their respective military commands overnight.

The offensive that started on Monday to capture Mosul is expected to become the biggest battle fought in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion in 2003. The United Nations says Mosul could require the biggest humanitarian relief operation in the world, with worst-case scenario forecasts of up to a million people being uprooted.

About 1.5 million residents are still believed to be inside Mosul. Islamic State has taken 550 families from villages around Mosul and is holding them close to IS locations in the city, probably as human shields, a spokeswoman for the U.N. human rights office said in Geneva.

The fighting has forced 5,640 people to flee their homes so far from the vicinity of the city, the International Organization for Migration said late on Thursday. The Turkish Red Crescent said it was sending aid trucks to northern Iraq with food and humanitarian supplies for 10,000 people displaced by fighting around Mosul.

A U.S. service member died on Thursday from wounds sustained in an improvised explosive device blast near the city.

Roughly 5,000 U.S. forces are in Iraq. More than 100 of them are embedded with Iraqi and Kurdish Peshmerga forces, advising commanders

and helping them ensure coalition air power hits the right targets, officials say.

However, the Kurdish military command complained that air support wasn't enough on Thursday.

"Regrettably a number of Peshmerga have paid the ultimate sacrifice for us to deliver today's gains against ISIL. Further, Global Coalition warplane and support were not as decisive as in the past," the Kurdish command said in a statement.

Prime Minister Haidar al-Abadi, addressing anti-Islamic State coalition allies meeting in Paris via video link, said the offensive was advancing more quickly than planned.

A senior Kurdish military official told Reuters the offensive by the Iraqi and Kurdish forces was moving steadily as they push into villages on the outskirts of Mosul.

But he expected the offensive to slow down once they approach the city itself, where Islamic State had built trenches, dug tunnels and might use civilians as human shields.

"I believe it will be more clear within the coming weeks once we get rid of those villages and we come closer to the city how quickly this war will end. If they (Islamic State) decide to defend the actual city then the process will slow down."

Once inside Mosul, Iraqi special forces would have to go from street to street and from neighbourhood to neighbourhood to clear explosives and booby traps, the official said.

Islamic State denied that government forces had advanced. Under the headline "The crusade on Nineveh gets a lousy start," the group's weekly online magazine Al-Naba said it repelled assaults on all fronts, killing dozens in ambushes and suicide attacks and destroying dozens of vehicles including tanks. In Kirkuk, Islamic State attacked several police buildings and a power station in the early hours of Friday and some of the attackers remained holed up in a mosque and an abandoned hotel.

The militants also cut the road between the city and the power station 30 km (20 miles) to the north. Several dozen took part in the assault, according to security sources who couldn't confirm a claim by Islamic State that it had taken a Kurdish police officer hostage.

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Place: Ahmedabad  
 Date: 22/10/2016

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