

One Landmine Explodes in Mansi

AT 5:05 pm on 19 April, one landmine exploded at map index (289), east of Mansi, in Bhamo District, Kachin State, hitting 3 daughters of U Wafai Branan and Daw Alemee residing in Pyin Oo Lwin Ward while going to hillside cultivation. Out of them, Ma Htu Taung aged 9 was killed with the whole body wounded, it is learnt. Ma Jarsaipan aged 22 was injured on her left thigh, left chest and right calf, with Ma Jipan aged 15 wounded under her left arm, waist and left thigh. It is learnt that they were hospitalized at the Mansi general hospital for medical treatment.—District IPRD



Ma Jipan receives treatment at the hospital. PHOTO: DISTRICT IPRD

Organic markets to open in townships of Yangon

ORGANIC vegetables and organic produce shops will be opened in townships in Yangon Region. Shares will be also invited by the organic market implementation committee for emergence of the organic markets in all townships.

People can buy shares at a

price of Ks 0.5 million per unit. The organic shops will be opened in every township in Yangon Region with an aim to ensure good national health, to sustain the environment and to create the organic markets for organic vegetable farmers. Currently,

selling the organic products is meant for keeping good health of the public. After opening the organic shops in townships in Yangon Region, the organic market implementation committee is planning to open similar shops in other regions and states.—200

Loilem paints itself a rosy picture

Thae Naing Oo (Myanmarsar)

WITH its many twists and turns, the road to Loilem is flanked by views so breathtaking that it makes me forget how tired I am.

This is the first time for me to visit Loilem, though I visited nearby Taunggyi many times. I became refreshed again when I saw the Myakanthar Lake, which is situated in Namhsan, on the way to Loilem. In fact, Loilem and Myakanthar Lake are inseparable.

Loilem connects eastern and western Shan State and is a peaceful city with Shan, Pa-O and other ethnicities living in harmony. In the past a five-hour trip from Taunggyi to Loilem could only be made twice a day with a security convoy. But now with technological advancements that have allowed mountain roads to be paved and rays of peace to shine, the roads are filled with endless numbers of travelling vehicles. Travelling from Taunggyi to Loilem now only takes 2 hours, and it's only 15 minutes from Loilem to the historical city of Panglong six miles away, where one can view the Panglong memorial pillar commemorating the signing of unification of the nation. The three cities of Panglong-Loilem-Namhsan are developing into economically beneficial areas.

With a total population of over 5.8 million and an area of 61,000 square miles, Shan State is home to various national races — Shan, Danu, Intha, Palaung, Padaung, Pa-O, Kokang, Wa, Kachin, Bamar, Ahkhar, Lahu,

Lisu and others.

I got a chance to talk to local ethnic people at a reception marking the opening of Kanbawza Bank in Loilem.

Among the people in attendance was U Tung Wai, a resident who runs a publishing house and a sports gear shop.

"We thought our Loilem was under a curse for lagging behind in development. But, today we can transfer money to towns nationwide with the opening of Kanbawza Bank in our town and our businesses are on the road to booming," said U Tun Wai.

Locals including civil service personnel and businessmen in Loilem no longer need to go to other towns to transfer money to other areas.

It was a pleasant moment for U Nyo Myint, Senior Executive Director of the KBZ Bank Ltd, who inaugurated the bank in Loilem. U Nyo Myint grew up in Loilem, attending kindergarten to

matriculation at the Basic Education High School-1 in Loilem.

Speaking on the occasion, he also took pride in the KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation's achievements in fighting water scarcity in Loilem.

A drilling in Loilem, which had been experiencing water scarcity due to a lack of access to water sources, struck water five days after the work started last year.

The water gushed out of the well being drilled at the Dattaw Monastery in Loilem by KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation (BFM) at the depth of 225 feet, at a rate of 2,000 gallons of water per hour.

With the success of the drilling, the well has quenched the thirst of thousands, from Buddhist monks to local people.

With several achievements in a short period of time, Loilem has a rosy future ahead for development.



With striking water five days after the work started last year, the tubewell has benefited the local people in Loilem. PHOTO: THAE NAING OO

Energy management courses to be provided free by experts

ENERGY system optimization and energy management system courses will be provided free of charge by experts from America and Denmark, according to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

The Steam Energy System Optimization (SSO) user level two-day training course No.7 will be opened free of charge in the training hall of Yangon Region Industrial Supervision and Inspection Department on Kaba Aye Pagoda road on 2 and 3 May.

The experts from America will provide a course on the need of steam system optimization, Thermodynamics and Heat Transfer, and the use of Steam Best Practices Software Tools among others.

The applicants must be holders of Bachelors in Engineering or have minimal two-year experience working with boilers and be able to communicate in English language. The applicants have to download the form from www.ieemyanmar.com/?Page-id=4452 and submit it to email: A.ZIN@unido.org, T.OO@unido.org not later than 27 April.

Moreover, Energy Management System (En MS) user level two-day training course No.9 will be opened on 15 and 16 May and EnMS user level two-day training course No.10 will be opened on 18 and 19 May free of charge in the training hall of Yangon Region Industrial Supervision and Inspection Department on Kaba Aye Pagoda road. — *The mirror*



Local people in Maungtaw enjoy the last day of Rakhine traditional Thingyan festival on 19th April. PHOTO: TIN SOE

Rakhine traditional Thingyan festival in Maungtaw ends

Rakhine traditional Thingyan festival in Maungtaw was successfully completed yesterday. Rakhine traditional Thingyan festival in Maungtaw started on Myanmar New Year Day (April 17) and a closing ceremony was held on the last day, yesterday afternoon, with performance of dance troupes. Afterward ethnic Rakhine vocalists entertained the huge

crowd and the Rakhine traditional Thingyan festival in Maungtaw was successfully concluded at 6:30 p.m.

District and township officials, military and civil authorities, ethnic Rakhine vocalists, dance troupes, local elders and revelers from Maungtaw district attended the closing ceremony. — *Yamanya*

Alaungdaw Kathapa to be closed because of bad weather

ALAUNGDAW KATHAPA will be closed beginning from 21 April because of erratic weather, said an official from Yinmabin township general administration department.

The Alaungdaw Kathapa was opened to pilgrims on 27 January. On 20 April, the presiding monks and members of the pagoda board of trustees will discuss their progress of work as well as the future plans.

The ova-dacariya sayadaws and eminent monks from four townships will recite partitas at

the closing ceremony of Alaungdaw Kathapa on 21 April.

During the rainy season, the path leading to Alaungdaw Kathapa becomes muddy and dangerous. The number of local and foreign visitors coming to Alaungdaw Kathapa has increased this year. Alaungdaw Kathapa can be visited via Monywa town. Currently, Thayaw Kyin village section of the road is being upgraded and not completed yet.

Most of the Europeans visit Alaungdaw Kathapa.—200