Chaungtha Beach authorities ban vendors

Stalls occupy the walking of the beach. PHOTO: MMK

AUTHORITIES will not allow vendors to sell any goods along the walkway by the Chaungtha Beach beginning from November 1, according to officials.

The beach's rule enforcement committee will disseminate pamphlets about the new rules for vendors starting October 26. The information about the new rules and regulations will also be spread through posters and other activities, its members said.

Currently, about 75 stalls and over 200 vendors are selling different kinds of goods and food along Chaungtha Beach, a popular resort and one of the tourist attractions in Myanmar that is accessible from Yangon, about a 5-hour drive from the commercial capital.

Administrator U Tayza Aung said the major objectives of the new rules are to promote good sanitary condition and to sustain the beauty and development of the beach, urging visitors to participate in the committee's cleaning programme by following its rules. The move also aims at reducing possible criminal activities such as snatch thefts in the beach area, he added. The rule enforcement committee has also prohibited the driving of speedboats and banana boats within the public swimming areas. Also prohibited are the riding of horses, bullock carts and motor vehicles along the shore. The rules also prohibit campfires and entertainment programmes on the shore such as fish catching, planting and farming near public areas. The activity comes from the committee's workshop on sustainable development of Chaungtha Beach held between 16 and 18 September to discuss effective environmental conservation plans. — *Myitmakha News Agency*

Free hepatitis B vaccines for 1,000 eligible residents

THE HEPATITIS B vaccine will be administered free of charge to about 1,000 eligible people in Yangon next month under a plan organised by the Sunday Foundation, a local non-profit charitable organisation.

The donation event is planned to take place at Aung Philanthropic Monastery in Hlaingthaya Township, inviting people around the township to join the vaccination programme.

This is the second time the foundation has helped to protect people from hepatitis virus infections, said Daw Aye Khaing Khaing Oo, secretary of the foundation.

"Since its establishment in March 2015 by the first 50 members, including entrepreneurs and managers of the E.S.I Food Company, the charity has conducted health care activities including blood donations done by the company's staff, all of whom have passed the hepatitis B blood test, and more", said Daw Aye Khaing Khaing Oo.

The foundation's previous vaccination programme was carried out in the last three months of 2015. An ethnic child from northern Shan State who has joined the non-formal education programme at the monastery in Yangon said that he appreciates the foundation donating the Hepatitis B vaccines for monks and poor residents to prevent the serious disease caused by a virus that attacks the liver.

The best way to prevent hepatitis B is by getting the hepatitis B vaccine. The vaccine is safe and effective. It is available for all age groups to prevent HBV infection.

The virus is transmitted through contact with the blood or other body fluids of an infected person.

The World Health Organization estimated that around 240 million people are chronically infected with hepatitis B and more than 686,000 people die every year due to complications of hepatitis B, including liver cirrhosis and liver cancer. — *Myitmakha News Agency*

MPT exchanging all 3G SIM cards for 4G cards in Mandalay

MYANMAR Post and Telecommunication (MPT) and KSG Company of Japan have launched a 4G network service in Nay Pyi Taw and in some places in Yangon during the first week of October to give users access to a faster network.

The effort is part of MPT's measures to launch a 4G network in Yangon and Mandalay by the first quarter of 2017. MPT has also issued Regular/ Micro/ Nano SIM Cards of an international standard so that MPT users have no need to cut the SIM cards. Since the last week of October, MPT has exchanged the 3G SIM Cards of MPT users for 4G SIM Cards at the MPT Sales Division in Mandalay without charge.

MPT 3G SIM Card users being seen at the MPT Sale Division in Mandalay. PHOTO: THIHA KO KO (MDY)

The Ministry of Transport and Communications has announced that mobile phone users will have to register their SIM cards starting 18 October.

MPT said that, starting from 31 March 2017, all unregistered SIM cards will be blocked.

In Southeast Asia and Oceania in 2015, only 5 per cent of all mobile subscriptions were 4G – but the figure is expected to increase to more than 40 per cent by 2021, according to the Ericsson Mobility Report 2016. Telecoms competitors Ooredoo and Telenor launched 4G networks earlier this year. — *Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*

POEM:

" What's Your Dream?"

* What is your dream?
To have a ride in the limousine car?
As a celebrity, to walk on the red carpet?
Think first, what kind of person you are.

* What is your dream?
To become a famous pop star?
To become a queen or a princess?
Think first, what kind of person you are.

* What is your dream?
To be a Britain or Ireland's top model star?
To become the prettiest Miss Universe?
Think first what kind of person you are?

* What is your dream?
To be a billionaire or a millionaire?
To visit round the world in thirty days?
Think first what kind of person you are?

* What is your dream?
Just to be an average one of many a star?
Just to run a simple life, helping the others?
Then, you don't need to think of who you are.

* Try to live one day at a time.
See things always from good point of view.
Be content with what you have and who you are.
Then your dream will surely come true.

Daw Aye Aye Pyone
(Retired Teacher)

More displaced persons return home

Displaced persons receive cash assistance from authorities in Sittway before they return home. PHOTO: NAY LIN

DISPLACED people who took refuge in camps in Sittway, Buthidaung and Maungtaw are returning home as their native place has become stable, according the Rakhine State government.

About 100 displaced persons who stayed in Danyawadi Stadium in Sittway went back home by boat yesterday morning.

"Those who went back today include people from Mawrawadi, Aungthayar and Kanthayar villages in southern Maungtaw. It is the fourth group of returnees and a total of about 300 people have returned home so far. The state government is providing their basic needs," Rakhine State Social Affairs Minister Dr Chan Tha said.

Each family of returnees were granted K 10,000, boat tickets and food for one week by the state government while the Department of Social Welfare provided them with household goods. Free Funeral Services Association (Sittway) and well-wishers provided K 50,000 to each family.

"I have provided healthcare services for displaced persons in the Danyawadi Stadium. I will also go to camps in Maungtaw and Buthidaung," Dr Soe Lwin, who returned from England to take care of the displaced persons, said. "Most of them suffer from malnutrition. It has other complications," he added.

A total of about 3,000 people left their villages after violent attacks in Maungtaw and Buthidaung.— *Min Thit*