Have positive attitude to things

Ko Toe

Every country has their internal issues, many or few, to be addressed politically. Maybe a developed country with strong economy has only few such internal issues, but there is no country that does not have such issues. A developing country with racial issues and border incidents has a large number of internal issues to address. It is usual for a country to do so, and this concept remains true.

In this regard, every country has to cope with their domestic issues according to the objective situations. So, different nations have different ways to work out their internal issues, and they cannot ignore their problems. They try to serve the interest of their people with own ways, figuring out their local issues. Myanmar is one of such countries. Myanmar has risen from a variety of adversities it faced in last 20 years, restored stability and peace and ensured development to the present degree. Now, the country is putting huge efforts into the democratic process, as aspire by the people.

Today is Global Age, so any countries, large or small, cannot stand alone. Every country has to deal with the countries with which they share their borders, regional countries, international organizations and other countries. That is to say, international relations is of great importance. Here, the ways world countries deal with each other are different from one another, and the volumes of friendship and contacts between one country and another are various. I mean all countries ought to honour mutual respect for equality and international rules and regulations promulgated for international relations, but they should not disregard social affairs and due consideration.

Other countries give advice on means and ways to address the issue being faced by a country, which is very welcoming. And the country should take the advice. Here, the advice must be based on positive attitude. Instead if the advice is associated with racial issues and border incidents has a large number of internal issues to address. It is usual for a country to do so, and this concept remains true.

Today, certain powerful countries are doing the same, in viewing the issues Myanmar is facing. Some countries show their goodwill and stand on the right side, whereas some are putting blame on and denouncing Myanmar, voicing objections and imposing economic sanctions against the country with the intention of making things go as they wish. Myanmar has to welcome any forms of positive advice given with goodwill, respecting the law of the country. I do not think it is wise if several countries cooperating as a coalition punish and impose economic sanctions against a particular country in their interest. That is a means of expressing a targeted country with force. And it is an unjust way and one-sided relations without equality.

During and after the trial against Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Mr Yettaw, our country came under pressure put and attacks launched by elements inside and outside the country, which is common knowledge.

They claimed that the accused were charged, put on trial and punished according to the expired constitution, so the government took unjust action. In reality, the laws remain in force so long as the ruling government revokes and dissolves them and their provisions are not contrary to the present constitution. I do not want to make further clarification to that. Prison terms were sentenced to the accused as the legal proceedings are in conformity with the law and they were found guilty.

It is very welcoming that the Head of State commuted the terms with consideration. I would say it is positive attitude showed looking forward to positive results. All the four accused were somewhat privileged. The order carries other privileges they can enjoy if they abide by the restrictions put on them. Halves of the sentences are commuted, the other halves are suspended, and they can live in their home. Moreover, they can enjoy amnesty if they honour the rules. That is very encouraging for all.

However, certain elements are not complacent about the highest compliances, but the countries that understand the objective conditions of our country and compliances show their optimism about the issue and recognize the conditions. Whether the government can comply with the unfair demands or not rests on the law. Making demands for unconditional release of them ignoring that point is a way of opposing the law. They should understand that.

Another issue is Mr Yettaw’s case. In fact, he has to serve his terms in our country. But, at the request of US Senator Mr Jim Webb, the government commuted the sentence to him by half and deported him to his mother country. In that way, Myanmar showed her humanitarian attitude, respect to international relations and forbearance. So, that should be recognized as a respect showed to human rights without animosity but with genuine goodwill.

The release of Mr Yettaw reflects the government’s understanding and forgive and forget attitude based on personal affairs. And it also can be said that the government did what should be done within the framework of the law.

Although our country is acting in accordance with the law with constructive attitude, the West Bloc and certain countries are voicing that they will impose more economic sanctions and tighten economic sanctions. A country disclosed that it would launch one more Myanmar programme to help Myanmar people get involved in democracy movements, apart from present economic sanctions. I notice that they are imposing some more economic sanctions against Myanmar. Actually, that is not a positive approach to the Myanmar issue. All what they plan to do in that regard will harm no one except the country and the people. What is important is to take the public interest into consideration. Suppose they are really generous to our country, why are they trying to harm the public interest and development momentum of the nation? Only with necessary aid and relations with positive attitude, will it be possible for them to contribute to national development.

Anyhow, Myanmar will keep on working steadfastly according to the steps adopted to achieve the goal of democracy. The follow-up plans will also be implemented according to the law and procedures. Every citizen who is eligible according to the law and bye-laws will be able to participate in the proceedings. The nation will go on the foundations laid in accordance with the constitution.

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Translation: MS

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