

■ NATIONAL

VP U Henry Van Thio tours Rotterdam Port in the Netherlands

▶ PAGE 3



■ LOCAL NEWS

About 3 million passengers expected to take circular train in Yangon in 2020

▶ PAGE 4



■ LOCAL BUSINESS

Price of jade falls in Mandalay market post-Thingyan

▶ PAGE 2

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Wind and hail headed for northern Myanmar

THE weather bureau has warned of hailstones and gale-force winds in nine regions and states from 20 to 24 April due to a wave of dangerous weather that has moved from the west to east.

The Meteorology and Hydrology Department has alerted the people in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Bago regions and Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine states to take precautions to protect themselves from the gales, which may reach 30 to 35 mph and hailstorms, which might occur along with isolated heavy rainfall.

The weather bureau announced the warning following its 10.30 am observation yesterday.

Prominent weather expert Dr Tun Lwin has also warned in a Facebook post yesterday that the northern part of Myanmar comprised of Kachin State, Chin State and upper Sagaing Region are expected to receive moderate rainfall which may reach about 3 inches within three days and isolated heavy rainfall, with five to eight inches expected over Kachin State, upper Sagaing and northern Shan State in the same period.

“Due to heavy rainfall, local people should be alerted to flash floods and landslides and gales, lightning and hailstones due to cumulus clouds. Degree of certainty is 60 per cent,” said Dr Tun Lwin. He is also a former director-general of the Meteorology and Hydrology Department of



File photo shows roof damaged by hailstones at a village in Kyaukse, Mandalay, in April 2016. PHOTO: MIZZIMA

Myanmar.

Strong gales accompanied by heavy rain and hailstones struck two townships in Mandalay Region on 22 April in 2016, levelling trees, destroying houses and killing people and animals.

The water flowing downhill resulting from torrential rains caused havoc in the townships of Sintgaing and Kyaukse, blowing the roofs off over 450 buildings and killing six people and over 300 domestic animals, with two children reported missing.

Amid the weather warning, the Union Minister for Social



Tennis ball-sized hailstones from a 2016 storm. PHOTO: MIZZIMA

Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye is touring areas in central Myanmar that experienced natural disasters in April last year, as part of the ministry’s awareness campaign.

The ministry has been making efforts to get ready for natural disasters, stressing preparedness during the present year after taking lessons from previous years.

Due to a sudden rise of the water level in the Sinthay creek in August, 2016, Thanpayargone village, Letpan Ai village in Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw and Sattoepauk and Aung Chanthar villages in Yamethin township in Mandalay Region were flooded, with 37 houses under water, 373 houses ruined and a population of 1,783 rendered homeless.

SEE PAGE 3 >>

7 suspects in robbery in Maungtau Tsp arrested

SEVEN suspects were arrested in connection with a robbery that took place in Thawunchaung village in Maungtau township on 17 April.

On that day, four robbers including the person assumed to be Abdu Rahein entered the village of Thawunchaung, robbing and then shooting a villager.

Two days later, local police made a surprise search in the village of Inndin (west) village, also known as Htonsing village, at about 4pm and arrested seven suspects — Noro Salam, 24, Sirasu, 15, Rawfi Oolar, 13, Robby, 27, Mamauk Isuf, 45, Khaikro Salin, 20 and Noro Lamein, 26.

Initial investigation has been made in accord with the law, according to the State Counsellor Office’s information committee.— Myanmar News Agency

INSIDE

Rare Species — Ayeyawady Dolphins

ANALYSIS, PAGES 8-9

KBZ BANK
STRENGTH OF MYANMAR

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