Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw receives Ambassador of South Africa

Workshop on international IDEA’s ERM Tool held

Consumer Protection Law guarantees safe products, services to consumers

World Consumer Rights Day turns 54th on 15 March, 2014. The WCRD was first celebrated in Myanmar in 2013. There is a few consumers in Myanmar who know the important day established by the United Nations and their rights.

Without knowing our rights, we can’t protect ourselves.

The Consumer Protection Law was passed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (the Union Parliament) on March 14. The law is guaranteeing safe products and services, according to a copy obtained by the New Light of Myanmar.

In fact, the people ranging from the President to the street vendors are consumers. If there are consumers, there are rights for them. If there are consumers’ rights, there are consumer rights violations. To protect the consumer rights, there has existed, rules, associations and laws related to consumer rights.

Myanmar has seen high number of consumer rights violation in compared with other ASEAN countries and the country includes in the list of countries which have poor food safety. In Myanmar, the quality of products is decreasing, reaching dangerous level though the producers advertise the products at high costs.

In developed countries, not only producers but also models who act for advertising have to take responsibility for the quality of the products they advertised. They do not work just for money. Producers in Myanmar should send their products to market only when their family dare to eat their products. If they have sympathy for consumers, all the people will not suffer life-threatening diseases in the world.

---NLM
Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw receives Ambassador of South Africa

Nav Pyi Taw, 19 March—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received South African Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Robina Patricia Marks at Hluttaw building on Wednesday morning. Also present at the call were Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Commission member Daw Aye Aye Mu and officials of the Hluttaw office.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Soe Win and party visit Bangkok

Nav Pyi Taw, 19 March—A Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win met with Chief of Defence Force of the Royal Thai Armed Forces General Tanasak Yuthasak and Commander-in-Chief at Royal Thai Army General Prayut Chan-o-cha on Tuesday morning. They exchanged views on promotion of bilateral cooperation, peace and stability of borders, boundary measures, conducting of training courses, assistance for rescue and humanitarian tasks in natural disasters, activities of Thai Royal Armed Forces, cooperation among ASEAN Armed Forces and duty of UN peacekeeping troops.—Myawady

Union FM meets Director-General of WHO

Nav Pyi Taw, 19 March—Director-General of World Health Organization Mr. Thomas Cormier at his Ministry on Wednesday morning. Matters relating to the cooperation between Myanmar and WHO were discussed during the meeting.—MNA

Newly appointed officers to uphold Our Three Main National Causes: Commander-in-Chief

Nav Pyi Taw, 19 March—The newly appointed officers are to uphold Our Three Main National Causes, said Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Thayay Sithu Min Aung Hlaing at the commissioning ceremony for new officers of nurses/technicians at the convocation hall of Defence Services Medical Academy (DSMA) in Mingaladon Station in Yangon on Wednesday.

In his speech on the occasion the Commander-in-Chief said that the new officers have to pursue advanced nursing and medical sciences continuously to be able to join the tasks of building a modern, patriotic armed forces.

Workshop on international IDEA’s ERM Tool

Nav Pyi Taw, 19 March—A Workshop on Electoral Risk Management Tool (ERM Tool) was held at the respective military commands. Similar ceremonies were held at the respective military commands. At Mingaladon Airbase, the Commander-in-Chief stressed officials to place emphasis on the air defence, aviation control and air force capabilities after hearing the reports of the Commander of airbase.—Myawady

Slight earthquake jolts inside Myanmar

Nav Pyi Taw, 19 March—A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.0 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar about 20 miles north of Thabeikkyin, about 80 miles north of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 1 hrs 51 min 26 sec M.S.T Wednesday. Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced.

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE

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<th>Currency</th>
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<td>USD</td>
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<td>SGD</td>
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<td>Euro</td>
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Yangon Gold Price

Buying K 684.700 per tical: Selling K 685.400 per tical

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K 684.400 per tical: Selling K 685.400 per tical

Missionary of South Africa

Ambassador of South Africa receives Speaker of Hluttaw

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K 684.400 per tical: Selling K 685.400 per tical

Foreign Exchange Rate
Medium-term Budget Framework to be introduced under PFM Reform Strategy: President

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Financial Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held its No.2/2014 meeting at the Presidential Palace here this morning, attended by Chairman of Financial Commission President U Thein Sein. It was also attended by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kharn and U Nyan Tun, Union ministers, the Attorney-General of the Union, the Auditor-General of the Union, Region/State chief ministers and officials concerned.

In his opening speech, the President said that today’s meeting is aimed at discussing and approving the Union Budget for the 2014 FY and the Union Budget Bill for 2014 FY which are adjusted in conformity with revised National Planning Bill. Due to the revised Planning Bill, there were some changes and adjustments in capital expenditures for the projects. There were no much changes in total expenditures even though some departments have reductions in their revenue expenditures.

The Union Parliament has analyzed and cut unnecessary expenditures for State-run projects and made coordination with the Hluttaw Committee and the ministers concerned so as to use these expenditures in other projects in need. It means that the government is making preparations for its investments so as to effectively implement State-run projects, rural development tasks and prioritized sectors. Compared with the old figures, there was a decrease in revenue expenditures of K 8 8106 million; an increase in capital expenditures of K 4 221 million; an increase in revenue incomes of K 8 743 million; a decrease in capital incomes of K 34,992 million; and an increase in debt repayment of K 20,000 million.

There was a budget deficit of K 2364 million. There would be few changes in revenues and expenditures of the region/state departments. There were no much changes in the revenues and expenditures ratio. Ministry of Finance of Myanmar drafted Public Financial Management (PFM) Reform Strategy in cooperation with the World Bank (WB).

According to this strategy, the government will transform its annual budget system to medium-term budget that meets the international standard, he added. A workshop on “Budget Allocation between the Union and Region/State” and “Financial Responsibility”, jointly organized by the Ministry of Finance and WB, was held on February 3-4 and a workshop on reviewing the roles of State-owned enterprises, on 6 March, this year, the President said. Later, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw reported on revised 2014 National Planning Bill (draft). U Win Shein, Union Minister for Finance and Secretary of Financial Commission also submitted revised Union Budget for 2014-2015 FY and Union Budget Bill (draft).

In his conclusion speech, the President said that revised Union Budget for the 2014-2015 FY will be sent back to the Union Parliament. The Union government is making budget reform on a step-by-step basis for ensuring systematic budget allocation. He stressed the need for effective use of allotted budget by region/State governments in accord with the financial rules and regulations. The President also pointed out that efforts are being made for emergence of a systematic tax law.

WHO to provide proficiency courses, teaching aid for midwives

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—President U Thein Sein held talks with a delegation led by Dr. Fu C. Margaret Chan Fung, Director-General of Switzerland-based World Health Organization (WHO) on Wednesday at Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, both sides discussed plans of WHO to provide the trainings and teaching aid on reducing mortality and mother death rate to midwives, conducting proficiency courses for health staff on vaccination for under-5 children and expectant mother care, participation in educative programmes and enhancement of public health sector. Union Ministers and officials also attended the meeting.—MNA

USDP members meet Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—A delegation comprising town’s elder and members of the Union Solidarity and Development Party from Kawhmu Township met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative from the township at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on Wednesday. Before they met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the delegation visited Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on Wednesday and observed the parliamentary meeting. The delegation also visited the headquarters of the Union Solidarity and Development Party in Nay Pyi Taw on 18 March.

At the USDP’s headquarter, U Mya Nyein, the Deputy-Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, U Maung Maung Than, General Secretary of the USDP, and U Khin Shwe, Representative of Amyotha Hluttaw, clarified the Hluttaw affairs.—Yan Soe
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves increase in electricity bills

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has decided to give green light to the President’s suggested plan to raise electricity rates on Wednesday.

Under the proposed increase in electricity bills, households using more than 200 units per month have to pay 50 kyats per unit while users with less than 100 units and 200 units per month have to see the rate of 35 kyats and 40 kyats per unit respectively. Industries that use more than 300,000 units are set to pay 100 kyats per unit while businesses using more than 50,000, and 200,000 units to pay 150 kyats and 125 kyats. Industries that use more than 500 units have to see 100 while enterprises using less than 300,000 units and 200,000 units are set to pay 125 kyats and 150 kyats.

Next, Union ministries concerned gave accounts of the number of work plans including State-run economic enterprises that will decrease on a yearly basis.

In his clarification, Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htway, defined as a people-centered public service organization focusing on education, has made a surplus of K 5701.410 million in accordance with statistics based on to February 2014. He vowed to generate more income for ensuring a surplus in 2014-2015 FY and to scrutinize the proposed motion for ordinary spending and capital spending coming fiscal years.

Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung said service organizations of the ministry including the Central Bank of Myanmar under the Central Bank of Myanmar Law and social security boards under the Social Security Law are not related to the financial management programme for the State-owned enterprises.—MNA

Myanmar Chief Ministers tour Singapore

The Chief Ministers of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Mandalay Region U Ye Myint, and Bago Region U Nyan Win are in Singapore from 16 to 19 March for a joint study visit at the invitation of the Chief Ministers of Singapore. They will also participate in a Roundtable Session organized by International Enterprise Singapore to discuss economic opportunities in their respective Regions. In addition, the Chief Ministers received briefings by the Housing Development Board, the Urban Redevelopment Authority, and the Public Utilities Board.

Last evening, Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong hosted dinner for the Chief Ministers, together with Minister for National Development Khaw Boon Wan, Senior Minister of State for Law and Senior Minister of State for Education Indrajeet Rajah, and Minister of State for Trade and Industry Teo Ser Luck. The Chief Ministers briefed ESM on the economic and developmental challenges faced by their Regions. They discussed ways to improve Myanmar’s human resource capabilities, and attract more foreign investment. They also had a useful exchange of views on development in Myanmar.

This evening, Minister Shanmugam will host the Chief Ministers to dinner and at his Meet-the-People Session in Chong Pang constituency.—NLM

Dy border affairs minister attaches importance to stability for development of Rakhine State

YANGON, 19 March—Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn met internally displaced persons (IDPs) at the relief camps in Thetkay Pyin, Khaukotok and Bawdupha Villages in Sittway Township on Tuesday.

The deputy minister urged IDPs of both communities to abide by laws and to actively participate in taking census nationwide.

Besides, he attached importance to stability for development of Rakhine State and stability and development of bilateral relations between the two communities.

UN Officials pledged that they would join hands with the Union government in carrying out regional development tasks in Rakhine State.

They sought ways to resolve the conflicts in the region.

Bill to protect rights of national races discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—A work coordination meeting on seeking approval for the bill to protect the rights of national races took place at the Hluttaw Complex, here, on Wednesday.

The bill was submitted to Pyithu Hluttaw by Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs, Rural Social Development and Internal Peace-making Committee.

It was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs, Rural Social Development and Internal Peace-making Committee Secretary Daw Dwe Bo, Chairman of the Bill Committee U T Khun Myat, Secretary U Saw Hla Tun and committee members, Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission members U Hsan Linn and Daw Mya Mya Win and U Khun Maung Thaung from Pinlaung Constituency, U Khamaung Khai Mong Kwam from Sumparbhum Constituency, U Sai Bo Aung from Muse Constituency and U Khaing Maung Yi from Ahlon Constituency.

Bill committee chairman U T Khun Myat explained the committee’s report on the bill to protect the rights of national races. Those present at the meeting participated in the discussion.

The bill will be submitted to Pyithu Hluttaw for further discussions on the bill.—MNA
LOCAL NEWS

Vendors in Tatkon get CDMA SIM cards

TATKON, 19 March—About 60 vendors drew lots for 9 CDMA SIM cards in Tatkon on 18 March.

“I am from Hsintay village to the south of Tatkon. Every day I sell flowers and I have engaged in this business for 15 years. Selling flowers to the people who are going to offer them at the pagoda can earn money and it is doing merit. I am very happy for winning the lot as a reward to my good deeds,” said Ma Tin Moe Khine, one of the winners at the drawing lots.

— Tin Soe Lwin (Tatkon)

Canadians show generosity

MYINGYAN, 19 March—Under Canada-based MPS (100) School Project, a school is being built in Thityon village in Myingyan Township, Mandalay Region. The school building will have 120 feet in length, 30 feet in width and 12 feet in height. The project is aimed at supporting the motto “Build a new nation through Education”. Over 500 villagers participated in the school-building tasks.—U Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

Bullock cart race in Pyinmana Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Traditional bullock cart race took place in Nyaungbintha village in Pyinmana Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on Tuesday. Participants from 12 villages competed in the race together with their carts pulled by 24 oxen. The history of bullock cart race dates back to ancient Myanmar times.

— Zaw Min Lwin

PSM course for enthusiasts in Myingyan on 24 March

MYINGYAN, 19 March—Myingyan District Information and Public Relations Department planned to organize Public Service Media course to be conducted on 24 March this year. Numerous subjects relating to print media will be included in the curricula of the five-day course. The course is open to all and those who wish to attend the course is to register no later than 23-3-2014 at the department.—U Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

Burning cigarette butt burns down inns and shop stall in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 19 March—Ten small inns and 3 shop stalls were engulfed on 15 March in Mohnyin Buddha Puja Festival due to indiscriminately discarded burning cigarette butt. The fire started about noon at the festival and within an hour it was put out by local Fire Brigade. Owner of the inns was filed lawsuit by local police station for negligence.—NLM-001

Wrong circulation of dailies annoys readers

MOHNYIN, 19, March—The 33-up train plying between Mandalay and Myitkyina carries bundles of Myanma Alinn, Kyemon and the New Light of Myanmar dailies everyday. Unfortunately, the bundles of dailies to be sent to Myitkyina were wrongly dropped at Mohnyin Railway Station on Tuesday and bundles to be dropped at Mohnyin station continued its journey on the train to Myitkyina.

Daily Agent from Mohnyin had to keep the wrongly-dropped-dailies at the Cargo Section of Myitkyina station and explain the situation to the readers for their satisfaction.

The dailies for Myitkyina readers stranded at Mohnyin Station and no one knows when the dailies for Mohnyin readers will come back to their town.—NLM-001

Photo shows a participant is taking part in traditional bullock cart race in Nyaungbintha village of Pyinmana Township.—Zaw Min Lwin
Translation of Myanmar’s newly enacted Media Law

Chapter 1
Title and Definition
1. This law shall be called Media Law.

Chapter 2
Objectives
3. Objectives of this law are as follows:
(a) To materialize News Media Industries which are offered freedom from censorship to express, publish, or distribute freely as part of rights and privileges granted to every citizen in compliance with regulations stated in the national constitution.
(b) To ensure that News Media can stand up firmly and independently as the form of critical and international news which cover everyday events, and their related descriptions.
(c) Corresponding means a person who collects every bit of news and information and sends to any media.
(d) Mass Media means publications such as book, periodical, newspaper, journal, magazine in which every bit of news and information and sends to any members.
(e) News Agency means an industry, organization, a corporation or company which publishes local and international news to offer awards to the outstanding news media workers.

Chapter 3
Entitlements of Media Workers
8. A news media worker -
(a) has to acquire news by describing his name in accordance with their ethics.
(b) he/she shall be entitled to ask for their safety and protective measures from the security related organizations.
(c) To ensure that News Media can stand up firmly and independently as the form of critical and international news which cover everyday events, and their related descriptions.
(d) Number of the council members shall have to be specified from the minimum of 15 up to the maximum of 30.
(e) A council member shall not be allowed to serve their relevant duties more than two service lives continuously.
(f) A council member shall be terminated from his employment for one of the following factors
(a) Withdrawal from the council voluntarily
(b) Being dismissed by the President because of adequate reasons.
(c) Number of the council members shall have to be specified from the minimum of 15 up to the maximum of 30.
(d) A council member shall not be allowed to serve their relevant duties more than two service lives continuously.
(e) A council member shall be terminated from his employment for one of the following factors
(a) Withdrawal from the council voluntarily
(b) Being dismissed by the President because of adequate reasons.
(c) Being sentenced for certain offences and penalties.
(d) Insanity and Decease

Chapter 4
Responsibilities and Codes of Conduct to be complied by News Media workers
9. A News Media worker is responsible to comply with the following codes of conduct -
(a) Evaluating and analyzing news to ensure accuracy and reliability of every bit of information and their completeness.
(b) When incorrect news have been published and amendment/revision is necessary, and this takes place in the payment.
(c) While news regarding some cases for which litigation cannot be taken place, the media that published such news shall be collected innocent until the court has passed its judgment and any news related criticism which means disregard to the court shall be avoided.
(d) While news photos, voices and pictures are published, improper ways of modifying them with the help of certain technologies shall have to be avoided.
(e) Apart from criticisms, opinions and features, no other views and opinions of journalist or reporter shall be comprised of.
(f) Intellectual properties which belong to others shall not be plagiarized or published without asking for their permission.
(g) Writing news which relate to the interest of the public, writing style which deliberately affects the reputation of a specific person or an organization or generates negative impact to the human right shall be avoided.
(h) Ways of writing which may inflame conflicts regarding nationality, religion and race shall be avoided.
(i) Ethics and regulations which are published by the Myanmar News Media Council shall be obeyed.

Establishment of News Media Industry
10. A person who wants to participate in the News Media industry is allowed to set up an industry as per one of the following options:
(a) Establishment of public limited company or non-public limited company or partnerships in conformity with existing Companies’ Act of Myanmar.
(b) Establishment of industries in conformity with Myanmar Citizens’ Investment Law or Foreign Investment Law.

11. A person who wants to get involved in the News Media industry shall have to apply for acknowledgement certificate or business licence according to their business types in line with relevant laws.

Establishment of the council and responsibilities
12. The council is the only organization which can perform its tasks independently regarding people from mass media in keeping with regulations stated in this law.

13. The President shall have to publish declaration and establish “Myanmar’s News Media Council” in order that objectives and responsibilities embraced in this law due to their misconducts.
(a) The members shall be one representative, which is proposed by the President, and one representative each proposed by the Speakers of Pyi Thu Hlut Taw (People’s Parliament) and A Myo Thar Hlut Taw (national Parliament).
(b) Representatives proposed by News Media staff, news agencies, publishers, writers, poets, cartoonists according to the specific proportion.
(c) Representatives appointed by communities which include scholars and professionals from social, economic, literary, legal, science and technology backgrounds.
(d) Number of the council members shall have to be specified from the minimum of 15 up to the maximum of 30.
14. (a) The council president, vice-presidents, secretary, joint secretaries shall be elected by the majority of votes given by the council members.
(b) The name list of the council members elected by the abovementioned sub-section (a) shall be submitted to the President so that specific responsibilities shall be assigned.
15. (a) The service life of a council member is specified as three years from the date of elected.
(b) A council member shall not be allowed to serve their relevant duties more than two service lives continuously.
(c) A council member shall be terminated from his employment for one of the following factors
(a) Withdrawal from the council voluntarily
(b) Being dismissed by the President because of adequate reasons.
(c) Being sentenced for certain offences and penalties.
(d) Insanity and Decease
17. Functions of the council are as follows:
(a) Monitoring and enhancing the quality of the News Media
(b) Negotiating with respective governmental bodies to smoothly handle importation of necessary materials used in the News Media industry
(c) Arranging to hold News Media related workshops and seminars
(d) Coordinating with the Mass Media organizations to offer awards to the outstanding news media workers
(e) Developing and implementing plans for the improvement of News Media
(f) Publishing news whenever necessary
(g) Appointing an officer - in charge for news publishing in government departments and entities and people-centered organizations to be executed by the council in order that accurate and reliable information will be accessible to the public
(h) Reporting their operational progress and further procedures to be implemented in the future to the President without fail on an annual basis.
18. Responsibilities to be carried out by each committee shall be stipulated according to principles and procedures.
Hyundai fears smog tax blow to domestic sales

Cars made by South Korea’s Hyundai Motor Group are seen on a truck at the company’s shipping yard at a port in Pyeongtaek in this 25 July, 2013 file photo.—Reuters

South Korea’s biggest carmaker estimates the proposed tax could prompt 9 percent to 10 percent of domestic buyers to switch to imported cars, three people familiar with the matter said, quoted Hyundai’s own projections. That suggests its annual vehicle sales could fall by 46,849 vehicles, or a 1.2 trillion won ($1.5 billion) blow to revenue, according to Reuters’ calculations based on Hyundai’s 2013 sales. “Hyundai was looking into the worst case scenario” when it came up with the 9-10 percent figure, said one of the sources who declined to be identified due to the sensitivity of the matter. He said the actual impact would be smaller once the government had finished revising the scheme. A Hyundai spokesman denied the company had produced any such sales projection and attributed it to the Korea Automobile Manufacturers Association. The association declined to comment on its research, citing confidentiality, but said it opposed the tax. “We want the government to withdraw the plan ... this will only help imported cars gain more market share,” a senior association official said. The current third draft of the scheme, obtained by Reuters, shows Seoul plans to levy up to 7 million won ($6,600) on tax vehicles that emit more than 126 grams (4.4 ounces) of carbon dioxide per kilometre. Those emitting less than 100 grams can get subsidies of up to 7 million won, while electric vehicles will receive as much as 10 million won in subsidies. In a country where 72 percent of vehicles are mid-size, the proposal means consumers would face a tax burden of $1 billion. Of that amount, $641 million would be levied on customers of Hyundai and affiliate Kia Motors (000270.KS), which together control about 70 percent of the market, in- dustry estimates showed. Park Kwang-shik, a Hyundai executive dealing with government affairs, told a meeting with regulators last month that authorities should be careful as the industry was already struggling to cope with rising competition from Japanese car makers benefiting from a weaker yen, according to a government statement. Hyundai and Kia Motors have become cheaper to large-sized vehicles, the scheme. A Hyundai official said the tax would face a tax burden of $1 billion. Of that amount, $641 million would be levied on customers of Hyundai and affiliate Kia Motors (000270.KS), which together control about 70 percent of the market, in- dustry estimates showed. Park Kwang-shik, a Hyundai executive dealing with government affairs, told a meeting with regulators last month that authorities should be careful as the industry was already struggling to cope with rising competition from Japanese car makers benefiting from a weaker yen, according to a government statement. Hyundai and Kia Motors have become cheaper to large-sized vehicles, the scheme. A Hyundai official said the tax would face a tax burden of $1 billion. Of that amount, $641 million would be levied on customers of Hyundai and affiliate Kia Motors (000270.KS), which together control about 70 percent of the market, in- dustry estimates showed. Park Kwang-shik, a Hyundai executive dealing with government affairs, told a meeting with regulators last month that authorities should be careful as the industry was already struggling to cope with rising competition from Japanese car makers benefiting from a weaker yen, according to a government statement. Hyundai and Kia Motors have become cheaper to large-sized vehicles, the scheme. A Hyundai official said the tax would face a tax burden of $1 billion. Of that amount, $641 million would be levied on customers of Hyundai and affiliate Kia Motors (000270.KS), which together control about 70 percent of the market, in- dustry estimates showed. Park Kwang-shik, a Hyundai executive dealing with government affairs, told a meeting with regulators last month that authorities should be careful as the industry was already struggling to cope with rising competition from Japanese car makers benefiting from a weaker yen, according to a government statement.
The urgent need for good education

By Hla Maung

Human resources are a nation’s most valuable resource. It is renewable, therefore sustainable, but it is valuable only if nurtured by culture, education, and training. Without culture, education and training, the potential of human resources is diminished if not lost. In fact, any country with a large population lacking adequate education and training and influenced by negative cultures will likely face problems of low productivity, slow growth, unemployment, poverty, high crime rates and social and political unrest. A well-educated population is an essential requirement for national development, progress and prosperity. Top priority must be given to establishing good schools, not only in the major urban areas, but throughout the whole country. With good schooling, children grow up to become scientists, engineers, doctors and professionals. Without schooling, they remain unskilled labourers unable to secure well-paid work, unable to provide for their families, and unable to contribute towards the country’s development and prosperity. There will be a large pool of uneducated youth, a potential for social unrest.

Every child must be able to attend school. There are still too many children unable to attend school because of poverty, or because no schools are available within walking distance. In many areas, monastic schools have been set up by well-intentioned monks and nuns, but many lack qualified teachers. An education, even if not fully satisfactory, is better than no education, but we must recognize that monastic schools are a stopgap measure and does not remove the urgent need to establish more government schools in remote rural areas and to eradicate the extreme poverty that prevents school attendance.

Improve quality of teachers

Quality of teaching can only be as good as the quality and commitment of teachers, so teachers too need regular workshops to upgrade their skills and knowledge. With too many students and too few teachers, there is no time for teacher-student discussions. Exam papers are usually marked on a word for word replication of textbook paragraphs so that there is uniformity in marking, and students aim not for understanding, but for short-term memorisation of school texts. The result is that students pass exams without understanding. When asked what they have learned, many do not know. Asked what they think, they will remain silent, for they have never taken part in discussions where thinking is required.

What is education for?

There needs to be a complete overhaul in our view of what education should be if education is to produce the skilled workers, managers, teachers and other professionals that our country needs. Many students attend university or college because there is nothing better to do after high school, and parents are quite happy if they can hang a framed picture of the son or daughter in a graduate’s robe and hat somewhere in the house. It does not seem to matter that students are not learning anything that they can apply in their working life. For too many, the four years of university are four years of wasted time and money. For the country, scarce resources are being squandered to no avail.

Born on 15 November 1944 in Taunggyi, the author attended primary and high school in London. He graduated with the degree of B.Sc. Oil Technology in 1966 from London University. He joined the then Myanma Oil and Gas Corporation now known as Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise. He retired from his job as a Senior Geologist in 1988.

Myanmar embassy launches programme for visa extension of migrant workers

By A Retiree

pay Baht 500 in initial programme, Baht 1030 on receipt of the ordinary visa, and Baht 70 on receipt of overseas worker at one-stop service centre. Only three workers received the ordinary visa and 26 others could extend their two-year visa out of 150 workers applying for the ordinary visa and the extension at the Labour Department of Thailand during nearly one month period as the Today Top Star Agency helped them compile documents to reduce cost, prevent frauds and ensure complete documents.

As TTS agency has collected the necessary documents from workers and encouraged them to sign employment contracts, migrant workers in Thailand have chance to continue working there. Today Top Star helped more than 1.7 million undocumented workers get involved in nationality verification. The visa extension process which needs no documents as claimed by some agents would lead to frauds and cost more.

So, the official process where one gets the privilege is highly recommended.

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Trs: HKA
S
ome time ago around early 2014, in the news media I read about a touching celebra-
tion, commemorating His Excellency U Thant’s 105th
birthday in U Thant’s House in Yangon by his daughter
Daw Aye, a political leader of the Aung San Suu Kyi in-
law Dr. Tin Myint Oo,
grandson famous historian
Dr. Thant Myint Oo, and
immediate family mem-
bers, close circle of friends, admires and friends at home and
abroad.

This news has stirred
long forgotten and exciting
memories of the past 53
years, around June 1961 to
June 1962. The author was
nominationed on fellowship
deposition under foreign
service terms of Fundamen-
Cal Rules (FR), by Public
Administration, served as
the office of the Prime
Minister to study post grad-
uate Master’s Degree pro-
gram at Development Eco-
nomics to Harvard Uni-
versity and then to Centre
for Development Econom-
ics, Williams College, Wil-
liamstown. Massachusetts.

USA. It was a two semester
one year course preceded by
a two-month summer course
in Harvard, followed by ex-
ecutive M.A programme
catering to developing
countries of India, Pakistan.
Thailand, Myanmar, South
East Asia and countries from
Africa and Latin America. There
were 20 mid-management
executives and Myanmar was
represented by the author
U Ba Thwin, and U Ba
Thwin, my junior colleague
from the same department.
Myanmar’s post independ-
ent years were promising
with hope, promise and experi-
tation to build a new
ation from all sectors. Ed-
ucation was most active, with
new aspiring qualified students, both graduate and
post graduates sent abroad
to the reputed Western
universities of U.S., UK
Australia etc., on diverse
academic programmes. With
some 10 years of memory
about 10 years many of
these graduates returned to
serve their motherland with
newly acquired knowledge
and expertise, with dazz-
ling kudos. They included
MIT, Yale, Princeton, and
Stanford. Others with no
less symbols of elitist rec-
novation such as Members,
Fellowship programmes from
accredited Royal Col-
leges of Medicine, Surgery
of England and Scotland, and
passed with acclaim to
serve the needy in the field
of medicine and Surgery.

Famed liberal Arts academ-
ic institutions of UK such as
Oxford, Cambridge, Lon-
don etc. had their share of
training students from newly
independent countries of
Asia. Countries under previous British Colonial
domination had an added advantage of being profi-
cient in English, and thus
could follow the academic
courses without much diffi-
culty. In fact it was an ex-
citing decade of education
development in Myanmar’s
history.

Young U Ba Thwin in late twenties and U Ba
Thant, the author in early thirties, served as
executives lef Yangon to New York, to begin their
oversea education advan-
ture in pursuit of main-
stream of development. The Harvard Summer School
programme was arranged as a preliminary induction to the
post-graduate study of Development Economics, a
new branch of applied Eco-
nomics which emerged as a
post Second World War
phenomenon to address the
serious problems of the de-
veloping countries of Asia,
which had become indepen-
dent from colonial rule. Latin American coun-
tries, economically lagging
behind also sent their execu-
tives to participate in the
programmes to benefit from
Williams College, Centre for
Development Economics.

The Harvard Summer School
lasted two months starting in June and ended in
August 1961. It was a high-
lly informative one, taught
by eminent scholars from
US and other universities of
the developed world. Spe-
cifically the subject of De-
velopment Economics was
 taught by a Japanese schol-
ar, Professor Shigeto Tsuru
from Hitotsubashi University
for Japan, who approached
presentation much liked
by the overseas fellows like
us. During weeks we went around popular
tourists, like the Em-
brace of Liberty at Staten Island,
Rockefeller Centre, the UN
and many others. At the end
of the summer school pro-
gramme we lodged in the apartment of the
Myanmar
Chancery where Chancellor
U Thein Han was a willing
host. There were also many
opportunities for mingling
and enjoying a jovial company.
The most exciting get-together
meet was at the residence of
Head of Mission, Myanmar,
Mr. H.E. U Thant, His Excellency U Thant. It was indeed a warm
gathering of Myanmar who were in New York at that
time of moment of time. He was an amiable host exuding
serene kindness, courtesy
and cordiality to those who
were there, a cozy home
away from home. It was a
cross section students (grad-
uates and post-graduates)
of official on study tours,
high level delegates, econo-
mists, administrators, busi-
ness etc. H.E. U Thant went with genuine interest to
everyone most warmly and
inquired about their stay in
New York. From what we
had learnt about him, he
bailed from Pantanaw, a
teacher, writer, government
official and eventually rose
to the position of Secretary
to the Government in the
Ministry of Information. He
was an astute personality,
and confidant of the Prime
Minister. He was thereafter
appointed as H.E. Ambas-
sador to many countries and
dominates to represent the
Myanmar abroad. A small
gathering was a focal point
to talk among one an-
other in a spirit of goodwill
and casual informality. The
highlight of this gathering was
a good opportunity to
enrich our academic
world with the insights of
many of the most legendary
scholars like Mohingar and Myan-
mart, the all-time favourite snacks
of students. We were
surprising to learn about the
52 year old man, a rare
people we met.

Finally in June 1962, we
watched in sublime pride
as H.E. U Thant accepted the
kudo and offered a stir-
rung speech on the problems
of world politics and the
diverse work of the UN
represented by the SG in seeking solu-
tion. The timing was most
opportunity because it was
attended by two members
representing Myanmar, the first
in the academic history of
Williams College. Con-
gratulations, greetings and
conversations ensued as the
SG went round smiling and
dancing. We had the privilege
of meeting many of the famous
people of the world body.

By BA THAN

New Light of Myanmar

Thursday, 20 March, 2014
Meals offered to monks to mark 40th Anniversary Mon State Day  

Mawlamyine, 19 March—Mon State Day was observed in 2014 on a grand scale than that of past events.

In the time of the present government, such occasions were held in lower Myanmar, especially in Bago and Taninthayi Regions and Mon State.

To mark the 40th Anniversary Mon State Day, a ceremony to offer meals to monks was held at the Buddhist religious building in Mawlamyine on Tuesday.

Chief Minister of Mon State U Ohn Myint, Mon State Parliament Speaker U Kyin Pe and officials offered alms to monks.

Kyemon

Retirees happy in holding mobile phones  

Taikkyi, 19 March—Myanma Posts and Telecommunications sells out WCDMA SIM cards to retirees in Taikkyi Township, in the northern part of Yangon Region.

To buy the SIM cards, the retirees must submit application for SIM, pension book copy, citizenship scrutiny card copy, two photos and copy of household registration to the departments concerned.

The applications are accepted as of 10 March and the SIMs will be sold on 17 March.

“I thank the President for its arrangements to sell SIM cards to retirees. Actually, we are unaffordable to buy the SIMs at street price. Now, we are so happy for holding the mobile phones,” said retired personnel who got the chance to buy the SIM card.

However, the retirees waited for seniority of applications to be able to buy the SIMs since early morning at Taikkyi Auto-Telephone Exchange.

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications sells SIM cards to the retirees for the first time separately.

Tun Hlaing (Myaing)

Shan State provides 19 fire trucks for its townships  

Taunggyi, 19 March—Myanmar Fire Brigade under Ministry of Home Affairs handed over 19 fire trucks to townships in Shan State. At the town hall in Taunggyi, the capital of Chin State on Tuesday, Deputy Director-General of Fire Services Department U Myat Thu handed over documents related to 19 fire engines to Shan State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Aung Thu. The fire trucks that can carry 880 gallons of water each will be shared to four townships from southern Shan State, 10 townships from northern Shan State and four townships from eastern Shan State.

Shan State organized 597 members of Fire Services Department, 18712 auxiliary fire brigade members and 826 separate fire fighters at 61 fire stations facilitated with 242 fire engines and supporting vehicles. In January and February 2014, outbreaks of fire caused at 38 houses for 24 times, losing property worth K 18.61 million.

Naing Tun (TGI)

Mu River Bridge, reliable transport facility in Shwebo Township  

Shwebo, 19 March—The 840 feet long Mu River Bridge linking Mukangyi Village of Dabaiyin Township and Yekyiwa Village in Shwebo Township becomes better transport facility for the local people.

The bridge is located on Myo Wni Tun (Monywa), Zo Hay Za and MawlaMyine.

In the past, the local people transported paddy, bean, maize and sesame to Myonwa via Shwebo and Ayadaw by car. In flooding period of Mu River, local people faced many difficulties in health and social sector, said a local of Mukangyi Village.

Thanks to the bridge, locals from Shwebo Township have easy access to Myitkyina of Kachin State, Ayadaw of Sagaing Region, Kalay and Tamu of Monywa District and townships from Mandalay Region.

Myo Wni Tun (Monywa)

Experiences recounted for observations at Mandalay Region parliament  

Mandalay, 19 March—A first seminar on Mandalay Region parliament took place at United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)’s Mandalay Office between 38th and 39th streets and 63rd and 64th streets in Mandalay on 17 March.

Mr Edin Elgsaether and Mr Frank Feulnw of UNDP discussed cooperation of media persons from Mandalay at the region parliament, field trips of parliamentarians officials and role of media.

They explained UNDP officials has observed parliaments in seven regions and states and role of media as a bridge between the parliaments and the people.—Kyaw Htoo (Mandalay)

Pazundaung Tsp dwellers enjoy mobile library  

Yangon, 19 March—With the aim of developing livelihoods of the people, Information and Public Relations Department serves facilities of mobile library to the people in Pazundaung Township of Yangon East District on 17 March morning. At the administrative office in Ward 3 of the township, ward administrator explained his arrangements for reading of locals to have widening scope.

Head of Township IPRD Daw Sanda Moe explained the purpose of mobile library to disseminate knowledge to the locals. Staff of the department issued membership cards to the readers for borrowing the books.

Shwe Taing Lwin

Tiddim people to consume potable water  

Tiddim, 19 March—As a gesture of hailing the 69th Anniversary Armed Forces, a ceremony to put a well into service was held in Fartalang Village in Tiddim Township of Chin State, north-western part of the nation.

Township level departmental officials cut the ribbon to open the well.

Rural Development Department funded K 15 million to sinking the well in 2013-14 fiscal year. Royal City Men Co Ltd laid 2 miles and four furlongs long and 2-inch diameter PVC pipeline and built one 5000-gallon-capacity water tank.

All tasks of water supply tasks have been completed on 10 March.

Zo Hay Za (Chin Hill)
Investigations into missing Malaysian jet appear deadlocked

KLINGO弁, 19 March — Investigations into the mystery of a missing Malaysian jet appeared to be at a deadlock on Wednesday, with no conclusive evidence of foul play and doubts whether nations would share military tracking data that could show where the plane may have headed.

Eleven days have passed since Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 went missing, and 26 nations are struggling to search for the airliner over an area more than two-thirds the size of the continental United States.

Malaysian and US officials believe the aircraft was deliberately diverted but an exhaustive background search of the 239 passengers and crew aboard has not yielded any possible motive or link to terrorism.

Malaysia’s top official in charge of the unprecedented operation said it was vital to reduce the scale of the search and renewed appeals for sensitive military data from its neighbours that Malaysia believes may shed light on where the airliner flew.

“All the efforts must be used to actually narrow the corridor that we have assumed — I think that is the best approach to do it. Otherwise we are in the realm of speculation again,” Malaysia’s acting transport minister Hishammuddin Hussein told reporters later on Tuesday.

The US Navy said it had switched mainly to using P-8A Poseidon and P-3 Orion aircraft to search for the missing plane instead of ships and helicopters.

“The maritime patrol aircraft are much more suited for this type of operation since the search field is growing,” said Navy Lieutenant David Levy, who is on board the USS Blue Ridge, the US Navy ship that is coordinating the search effort.

“It’s just a much more efficient way to search,” he said.

Flight MH370 vanished from civilian air traffic control screens off Malaysia’s east coast at 1:21 am local time on 8 March (1721 GMT 7 March), less than an hour after taking off from Kuala Lumpur for Beijing.

A Royal Australian Air Force pilot of an AP-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft scans the surface of the sea near the west of Peninsular Malaysia in this handout picture by the Royal Australian Air Force, released via the Australian government’s Department of Defence website on 17 March, 2014.—REUTERS

Japan eyes additional sanctions on Russia over Ukraine crisis: Abe

Tokyo, 19 March — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe indicated on Wednesday that Japan could impose additional sanctions on Russia following Moscow’s declaration that it would absorb the Crimea region of Ukraine despite a chorus of criticism from Western nations led by the US.

“We will examine further steps against Russia,” Abe told a Diet session.

“We criticize (Russia’s annexation of Crimea) for breaching Ukraine’s unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity,” Japan’s prime minister announced Tuesday a set of measures to punish Russia for intervening in Ukraine, including suspension of talks for easing visa issuance conditions, in a move that fell in line with steps taken by the United States and European countries.

Abe did not clearly mention what steps Japan could take as additional sanctions but government officials suggested they may involve travel bans or asset freezes targeting some Russians.

The premier said he expects to join other Group of Seven leaders in a meeting next week in the Netherlands to discuss the crisis in Ukraine.

The G-7 countries of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States are planning to hold informal talks on the sidelines of the Nuclear Security Summit on Monday and Tuesday in The Hague.

The seven plus Russia comprise another major forum, the Group of Eight, which recently suspended preparations for this year’s summit, scheduled for June in Sochi, Russia, in response to the Ukraine crisis.—Kyodo News

Indian PM stresses territorial integrity in phone talk with Putin

NEW DELHI, 19 March — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh underlined this country’s position on “unity” and “territorial integrity” when Russian President Vladimir Putin telephoned him late Tuesday evening, the Indian External Affairs Ministry has said.

During the telephone conversation hours after Putin took the initial steps to absorb Crimea into Russia, the Indian prime minister made it clear that New Delhi hoped for a diplomatic solution to the issue.

Prime Minister Singh “emphasized the consistent position India had on the issues of unity and territorial integrity of countries,” the ministry said.

The Indian prime minister also stressed the need “to find political and diplomatic solutions that protect the legitimate interests of all countries in the region” and ensured long-term peace and stability in Europe and beyond, the ministry said.

The two leaders also discussed the close relationship and mutually beneficial partnership between the two countries, it said, adding that Singh thanked Putin for his personal leadership in further deepening and strengthening the India-Russia strategic partnership in recent years.—Xinhua

Thai justice minister questions latest court case threatening PM

BANGKOK, 19 March —Thailand’s justice minister on Wednesday questioned the validity of a court case that could lead to the scrapping of a 2 February election the ruling party looked set to win, one of many pending cases that could bring down the beleaguered government.

The election was disrupted by anti-government protesters and any decision by the Constitutional Court to scrap it would add to the political chaos after 4-1/2 months of street rallies aimed at ousting Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

Government supporters accuse the courts of bias and say many judges are aligned with the conserva
tive establishment, prompting several to deny they are politicized.

Justice Minister Pongphee Thepkanjana said he failed to see how the election could be unconstitutional.

The petition is not clear on how the election violates the constitution ... This (case) might not even fall under the jurisdiction of the court,” he told reporters at the court.

The court will hand down its ruling on Friday.

The petition was brought by Kittipong Kamolthinwong, a law professor at Bangkok’s Thammasat University, and forwarded by the state ombudsman’s office. The Constitutional Court rejected a similar petition from the Democrat Party last month.

Yingluck heads a caretaker administration with limited powers and scrapping the vote would further delay the formation of a new government.

In a strongly worded statement on Tuesday, her Puea Thai Party said such a verdict would have disastrous implications. “If the Constitutional Court rules the election void, this would be a dangerous precedent for Thailand ... because if a party knows it is going to lose, it will move to block elections,” it said.—Reuters

Anti-government protesters travel on a pick-up truck near the Interior Ministry building, which is being surrounded by fellow demonstrators in Bangkok on 15 Feb, 2014.—Reuters
Health, Wealth and Happiness

By Dr Aung Soe (a) Aung Kyaw Moe

Team work.

Nevertheless, lifestyle modification is one of the key points in building Health, Wealth and Happiness. Suitable daily exercise is recommended to high blood pressure, cardiovascular events, stroke, and obesity. Social drinking, if not controlled, could lead to severe alcoholism ends up in socio-economic crisis.

You need to take an adequate rest, sleep and average vocational trips for relaxation. Be concerned about your earnings! Healthy, nutritious and balanced diet should be consumed. Carbohydrates, proteins, fats, vitamins, minerals and water should be in balanced proportion. Unhealthy foods of food may lead to obesity i.e. a challenge for health and happiness.

Health, wealth and happiness do not come itself: they are to be created.

Dr. Aung Soe is Retired Medical Superintendent now living in Yangon.

Afghan president picks new VP: bomb kills 15

UN General Assembly president to visit India

NEW DELHI, 19 March — The President of the United Nations General Assembly John Ashe, is to visit India, starting on Wednesday, sources said.

During his three-day visit, he is likely to meet Indian Prime Minister Mamnoon Singh and External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid in the national capital and may take up the issue of two Italian marines facing trial in this country for killing two Indian fishermen in February 2012, the sources said.

Italy’s Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Angelino Alfano had reportedly met Ashe at the United Nations in New York Monday and sought his help in the release of the two marines.

“In response, President Ashe informed the minister that in the course of his imminent visit to India, he will be alert for whatever opportunity presents itself to raise the issue,” said a statement issued by Ashe’s spokesperson. The two Italian marines — Massimiliano Latorre and Salvatore Girone — had shot dead two Indian fishermen from on board an Italian oil tanker, which they were guarding at the time, allegedly mistreating them as pirates. The incident sparked diplomatic tensions between India and Italy. While Rome claims that the duo should be tried in a global court as the firing took place in international waters, New Delhi insists it took place in its territorial waters.

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Invitation to Open Tender for IP Transit Services 2014-1 for Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications

1. Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications (MPT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology invite open tender for IP Transit Services that to be used for Internet Backbone and this services should be provided via the links those are described in the below table. MPT will pay in foreign currency for those services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Myanmar-Thailand Cross Border (MyaWaDi)</td>
<td>1 x STM 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sea-Me-We 3 cable</td>
<td>1 x STM 16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Bidder should submit the open tender (Technical and requirement Proposal) on March 28, 2014 during (09:30 to 16:30) at Head Office Building of Overseas Department, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, Near 8 mile junction, KabaAye Pagoda Road, Yangon, Myanmar and MPT will deny the tender that is submitted over the assigned period as above.

3. Bidder should submit the price proposal when we call you the day of price bargaining.

4. Tender documents are available from Head Office Building of Overseas Department, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications of 8 mile junction, KabaAye Pagoda Road, Yangon, Myanmar and detail can be asked to telephone number + 95 1 650118 during office hours.

Tender Evaluation & Selection Committee

Yagon Film School

(Management Vacancy)

Active in Myanmar since 2005, the non-profit Organisation Yangon Film School has gained a unique reputation for providing solid filmmaking skills to a new generation of media workers. We have a vacancy in our management team for the position of School Manager

This position will commence immediately with a three-month probation period from followed by evaluation by the School’s Director and Committee, and if positive, an annual contract.

Duties Include:

• Assisting the School’s Director in grant-writing and fund management, course devising and scheduling; overall management and supervision of training programmes including communication with student body, coordination of tutors, trainers, fee agreements, time sheets, translators, workshop venue; ensuring observance of YFS regulations, cooperation with the school’s partners, presentation of the school to clients, donors and partners, attendance of events to improve the school’s visibility, and lobbying/balancing with government departments in order to further the school’s long-term vision in consultation with the YFS Committee.

Have you got what we’re looking for?

We believe that the position of School Manager at YFS represents a great opportunity for a talented manager and communicator in a stimulating environment the School and the country’s development. We are looking for someone willing to share in the School’s vision as a premiere training and media resource. Our ideal candidate will relish this opportunity to be a part of a team at the spearhead of a growing community of film professionals in Myanmar.

Candidates must:

• Be permanent residents of Myanmar or returning to Myanmar having completed a course of study and/or term of related employment abroad
• Be fluent in written and spoken Myanmar and English
• Hold a university degree or higher
• Have at least three years of management experience in either middle management or at directorial level
• Be IT-literate (Word, Excel, DTP skills an advantage)
• Excellent communicators with some knowledge of film and/or media
• Be driven, dynamic, creative and a good team player
• Be able to take on an international standard management role

Applications should be submitted to Head Office of the School, 55-57, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Mayangon, Tsp., Yangon or via email to yfs.yfs@googlemail.com by 21 April, 2014. Only shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview.

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

(TENDER NO. 1 (T) MPE/Candidate(1)/2014-2015)

1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the Conveyance of YettanMarine Terminal Offshore to No.1 (Tenderly) (Thanlyn).

2. Tender Closing Date : 8.4.2014 at (12:00) noon.

3. Tender Opening Date : 8.4.2014 at (13:00) hrs.

4. Delivery Time : 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015

5. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 20-3-2014 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyt 100,000) per set.

6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director

Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

 claims of damage of cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 a.m. to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Fitch Ratings has confidence in Australian iron ore outlook

SYDNEY, 19 March — Global rating agency Fitch Ratings has few concerns on the Australian iron ore outlook, saying the recent fall in iron ore prices does not threaten the country’s big three miners, local media reported on Wednesday. Fitch said Australia’s big three mining companies BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto and Fortescue are all still very profitable at current iron ore prices, according to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC).

Fitch believed that China’s steel demand would continue to grow out to 2020, despite iron ore inventory at China’s major ports reaching a two-year high. It said the seasonal slowdown over the Lunar New Year period has contributed to the inventory overhang, and fueled the negative sentiment, but Chinese demand for Australian commodities was not about to decline drastically.

Fitch’s head of Asia-Pacific corporate research Matt Jamieson told ABC News Online that the typical seasonal slowdown was extended by a government move to lower pollution in many Chinese cities.—Xinhua

UN military vehicles reportedly enter Mozambican capital amid tensions

MAPUTO, 19 March — Armed vehicles bearing a UN logo have entered the Mozambican capital Maputo amid tense political developments between the ruling party and the opposition, according to the news bulletin released by Mozambique’s official television station on Tuesday.

The official TVM counted six armoured cars, but said some witnesses claimed that there were about 20 cars entering Maputo, with no further details provided.

The Mozambique Ministry of Home Affairs and the Defence Ministry refused to talk about the matter apart from advising the journalists to contact the government and Renamo teams that are negotiating a ceasefire.

The Mozambican government and the main opposition party Renamo agreed Monday on the terms of a reference a ceasefire fire between the two sides in parts of the central province of Sofala, where ambushes against vehicles on the main north-south highway, and attacks against other civilians and military targets, particularly in Gorongosa district, have been reported since last year.—Xinhua

Australia reduces red tape for supporting economy

CANBERRA, 19 March — The Australian Coalition government has introduced legislation and tabled documents to repeal over 10,000 “unnecessary and counter-productive” pieces of legislation and regulations for supporting its economy, Prime Minister Tony Abbott announced on Wednesday.

According to him, more than 50,000 pages of unnecessary and costly legislation and regulations that are a dead weight on Australian businesses, community groups and households will be removed.

The government confirmed that this will reduce red tape across the economy by more than 700 million AU dollars (636.7 million US dollars) a year, every year.—Xinhua
Jennifer Aniston’s tell-all book makes Angelina Jolie nervous

LOS ANGELES, 19 March — Actress Jennifer Aniston has got an offer to release a tell-all book with details of the past and the news is reportedly making Angelina Jolie nervous.

Aniston’s ex-husband Brad Pitt and Jolie are now partners.

Jolie and Pitt grew close to each other while filming the 2005 film Mr & Mrs Smith, during which time the latter was married to Aniston.

“Angelina’s worked hard to build up her image as a humanitarian and separate herself from the public outcry when she got together with Brad. She felt the whole ‘Team Jen’ and ‘Team Ange’ thing had finally died a death and that the perception of her being a husband stealer was in the past, but then she heard about the book offer.”

A source told New magazine, reports contactmusic.com.

Aniston, now engaged to Justin Theroux, knows that the part where she will recount the details of her breakup with Pitt will be tough to write, said the source.

“If Jen does sign a book deal, she knows the chapter on Brad and Ange will be the hardest for her to write - but it will also be the one everyone will be after. Jen doesn’t want to spark any new rows, but there’s so much history involved that it’s inevitable,” the source added.—PTI

Shah Rukh Khan: Amitabh Bachchan’s Bhoothnath Returns will be one of three big hits of the year

MUMBAI, 19 March — Shah Rukh Khan feels that Amitabh Bachchan’s upcoming horror-comedy Bhoothnath Returns will go on to become one of the greatest hits of the year. Amitabh Bachchan took to his blog to share how touched he was by SRK’s unexpected praise about his film, which is the sequel to 2008’s Bhoothnath.

“It was really sweet of Shah Rukh to state quite unexpectedly as he arrived on the sets of Bhoothnath, that this film would be one of the three biggest hits of the year. Aapke muh mein ghee shakkar, laddoo puda sab kuchh (May your words come true),” Big B posted.

Shah Rukh also has a guest appearance in the film. Besides Amitabh Bachchan, Bhoothnath Returns also stars Usha Jadhav and Boman Irani, who plays the main antagonist in the film.—PTI

Kanye West placed on probation over scuffle with photographer

LOS ANGELES, 19 March — Rapper Kanye West was placed on a two-year probation on Monday and ordered to complete community service and anger management sessions after pleading no contest to misdemeanor charges stemming from an altercation with a photographer last year, a court spokeswoman said.

Grammy-winning West, 36, did not appear at the Los Angeles Superior Courthouse and the no contest plea was entered on his behalf by his attorney Blair Berk. Photographer Daniel Ramos attended the hearing with his attorney, Gloria Allred.

West was placed on probation for 24 months and will have to complete 240 hours of community service and 24 anger management sessions. The rapper will be formally booked but will not have to spend any time in jail. He will be required back in court for a restitution hearing and progress update on 17 July.

West and Ramos were involved in a scuffle outside of the Los Angeles International Airport in July, which was captured in a video posted on celebrity news website TMZ. It showed the rapper appearing to lunge at Ramos.

West has become a frequent target of paparazzi after striking up a romance last year with reality TV star Kim Kardashian. The couple’s first child, a baby girl named North West, was born in June, and they are now engaged to marry.

Reuters

Rolling Stones lead singer Mick Jagger and fashion stylist L’Wren Scott arrive at the “Quinzaine des Réalisateurs” at the 63rd Cannes Film Festival in this 19 May, 2010 file photo.—REUTERS

Fashion’s L’Wren Scott found dead in NYC in apparent suicide

NEW YORK, 19 March — Celebrated fashion designer L’Wren Scott, the girlfriend of Rolling Stones singer Mick Jagger, was found dead from an apparent suicide in her Manhattan apartment on Monday, police said.

Scott, a former model whose slim-fitting dresses were favourites among Hollywood’s A-list stars such as Nicole Kidman, Amy Adams and Penelope Cruz, was found hanging from a scarf.

“We are investigating it as a suicide,” said New York police Detective Kelly Ort.

Police said they had preliminary information that Scott was 49, although that had not been confirmed by her family. Jagger, 70, said through a spokesperson that he was “completely shocked and devastated.”

Scott’s family issued a statement asking for privacy.

The glamorous couple had been dating since 2001 and were often seen at celebrity events, with the 6-foot, 3-inch (191-cm) tall, raven-haired Scott towering over her rock-star boyfriend.

The news of Scott’s death stunned friends, clients and fellow designers. Kidman, a friend of 25 years, was “heartbroken and in shock right now and unable to say anything,” her spokeswoman said.—Reuters

Musicians and fashion stylists such as Nicole Richie and Nicole Miller were among those who attended the Quinzaine des Réalisateurs, the Independent Filmmakers Slate at the 63rd Cannes Film Festival in 2010. —REUTERS

Amy Adams and Penelope Cruz, seen here at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival, are just two of the many Hollywood celebs who have been fans of L’Wren Scott’s form-fitting dresses.”

Jaguar, the girlfriend of Rolling Stones singer Mick Jagger, was found dead from an apparent suicide in her Manhattan apartment on Monday, police said.

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Musician Kanye West arrives at the Ghita 2008 collection showing New York Fashion Week on 11 September, 2007. Reuters

Kim Kardashian’s couple’s first child, a baby girl named North West, was born in June, and they are now engaged to marry. Reuters

L’Wren Scott, designer and girlfriend of Rolling Stones musician Mick Jagger, is shown arriving at the Cannes Film Festival in 2010. Reuters
Serena savours home-court advantage at Sony Open

MIAMI, 19 March — Serena Williams is a daunting opponent no matter the surface or tournament, but at the Sony Open played near her comforts of her Miami home she has practically set up a second residence in the winner’s circle.

Williams, who lives an hour’s drive from the Tennis Centre at Crandon Park, site of the Sony Open for the next fortnight, is a six-time winner in Miami. That is more wins than she has at any other tournament and one better than her five US Open, Wimbledon and Australian Open grand slam victories.

In the 12 years since Williams first claimed the crown in 2002 she has taken the trophy home with her 50 percent of the time and is favored to add a seventh to her collection when the final is decided on 29 March.

A relaxed Williams certainly looked right at home as she worked her way through a series of pre-tournament interviews at a posh Key Biscayne beachside resort on Tuesday stealing the spotlight from some of the other assembled tennis glitterati, including Maria Sharapova and Australian Open champion Li Na.

“I have been waiting on this for awhile, it feels good to be back here,” the defending champion and world number one told a tableside gathering of media. “It is home, it feels like home, I drive just an hour, it feels great.

“I train here so it is easier to anticipate the wind and the heat and all the extra elements.

Another title Williams can lay claim to is the Queen of South Beach.

Already part owner of the National Football League’s Miami Dolphins, Williams hinted that she could add to her sporting empire saying, “anything is possible” when asked if she was open to getting involved with David Beckham and his efforts to bring a Major League Soccer franchise to Miami.

But it is on the court where Williams does most of her business and in Miami it is close to a tennis monopoly.

At 32, Williams is one of the oldest players in the women’s draw yet remains the sport’s dominant force with retirement nowhere in sight. Miami will be her fourth event of the season and the 17-times grand slam winner claimed her 58th career title after opening the 2014 campaign with a victory in Brisbane.

British mechanic wins 107.9 mn pounds on Euromillions lottery

LONDON, 19 March — A British vehicle mechanic has been revealed as the winner of about 107.9 million pounds (180 million US dollars) on the Euromillions lottery on Tuesday at a Press conference in Surrey, England, according to local media.

Camelot Group, the operator of the National Lottery of Britain, who also participates in the Euromillions, revealed that 41-year-old Neil Trotter from Coulsdon, south London, was the winner of the fourth biggest jackpot since Euromillions’ creation in 2004, according to BBC.

Mr Trotter learned that he was the single ticket-holder to scoop the massive jackpot on Friday night, BBC said.

Neil arrived at the conference wearing a grey tee-shirt and jeans with his massive cheque. “We haven’t had much sleep since Friday really,” he said. “I’ve always thought I’d win big and I’d had a good feeling all week.”

“On Friday evening we were sitting at home when I checked the time and thought the draw must have taken place by now,” said he. “I took out my ticket to check the winning numbers and amazingly one by one they matched. I told Nicky, my partner, ‘I’ve done it, I’ve won the lottery’. But she told me to shut up and to stop being an idiot.” Neil said he turned white as a sheet and couldn’t sit still, and he kept walking around the house. “I didn’t know what to do with myself. I got her to check the numbers with me and she started screaming!”

ARGENTINA, Brazil to jointly fight human trafficking

BUENOS AIRES, 19 March — Argentina and Brazil agreed on Tuesday to strengthen joint coordination in fight against human trafficking, and provide assistance and protection to the victims of the crimes.

Under an agreement, signed by Argentine Secretary of Justice Julian Alvarez and his Brazilian counterpart Paulo Abrao, both countries were committed to working together on combating human trafficking by training, awareness campaigns and research making, a joint statement said.

The two countries will also boost preventative strategies and exchange information for criminal investigations, said Alvarez.
Chelsea ease past Galatasaray, Real thrash Schalke

London, 19 March — Chelsea reached the Champions League quarter-finals with a 3-1 aggregate win against Galatasaray on Tuesday, with Real Madrid joining them in the last eight after thrashing Schalke 04 9-2 over two legs of their last-16 tie.

Chelsea’s clash with Galatasaray was finely balanced after a 1-1 draw in the first leg, but the hosts eased the tension around Stamford Bridge when Samuel Eto'o's deflected shot crept under visiting keeper Fernando Muslera after four minutes. England defender Gary Cahill doubled Chelsea's advantage two minutes before halftime, smashing home from close range after Muslera parried John Terry's powerful header from a corner. Schalke were playing for pride at Real Madrid, after a humiliating 6-1 home defeat in the first leg, but struggled again to contain the Spanish team's dynamic forwards.

Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo (R) kicks the ball past Schalke 04's Joel Matip during their Champions League last 16 second leg soccer match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 18 March, 2014.

Reuters

Sign Rodgers up for long term, Gerrard urges Liverpool

London, 19 March — Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard has urged the club’s American owners to agree a new deal with manager Brendan Rodgers as soon as possible.

High-scoring Liverpool are second in the Premier League, four points adrift of Chelsea but with a game in hand, and Gerrard said the Northern Irish manager had proved he was a ‘perfect fit’ since joining in 2012.

“I am absolutely delighted he is here and I hope there is a lot of movement in Boston now because they have got to get him signed up as soon as possible,” the captain told reporters. “For me, I think he deserves a very long contract here and he is perfect for this club.”

Liverpool owners Fenway Sports Group signed Rodgers, 41, from Premier League rivals Swansea on a three-year contract to replace sacked Anfield great Kenny Dalglish.

Chosen ahead of bigger name candidates, he was only the 18th manager in the club’s 120 year history. Liverpool finished seventh in Rodgers’ first season but have been transformed into a free-flowing team challenging for their first title since 1990.

“He has been a revelation. He keeps tweaking and tinkering with the formation and making little subtle changes to personnel and tactics and it is coming off from week to week,” Gerrard said.

“I have been absolutely blown away by his sessions, his tactics and his maturity in the job. I am learning off him every single day.

“He is driving the club forward. He manages every single player differently, he knows we have different characters in the dressing room and his man-to-man, one-on-one management is the best I have known.”

Liverpool humiliated champions Manchester United 3-0 at Old Trafford on Sunday with Gerrard scoring twice from the penalty spot and missing a third.

Players of Myanmar and Japanese Futsal teams trying to control the ball in tune-up match.

Soe Nyunt

Woods withdraws from Arnold Palmer

New York, 19 March — Tiger Woods announced on Tuesday he had withdrawn from this week’s Arnold Palmer Invitational with a bad back and was unsure whether he would be ready to play at next month’s Masters.

“The world number one posted a statement on his website saying he told Palmer in person that he would not be able to defend the title he won last year.

“I personally called Arnold today to tell him that, sadly, I won’t be able to play in his tournament this year,” Woods said.

“I would like to express my regrets to the Tiger Woods Orlando fans, the volunteers, the tournament staff and the sponsors for having to miss the event.

“Unfortunately, my back spasms and the pain haven’t subsided.”

Reuters