Gov’t will effectively carry out rehabilitation of displaced people: Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye

THE Government is planning to establish the Department of Rehabilitation in order to effectively carry out the comeback of the displaced people in the country. Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye made the remark at the Amyotha Hluttaw yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw in his answer to a question raised by an MP, adding that the efforts of the new department would also be helpful for the peace-making in the country.

SEE PAGE-2

Chin State residents urged to cooperate for development

Vice President U Henry Van Thio has urged local authorities in Chin State to give priority to effective prevention of poaching and conservation of natural environment before the development of ecotourism.

He made the remark during his visit to Khonuamthung (Nat Ma Mountain) National Park in Chin State yesterday.

He also urged authorities and locals to cooperate in the conservation of wildlife and flora and fauna, as the park contains many of the world’s endangered species, including birds and orchids, and to educate the local people about environmental conservation.

Afterwards, the Vice President arrived in Khonuamthung (Nat Ma Mountain) National Park where Director General of Natural Resources and Environment Department Dr. Nyi Nyi Kyaw gave a presentation. State Chief Minister U Salai Lian Luai and Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin provided additional explanations.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio and party went on to Mindat Township Aye Sakhan Village, where they were greeted by traditional dances of the local people.

SEE PAGE-3
Gov’t urged to speed up implementation of mechanized farming system

THE seventh session of the second Pyithu Hluttaw held its 15th-day meeting yesterday morning, where questions on the farm sector were asked and answered, the Myanmar Historical Commission bill tabled, and a discussion was held on a motion urging the government to establish one-acre plots for the rapid implementation and success of a mechanised farming system.

First, six Hluttaw representatives, U Than Soe of Thazi constituency, Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung constituency, U Sai Kyaw Moe of Monggan constituency, Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency, Dr. Daw Khin Nyo of Degaye constituency and U Kyaw Soe of Bamauk constituency raised questions, which were answered by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw.

Next, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko tabled a motion on the Myanmar Historical Commission bill and the Pyithu Hluttaw bill committee read and explained its report on the bill. The Hluttaw speaker then requested the Hluttaw representatives who wanted to table an amendment to the bill to register their names.

A motion urging the government to accelerate the establishment of one-acre plots for the rapid implementation and success of a mechanised farming system was debated by several MPs.

In his discussion on the motion, U Hla Kyaw said the government had developed more than 62,300 acres of systematic farmlands from the fiscal years 2011-2012 to 2017-2018. The work for developing systematic farmlands includes water egress/ingress channels and creating a level one-acre rectangular field, which is costly. Depending on the farmland situation, these works cost from Ks1.2 to Ks2 million per acre. As farmers are unable to incur the expenses, the government is establishing such farmlands free of cost. Because of the high acreage of farmland areas, it will be difficult to incur these costs in the long run. Based on the experience of implementing systematic farmlands so far, the priority is to get the consensus of farmers who own small plots to develop an area. Even if there is a consensus, there are some who are against this, and they need to be persuaded, replied the Deputy Minister.

Hluttaw then agreed to put the motion on record and keep the matter under observation.

—Kyaw Thu Htet

Gov’t will effectively carry out rehabilitation of displaced people: Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye

FROM PAGE-1

“The rehabilitation works would be carried out as projects,” said Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye, “the department would join hands with local authorities, private businessmen, state governments and the Union Government to bring about creating job opportunities and emerging of border trade zones.”

He replied the question asked by U Kyaw Ni Naing of Shan State Constituency-11 if the Union Government has a plan to aid the displaced people fled from their homes due to armed conflicts.

The seventh session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw held its 15th-day meeting in the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall, where asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, and a bill and a motion were discussed.

Questions by U Kyaw Thaung of Sagaing Region constituency (1) and U Mahn Law Mo ung of Chin State constituency (8) on natural resources and environmental conservation matters were answered by Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win.

Next, a bill on the registration of deeds, approved and returned with amendments by the Pyithu Hluttaw, was discussed by U Win Maung of Magway Region constituency (6).

Later, a motion by U Pe Chit of Yangon Region constituency (9), urging the government to prevent the destruction and loss of natural resources in Myanmar as a national duty, was discussed by Dr. Khun Win of Kachin State constituency (11), Daw Myat Thida Tun of Mon State constituency (5), U Khin Mg Win of Sagain Region constituency (7), U Mahn Law Mo ung of Chin State constituency (8), U Zaw Hein of Taninthayi constituency (7) and U Khin Win of Magway Region constituency 2.

The 16th-day meeting of the seventh session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw is scheduled for 9 February—Aye Aye Thant (Myanmar News Agency)

Union Election Commission discusses 2020 election prospects

THE Union Election Commission (UEC) used the first day of a two-day meeting, in Nay Pyi Taw’s Grand Amara Hotel yesterday, to discuss the draft version of UEC’s strategic plan for 2018-2021, as well as the election process for the 2020 general elections.

Attending the meeting were UEC Chairman U Hla Thein; UEC members U Aung Myint, U Soe Yel, U Tun Khin, U Hla Tint, U Myint Naing and U Than Htay; members from state- and regional-level election commission; members from the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), and members from the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance.

U Hla Thein gave the opening speech and said that on the first day of the meeting, attendees will review and discuss the UEC’s strategic planning for 2018-2021, and on the second day, they will discuss the electoral process for 2020 in detail.

The UEC has interviewed and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the 2015 general election and 2017 by-election processes with international and domestic election watchdog groups, ministry officials, civil societies, political parties, and regional and state-level election commissions. The UEC and IFES used the data from the survey and compiled the 2018-2021 strategic plan for elections. The strategic plan has 11 chapters and details step-by-step procedures for the 2020 election.

U Hla Thein asked for feedback from the attendees on each chapter of the strategic plan. This was accomplished by dividing the attendees into three groups to go over the chapters.

The meeting will continue on the second day today. —Myanmar News Agency
Chin State residents urged to cooperate for development

FROM PAGE-1
Next, the Vice President arrived at the construction site of Chichaung Bridge situated between 50.4 km and 50.6 km on the Kanpetlet-Mindat Road, where Bridge Department Chief Engineer U Zaw Win Myint explained matters relating to the bridge.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio met with residents of the Kanpetlet Township in Chin State on Wednesday in the meeting hall of Win Unity Hotel in Kanpetlet Township and inspected road improvement works and other infrastructural projects.

The Vice President has been in Chin State since Monday and will soon conclude his visit.

Yesterday’s meeting was attended by Chin State Chief Minister U Salai Lian Luai, Chin State Hluttaw Speaker U Zo Bwe, Deputy Ministers Maj-Gen Than Hut and U Kyaw Lin, state ministers, Hluttaw representatives, Permanent Secretaries, Directors General and local residents.

At the meeting the Vice President said his visit was being conducted to observe the status of roads linking Chin State north and south and overall Chin State development. It was also made to listen to matters raised by the local people.

“Now is the time when concerted efforts are made from all sides and all means for the development of the country. It can be seen that the government is implementing regional development works practically by constructing main roads, road networks, airports, universities, colleges, upgrading hospitals and towns, supporting agriculture and livestock breeding sectors. The Kaladan River project is being implemented and constructed in Chin State. Due to this project work for India’s northeast region and Chin State can be exported via Sittway port while bilateral trade between India and Myanmar can be easily conducted. Both long and short-term programmes should be set up in advance to utilize this project for the best of the country and people. Economically beneficial agriculture and livestock breeding programmes are to be set up to replace the slash-and-burn hillside farms” he said.

“The Paletwa Bridge is scheduled to open in 2018-2019. The Laymyo River Project is also underway and it will become the second biggest hydro-electric project in the country. This project will greatly support the development of the country and its people and will be dependable for development of Chin State too. Local people need to understand the efforts made by the government and participate together in it. Only then can the fruits of development be rapidly achieved”, said the Vice President.

The Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin then reported on the status of constructing road networks and conducting regional development works. State Minister Salai Isaac Khin, Hluttaw representatives, local people and elders then explained about requirements for regional development, to which Chin State Chief Minister U Salai Lian Luai provided additional input.

The Vice President said regional development works should be implemented quickly and systematically according to the wishes of the people, and locals are urged to take part in establishing eco-tourism travel businesses.

The Vice President then went on to inspect a community-based travel business in Saunglaung Village, where State Minister Salai Isaac Khin and Permanent Secretary U Yi Mon and officials provided explanations. The Vice President commented on the need for providing electric power swiftly to villages where travel businesses will be set up and provided cash support to traditional dance troupe members.

Community-based travel businesses in Saunglaung Village are being established with the Forever Top Travel and Tour Company. Foreign visitors are starting to use the village-based travel businesses that were started in January 2017.

The Vice President and party also visited the elephant foot yam tuber and crops drying and value-adding work in Kanpetlet, Chin State.

The Vice President continued on to Mindat town and reached Pyay Village, where the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association Secretary Daw Sandar Myo explained about development matters relating to the agricultural economy and small and medium enterprises (SMEs). State minister Salai Isaac Khin and officials also provided additional explanations.

The Vice President commented on expanding the planting of fruits as it is an agricultural work that has a high possibility of success, especially in the international market.

“Producing value-added products through agriculture can replace the slash-and-burn hillside farms. The fruit drying factory project need to be implemented and all need to strive towards the establishment of such works and SMEs. The products of Chin State are chemical free, and should use this as strength in striving toward penetrating international markets”, said the Vice President. With regards to coffee, the Vice President said that internationally, if a grade of coffee is above 80, it is considered as special grade and coffees from Pyin Oo Lwin, Ywangan and Thandaung areas are from 84 to 86 while coffee from Chin State is at 96 and thus among the world’s top grade.

From there, Vice President U Henry Van Thio and party reached Pyay Village, where they were again greeted by traditional dances performed by the local people. They then continued on to Mindat town and thence to Bagan. —Myanmar News Agency
Traditional pot enterprise creates job opportunities for local women

MAKING traditional earthborn pots was practiced by ancestors in Pazun Myaung village in Nyaunglebin Township. So this traditional craft has been preserved and now it can offer local women opportunities.

Best sellers can be made from clay or they are shaped with a narrow-neck and the bottom is jug-shaped. Other best sellers include big pots, cooking pots and water pots. Among these, clay water pots are the most popular. The price for a pot ranges from 1000 Ks to 1500 Ks and the cost of a pot which is equipped with tap is about 4500 Ks according to Daw Chaw Chaw, one of the pot makers in Pazun Myaung Village.

“Pots are made of clay and there are four colors of clay, black, brown, sepia and yellow. The yellow color pot is the most attractive to make. First, the clay is soaked for one or two nights. Then, the soaked clay is mixed with sand that is not too rough or smooth and this mixture has to be covered with cloth. It also needs to be stamped with the pot maker’s feet so the mixture is sticky the next day. Afterwards, based on the size of the pot, a round ball is made and this clay ball is put on the potter’s wheel and it can be shaped any way the potter wants. Then before the pots are not dry, a wooden stick is used to draw designs around the sides of the pots and the pots designed on their sides are baked in a kiln” she added. The local pots are distributed to Nyaunglebin, Shwe-gin, Kyaukdawga, Pyu, Toungoo, Mon State and Yangon Region. —Myanmar Digital News

A ferry boat sinks in Andaman Sea

A FERRY-BOAT from Warkyun village in Kawthoung Township that carried students who attended school in Pulawbaline Village sank in the sea while taking students to school yesterday morning.

Sixteen students have been rescued from the boat by fishermen from a nearby village.

The ferry boat sank due to the crashing of waves into the ferry boat from a wake that a much larger boat created when it crossed the ferry’s path.

Children who live in villages near the sea went to school by ferry boat because some of the villages do not have primary schools. Relevant organizations should provide life-jackets, umbrellas and raincoats to those who have a difficult time commuting to school by ferry boat in addition a new school should be opened in Warkyun village that’s affiliated according to the voices of the local residents. —Myanmar Digital News

Heroin seized in Indaw

THE police seized heroin from Indaw township at 9 p.m. on 7 February.

A combined force of the anti-narcotics squad from Katha inspected a vehicle driven by Win Zaw Oo (a) Arr Phein on the Indaw-Napha-Myitkyina road in Indaw Township.

The police seized 99 soap boxes of heroin, weighing 990 grams, and a handgun from the vehicle. The police have filed charges against the suspect under the anti-narcotics law. —Myanmar Police Force
Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association to apply for licence to import pure gold blocks

The Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association will seek an import licence from the Commerce Ministry to buy pure gold blocks from China and Thailand, U Myo Myint told City News.

The Commerce Ministry announced on 22 January that gold and jewellery products could be exported, as well as imported into the country. Gold entrepreneurs have welcomed the announcement, as earlier, gold was being imported illegally into the country from China.

The closure of manageable gold mines results in a decrease in gold production. However, it is a temporary ban.

“The association will apply for an export licence when there is an international expo or foreign buyers. We will apply for the import licence soon,” U Htone, goldsmith and jewellery shop owner, as well as chairman of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association, told City News.

The price of domestic gold is hovering on the higher side, although it has slipped a bit. The market is seeing some gold trade now.

The export and import of gold and jewellery products can be carried out through sea routes, border trade gates and air routes. International buyers can make payments through letters of credit or the telegraphic transfer system, which is regulated by the Central Bank of Myanmar. Seeking import/export licences and registrations, as well as evaluating the price, value, quality and volume of the products, are obligatory for importers and exporters.

Registration requires a certificate from the Myanmar Gems Enterprise and the Department of Mines or a business permit from the Yangon City Development Committee.

A committee to observe and control the market, including officials from the Planning and Finance Ministry, Commerce Ministry, Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Ministry, Education Ministry research centres, as well as representatives from the Myanmar Central Gold Committee, will appraise the quality, value, price and volume of gold and jewellery products and give approval over their import and export.

If unscrupulous activities are found, the scamsters will be given a warning first. If they commit illegal acts a second time, their import/export licences will be revoked, and action will be taken against the offenders under existing laws.—GNLM

Myanmar-Thailand border trade reaches $1.2 billion within 10 months

The value of border trade between Myanmar and Thailand has reached nearly US$1.16 billion, with the Myawady border trade gate accounting for the largest volume of trade, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The Myanmar-Thailand border trade totalled $1.16 billion this fiscal year, between 1 April 2017 and 26 January 2018, which included $336 million in exports and $824 million in imports.

The Myanmar-Thailand border trade includes Tachileik border trade camp in Shan State, Myawady border trade camp in Kayin State, Kawthoung border camp, Myeik border trade camp, HteeKhee border trade camp, Mawtaung border trade camp in the Taninthayi Region and Maese border camp in Kayah State.

The value of border trade reached $63.5 million in Tachileik, $726.8 million in Myawady, $154.03 million in Kawthoung, $205.4 million in Myeik, $4.38 million in HteeKhee, $5.67 million in Mawtaung and $8.75 million in Maese.

Myanmar primarily exports fishery products such as crab, fish and shrimp, as well as onions, sesame, dry tea leaves, coconut and turmeric, while consumer goods, cosmetic machinery, food products, agricultural equipment and track cars are imported into the country from Thailand.—GNLM
Union Minister U Thaung Tun receives Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan

U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, received Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan (National Security) Mr. Kentaro Sonoura at 11 am on 8 February 2018 at the Ministry of the Union Government Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

They exchanged views on Myanmar-Japan bilateral relations, the peace process and Japan’s Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy. The meeting was attended by senior officials from the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government.—Myanmar News Agency

FDA conducts awareness campaign in Nay Pyi Taw

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) officials are conducting campaigns on 8 February to make the public aware of the fast food products, medicines and cosmetics they are buying from Thapyaygone and Myoma markets in Nay Pyi Taw.

The FDA workers have put up posters and distributed pamphlets among the visitors. They have also set up signboards in the public area.

“We found that both sellers and buyers lack knowledge about their products. We believe that providing awareness is the effective way to deal with the situation. Today, some 25 officials are providing awareness in various areas. We will continue with our activities in the future too. We are providing awareness to the public in different ways,” said Dr. Tun Lin Aung, Deputy Director of FDA.

FDA is not only providing pamphlets, posters and stick- ers but also umbrellas and calendars with educational slogans.—Mee Mee Phyo

Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun receives UNESCO head in Myanmar

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun received Ms Min Jeong Kim, head of UNESCO Office Myanmar, at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed reviews on the Assessment of Myanmar Media Report Development, the sphere of the ministry that must be prioritised for the development of the media, the framework of the right to information law, matters related to sending a media group to Rakhine State, implementing the codes of conduct for the media, and cooperation in media information literacy programmes.—Myanmar News Agency

Final examinations of basic education schools underway

THE second day of the final examinations for basic education school levels was held yesterday.

The examinations held during the 2017-2018 academic year are the final examinations for second, third, fifth, sixth, seventh and ninth grades.

The basic education level final examination for the fourth grade will be held from 19 to 23 February while the eighth grade final examination will be held from 19 to 26 February.

The matriculation examination from 7 to 16 March will see some 844,237 candidates, including 518,006 students from schools across the country and some 326,331 from outside of schools (repeaters), sitting for the examination.

In addition to this, there are some 102 candidates serving sentences in Insein Correctional Department and Mandalay Correctional Department, who will sit for the matriculation examination. Last year, seven students from the two correctional departments passed the matriculation examination.—Myanmar News Agency
UNION Day is always celebrated on 12 February, and this year, Union Day falls on a Monday, giving most people a rare three-day weekend.

For those who usually have Saturdays and Sundays off, some may use this opportunity to go on a short vacation or a pilgrimage to a nearby pagoda, while others may spend more time with family and friends. No doubt Yangon’s public spaces and pagodas will be filled with people and their families relaxing.

We’ve asked a cross-section of people how they will be spending their Union Day holiday.

**U Maw Naing Tun (In-charge of Yangon’s Disaster Management Department)**

A lot of civil servants spend their off days with their families. I will be spending the three-day holiday with my family visiting pagodas. We’re going to People’s Park on Union Day to join in on the celebrations there, and on the way home we may go to a bookstore.

**Sayar U Kyaw Min (Ministry of Education Staff, retired)**

I just moved to Yangon from a rural area, so I’m out of touch with my neighbourhood, but I plan to stay at home and spend time with my family. We’ll discuss family matters and I can give them guidance. During the long holidays like Thingyan I usually go back to my hometown and make donations. The public holidays are the only time I can sit down with my working children and talk with them.

**Ma Zinmar (Salesperson, Ever Seiko Co. Ltd)**

I’m going to go to a beach with my friends. We haven’t seen each other in a while, so it’s exciting.

**Daw Thida Win (Teacher, Nay Chi Private High School, Magway)**

I’ll be on a work visit to Yangon this weekend, and I’ll probably be visiting its famous pagodas. However, my students have their matriculation exam coming up, so I’m quite occupied. But I do have plans to take a vacation, maybe abroad, in the summer.

People relaxing on lush green floor at Maha Bandula Park in Yangon. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**
The author of this article turns around andIterable the conservative and conventional media practices of the world community that have existed on this planet for many centuries. The people of the world, the nations and the governments have been handling the well-designed tools such as the media control, the media policy and the media applications in one way or another for the nation’s functional system, the interest, the sovereignty, and the policy strategy.

All the talks with wide rang ing topics about the media freedom are in the forefront and continuing while the information technology is on the rise. Since the human is growing without interven tion and all that the people could participate in this, which is complicated with the affordable and cheap devices in this media market. Instead, the buzz word “media freedom” is now at the center stage that needs an affordable and satisfying solution.

When we talked about the media freedom, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is issued in 1950 December 10th comes into my mind.

In article (19), it is mentioned as follows.

“Article 19 Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression. Everyone has the right to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”

Indeed, this specification is to be accepted, ratified, and abide by. Along with the freedom, the concept of taking accountability and responsibility come together in finding solution and that many people in the world today brace this trend and work on it.

In the democratic nations, the citizens must have the ways and means to receive reliable information in time so that they could decide and choose whatever they decided. All the activities and the works of the democratic government must be provided through the media to the public for evaluation and assessment without fail.

The people have the right to evaluate and assess over the accuracy, validity and authority of information being provided by the government officials through the media. The main role and obligation of the media is not to put the burden and anxiety towards the public. The responsible officials for providing information from the government departments must never ever attack and mix up themselves either as friend or with the outside media personnel. Ensuring correct information is the main responsibility for them.

Covering up or revealing information with ill intention ever good news or bad news is going back into the past, and it is such way of handling information must not continue.

Either for civic societies circumstances or other undesirable perceptions, the release of news must never be an impediment or hindrance. The flow of information in the public interest has to be provided in particular hands of wrong people, the news censorship, which could lead to the needless third of news by the public.

All the matters must be handled by the skilled persons and professionals and responsible people so that the proper channel for solution of media problems could be opened up to see at the earliest. It is equal and corresponding to the realization and recognition of democratic norms.

Media and relevant laws

The first step of media freedom is the freedom of expression and it is parallel with the inter pretation of never hurting others or environment. In the notion of common desire, the media freedom is in line with the fundamental law and media law, and that this point is very much important. It is very imperative that the government, the organization or the person must issue true press release in the media and the adulterated or tainted news. It is the foundation of media freedom. In India, the freedom of media has been mentioned in the 24th Constitution, as follows:

31- Every citizen shall be at liberty in the exercise of the following rights, if not contrary to the laws, enacted by the union security previsions of law and or arrangement community peace and tranquility and public order and morality:

(a) to hold opinions and conviction;
(b) to assemble peacefully with all arms and holdingprocessed.

The media freedom is integral part of the media freedom, and the appalling writing of the media freedom is the main reason for the restriction and manipulation over the international media with the respect of the news media, and the appalling writing of the media freedom is the main reason for the restriction and manipulation over the international media.

In the democratic nations, the news media is the main reason for the restriction and manipulation over the international media with the respect of the news media, and the appalling writing of the media freedom is the main reason for the restriction and manipulation over the international media.

The main role and obligation of the media is not to put the burden and anxiety towards the public.

In the People’s Republic of China, the Radio and TV sector is under the government control from 1949 to 1972. After 1972, the television and radio sector is under the government control, but as it is being liberalized, the government is working to develop media freedom, and the media freedom is being liberalized.

In 1983, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of the Republic of China issued the Radio News Broadcasting Law and it has been working and oversee the restriction imposed over the over the international media with the respect of the news media.

The authority that is responsible to manage the news media is the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of the Republic of China. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of the Republic of China has been working and oversee the restriction imposed over the over the international media with the respect of the news media.

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Tourists’ visits to Shwedagon pagoda decline in January

THE number of tourists visiting Shwedagon pagoda has declined in January 2018, compared with the same period last year, according to a report in City News yesterday.

“The number of tourists visiting the pagoda in January 2018 was down compared to the same period in 2017,” said U Lay Myint, Director of Bago Regional Heritage Trust.

Statistics show that the number of tourists visiting the pagoda in January 2018 was lower than in January 2017. The pagoda hosted 78,000 tourists in January 2018, down from 80,000 last year.

The entrance fees for the Shwedagon pagoda increased from 1 December 2017. The entrance fee for a local tourist is Ks10,000, compared to Ks5,000 in 2017.

Local farmers face difficulties due to decrease in winter crop price

LOCAL farmers, who are growing winter crops in eight townships, are facing difficulties because of the decreasing price and supply of winter crops in the local market, according to a report in City News yesterday.

Winter crops are grown mainly in Bago, Waw, Daik U, Thanatpin, Kawa, Shwegyin, Kyaukdaga and Nyaunglebin in Bago District. Locals in these townships mainly cultivate summer paddy on more than 150,000 acres, groundnut on more than 80,000 acres, sesame on more than 20,000 acres, and sunflower on more than 1,500 acres.

“A variety of pulses, which are winter crops, grow in our region. Due to unexpected rainfall this year, the crops were destroyed, and our farmers are facing losses. Recently, we are trying to produce some 100 baskets of winter crops per basket. Also, we are providing local farmers, who are planting summer crops, with knowledge of technical methods to use fertilisers and seeds,” said U Lay Myint, Director of Bago Agricultural Department.

Recently, the Bago district cultivated summer paddy on more than 80,000 acres of land, a variety of pulses on more than 15,000 acres, sesame on 50,000 acres and sunflower on more than 150 acres. Most of the winter crops are cultivated in Kawa Township, Bago District.

Three children injured in an explosion

THREE children were injured in an explosion on 7 February; the explosion was supposedly caused by connecting wires from a detonator to a 1.5 V battery. The children, who are above 23 years of age, were admitted to Kalayw General Hospital, according to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

 Authorities to issue application forms for purchase of over 1,000 apartments

THE Yangon Urban and Housing Development Department (UHDD) will issue application forms for the purchase of over 1,000 apartments in six townships in the Yangon Region, starting from the third week of February, according to a report in Myawady Daily.

The department will sell the apartments through a 15-year installment plan. The application form will be sold by the Yangon region government from 15 February to 15 March at a cost of Ks10,000. The application forms will be in different colours for government staff, retired, company staff and the public. The department will sell the apartments to only those who are above 23 years of age and do not own homes.

The apartments for sale are in Inwa and San Thar housing in South Dagon Township; Yanza housing Phase-1 and Phase-2 and Kanaung housing in Dagon Seikkan Township; Kyi Pwar Yay housing in Thaungyin Township; Shop House in Shwe Pyida Township; Shwe Lin Pan Housing and Htee Haling in Hlaingthaya Township; and Shwe Pauk Kan housing in North Okkalapya, according to an official of the UHDD.

The low-cost and affordable apartments start from Ks10 million to Ks50 million. —GNLM

Three ten-year old boys from Kalewa town in Sagaing Region were walking on a road in their ward and found a detonator with wires in front of an empty house. One of the children connected the wires of the device to a 1.5 V battery, and an explosion occurred. They received minor injuries.

Authorities to issue application forms for purchase of over 1,000 apartments

THE Urban and Housing Development Department (UHDD), which operates under the Ministry of Construction, will issue application forms for the purchase of more than 1,000 apartments in six townships in the Yangon Region, starting from the third week of February, according to a report in Myawady Daily.

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Local farmers face difficulties due to decrease in winter crop price

LOCAL farmers, who are growing winter crops in eight townships, are facing difficulties because of the decreasing price and supply of winter crops in the local market, according to a report in City News yesterday.

Winter crops are grown mainly in Bago, Waw, Daik U, Thanatpin, Kawa, Shwegyin, Kyaukdaga and Nyaunglebin in Bago District. Locals in these townships mainly cultivate summer paddy on more than 150,000 acres, groundnut on more than 80,000 acres, sesame on more than 20,000 acres, and sunflower on more than 1,500 acres.

“A variety of pulses, which are winter crops, grow in our region. Due to unexpected rainfall this year, the crops were destroyed, and our farmers are facing losses. Recently, we are trying to produce some 100 baskets of winter crops per basket. Also, we are providing local farmers, who are planting summer crops, with knowledge of technical methods to use fertilisers and seeds,” said U Lay Myint, Director of Bago Agricultural Department.

Recently, the Bago district cultivated summer paddy on more than 80,000 acres of land, a variety of pulses on more than 15,000 acres, sesame on 50,000 acres and sunflower on more than 150 acres. Most of the winter crops are cultivated in Kawa Township, Bago District.

—GNLM
Union Peace Commission Chairman meets Asia-Pacific Scout Committee members

Dr. Tin Myo Win, Chairman of the Union Peace Commission and patron of the Myanmar Scouts Association, met with Paul Parkinson, regional chair of the Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Committee, at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC), Yangon at 10 a.m. yesterday.

In his opening speech to the meeting’s attendees, the Union Chief Justice said judicial reforms were conducted by drawing up a three-year strategic plan (2015-2017), with the work processes implemented annually. But the work is far from over, he said.

The judicial reform work is a continuous, long-term process and a judiciary five-year strategic project (2018-2022) will be implemented successively. The Union Supreme Court will lead, while states/regions High Courts will manage the successful implementation of the judiciary five-year strategic project (2018-2022), he said.

“Freedom of the courts, integrity of the judges, impartial court processes and trust of the people on the courts’ effectiveness are the main factors that make the judicial system exist. To retain the trust and reliance of the people, judges need to maintain their ethics and perform their duties diligently. Only then will the judiciary benefit the people” the Union Chief Justice said.

On cases that were filed and decided from 1 January to 31 December 2017, the Union Chief Justice said the Union Supreme Court accepted 1,543 criminal, 2,503 civil and 287 certiorari cases were decided. District courts accepted 20,478 criminal and 12,644 civil cases, of which 18,820 criminal and 11,238 civil cases were decided. Township courts accepted 365,256 criminal and 27,287 civil cases, of which 355,351 criminal and 24,227 civil cases were decided.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw joint bill committee holds meeting

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw joint bill committee held a meeting to discuss the revenue appeals tribunal bill, which was held in the second-floor meeting room, D Block, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker; Joint Bill Committee and Public Accounts Joint Committee Chairman U Aye Tha Aung; deputy chairmen, secretaries and members of the joint bill committee; Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s legal affairs and special cases assessment commission members; and officials from Union Government office, Union Chief Justice office, Council of Advocate, the ministry of agriculture, livestock and irrigation, ministry of planning and finance, the union attorney general office, the Union Auditor General Office, UMFCCI, Myanmar Account Association and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw office. — Myanmar News Agency

Judicial reform is ongoing, says Union Chief Justice

THE 14th coordination meeting of the Union Supreme Court and states/regions High Courts was held yesterday morning at the meeting hall of Union Supreme Court, Nay Pyi Taw, at which Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo said judicial reforms are ongoing.

In his opening speech to the meeting’s attendees, the Union Chief Justice said judiciary reforms were conducted by drawing up a three-year strategic plan (2015-2017), with the work processes implemented annually. But the work is far from over, he said.

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Juvenile Courts (Yangon and Mandalay) received 450 cases, of which 409 were decided. Municipal Courts (Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay) accepted 23,081 cases and decided 23,103 cases that includes 22 cases from last year.

Traffic offence courts (Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay) accepted and decided on 146,296 cases. The Union Supreme Court confirmed 2,352 lawyers as Advocate and 879 lawyers as high court lawyers in 2017, said the Union Chief Justice.

The coordination meeting was attended by Supreme Court Judges, States/Regions Chief Judges, directors general, deputy directors general and directors from Union Supreme Court Office and Office of the Union Judiciary Supervision, States/Regions chief law officers and district judges. The coordination meeting will be held from 8 to 10 February; it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency
Development projects carried out in Tanai Township, Kachin State

SEVERAL rural development projects have been carried out in Shihibweyan, a town in Tanai Township in far-flung Kachin State, to improve the socio-economic condition of the rural community.

As part of the development, authorities are currently implementing a project to establish new transport infrastructure in the town from January.

U Zaw Win, an MP from Tanai constituency, said that road and bridge construction projects are being carried out throughout the town by using funds from the government and parliament budgets. The township development committee contributed Ks150 million for the projects. The projects are expected to be finalised within the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

There are four wards in the town, and each earthen road is approximately 12 feet wide. Some of them will be paved with concrete under this project, said U Tha Myint, a project implementer.

U Zaw Yaung, who resides in ward 4, said: “As blue-collar labourers, we receive Ks7,000 as daily wages thanks to these development projects. We are happy to build new roads and bridges that provide us with employment opportunities and a better transport system. Earlier, the town’s residents faced transport barriers, especially during the rainy season.”—EPN

Dance troupes to perform at National Landmark Garden on 11th February

Traditional dance troupes from regions and states will perform at the National Landmark Garden in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 February to mark the 8th anniversary of the founding of the garden.

The dance troupes will perform at the National Landmark Garden in Nay Pyi Taw to attend the 71st Union Day celebration in Nay Pyi Taw. The garden has significant landmark of each State and Region in the Union of Myanmar. It has purposely for the sake of recreation and relaxation to public all over the country as well as to have general knowledge on typical living style of national races of the states and regions at one glance in one visit to one place.

Entrance to the performance is free.—MNA

Notice of Final Winding Up Mizuho Bank Limited Yangon Representative Office

The Yangon Representative Office, consequent in its upgrading to that of a branch, closed down on 3 August 2015 and a Notice to Creditors for submission of their claims, if any, was inserted in the Gazette.

Now that all claims and liability having been met, Notice is hereby given that the affairs of the Yangon Representative Office will be finally wound up as from March 9, 2018.

Maung Maung Aung Attorney & Liquidator Mizuho Bank Limited (Yangon Representative Office in Liquidation)

A workshop on development and conservation of the Far Eastern Himalaya region organised by the Ministry for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) was held yesterday at the Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry for Natural Resources and Environment Conservation U Khin Maung Yi extended opening remarks at the workshop.

The workshop was attended by Director-General of the Department of Forestry, Deputy Director (Admin), and officials from the department, and representatives from relevant Departments, representatives of WCS, UNESCO and ICIMOD.

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is a regional intergovernmental learning and knowledge sharing centre serving the seven regional member countries of the Hindu Kush Himalayas including India, China and the Brahmaputra Thanlawin region.

The programme of conservation and development of the Brahmaputra Thanlawin region was discussed in 2009 and changed its name to Landscape Initiative for Far Eastern Himalaya (HI-LIFE) at the fifth regional meeting held in Kathmandu in Nepal, in 2014.

HI-LIFE represents the region which is 71,452 sq. km wide, and is known as a collaborative effort of Myanmar, China and India.

HI-LIFE is funded by GIZ from Germany which aims at promoting and improving the socio-economic life of local people, conservation of river resources, and recording the customs and traditions of local people. HI-LIFE will contribute to efforts for the Khabarani National Park to be listed as a UNESCO world heritage site.—Myanmar News Agency

A woman from Maubin, Ayeyawady Region who reported a knifepoint robbery to Kyeeemyindine Police was convicted of false accusations and for filing a false police report yesterday.

Ma Hlaing Hnin Wai told police that on 7 February at 6 a.m. she hired a taxi near Tayetaw Monastery in Lannmadaw Township on Bogoke Road to travel to Pansodan to meet her parents. She reported to police that, instead of going to Pansodan, the cab driver headed towards Myingone Township. She reported that another man entered the car while at a red light and made off with her VIVO mobile phone and purse containing Ks500,000. The driver then allegedly dropped her off near the Old Thirimingalar market in Kyeeemyindine. After a thorough cross-examination and reviewing CCTV records along the road, it was found that her accusations were false. She was sentenced to 3 months of hard labour. Her motive for the false report could not be determined.—Myanmar News Agency
Bangkok air pollution warning, children asked to stay indoors

BEIJING — Residents in Bangkok, one of the world’s top tourist destinations, were warned on Thursday the city’s air quality had hit dangerous levels just days after the country’s pollution control agency appealed to residents to wear face masks.

Air pollution in the Thai capital has come under increasing scrutiny in recent weeks with residents complaining of smog and respiratory problems. Some schools were closed on Thursday or kept children indoors.

Air Quality Index (AQI) formulas usually include up to six main pollutants including PM2.5, PM10, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and ground level ozone. The Pollution Control Department reported PM2.5 dust in the Bangkok Metropolitan at midday on Thursday and at midday it was measured at 72-95 micrograms per m3, with the likelihood that it would increase. That compares with a World Health Organization (WHO) guideline of an annual average of no more than 10 micrograms. PM2.5 is a mixture of liquid droplets and solid particles that can include dust, dirt, soot and smoke.

“We’ve warned at-risk groups including sick people... the elderly and children. We’ve warned that they must not conduct activities outdoors,” Suwanna Tiansuwan, deputy director general of the Pollution Control Department, said.

Natural disasters killed 27 in China in January

BEIJING — Natural disasters killed 27 people in China in January, according to the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the National Commission for Disaster Reduction Thursday.

Casualties and losses caused is worse than the average level in the same period over the previous five years, the authorities said in a report. More than 40,000 people were displaced, the report said, adding that the disasters also left about 143,000 people short of basic necessities. About 2,000 houses were destroyed and another 2,000 seriously damaged. About 973,000 hectares of crops were damaged.

Natural disasters last month caused 16.3 billion yuan (2.6 billion U.S. dollars) of direct economic losses, the report said. The report said natural disasters in the month were mainly caused by low temperatures, heavy snow, rain and frost, which had been intense and long-lasting across a wide swath of China.—Reuters

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 12th (Monday) February 2018 " Union Day " under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the Flood and Landslide Emergency Recovery Project (FLERP). The IDA No. of the credit agreement is No. 5888-MM. The Department of Highways (DOH) of the Ministry of Construction, in its role as implementing agency of the FLERP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/Contracts C4-MOC-G07 BIS, for the supply of Double Cab Project Inspection Vehicles. DOH now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

Reference Number: C4-MOC-G07 BIS - Double Cab Project Inspection Vehicles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference No.</th>
<th>Lot No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>C4-MOC-G07 BIS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Double Cab Project Inspection Vehicles</td>
<td>4 vehicles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supply to
Department of Rural Development, Office No.(14), Nay Pyi Taw

Expressions of interest must be submitted in a written form to the email address below and clearly indicate the reference numbers above. Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will receive AN INVITATION TO QUOTE (ITQ).

Sealed Quotations will be submitted to the address below at the latest at the dead line of Thursday 22 February 2018 at 11:00am Myanmar time after which no Quotations will be accepted.
The vehicles will be contracted in 1 (one) contract.

The Suppliers will be selected following the following Methodologies based on the “Guidelines for Procurement of Goods and Non-Consulting Services under IDA Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011 and revised in July 2014.

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to: Mr. U Min Zaw, Project Director, Department of Highways of the Ministry of Construction, Office No. (11), Nay Pyi Taw. Office phone and fax (+95-67) 407583 Email: flerp-moc@gmail.com. Please indicate one of the references numbers above as well as your e-mail address as a request to receive the ITQ will be filed.

The skyline is seen through morning air pollution in Bangkok, Thailand 08 February 2018.

PHOTO: REUTERS

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Photograph shows air pollution levels in Bangkok, Thailand 08 February 2018.

PHOTO: REUTERS

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Photograph shows air pollution levels in Bangkok, Thailand 08 February 2018.

PHOTO: REUTERS
Tarantino says Thurman movie car crash among ‘biggest regrets’

LOS ANGELES — Director Quentin Tarantino said a car crash that seriously injured Uma Thurman on the set of “Kill Bill” was one of “the biggest regrets of his life,” but denied that he forced the actress to carry it out.

Thurman, who appeared in three Tarantino movies, told the New York Times in a Saturday article that she felt Tarantino had tried to kill her in the 2003 crash, which crushed her knees and left her with a concussion.

Thurman also released video of the crash from the set of the martial arts movie, leading to harsh criticism of Tarantino on social and mainstream media.

Tarantino, responding in an interview with Hollywood website Deadline.com on Monday, said Thurman’s car crashed because there was an unseen curve in the road.

“Watching her fight for the wheel ... remembering me hammering about how it was safe and she could do it. Emphasizing that it was a straight road, a straight road ... the fact that she believed me, and I literally watched this little S curve pop up. And it spins her like a top,” Tarantino said.

“It was heartbreaking. Beyond one of the biggest regrets of my career, it is one of the biggest regrets of my life,” he added.

Tarantino denied ignoring Thurman’s anxiety about driving but acknowledged he had been mistaken about the safety of the road.

“I didn’t force her into the car. She got into it because she trusted me,” he said.

Thurman said he and Thurman reconciled years ago and had talked since the New York Times story was published.

“We’re in turmoil about the uprising against me this weekend. She never meant this to roll over onto me,” he told Deadline.

The Oscar-winning director also said that incidents when he spat on Thurman and choked her with a chain were part of the filming process for “Kill Bill” and were carried out with her consent to make the scenes realistic.

Thurman said on her Instagram account on Monday that she was proud of Tarantino for making the crash video available to her after 15 years, saying he did so “with full knowledge it could cause him personal harm.”

Thurman’s account of the car crash overshadowed her accusations of sexual misconduct by Harvey Weinstein, who produced “Kill Bill” and “Pulp Fiction.”

Weinstein’s lawyer on Saturday acknowledged the producer “making an awkward pass” in 1994 but said Thurman’s accusations of an attempted physical assault were false.—Reuters

Australian burger chain settles dispute with Crocodile Dundee actor

SYDNEY - Australian burger chain Grill’d has paid A$20,000 ($15,640) to actor Paul Hogan and a charity to settle a dispute over the use of one the “Crocodile Dundee” actor’s most famous lines, his lawyer said on Thursday.

Hogan filed a lawsuit against the restaurant group in the Federal Court in December, accusing Grill’d of “misleading or deceptive conduct” by associating themselves with the Hogan brand without consent.

Grill’d had used a variation of the line “That’s not a knife... that’s a knife” from the 1986 movie “Crocodile Dundee” on the sleeves covering its knives.

Hogan both co-wrote and starred in “Crocodile Dundee”, the tale of an Australian bushman at home in the outback who finds himself a fish out of water in New York.

The movie was a commercial and critical hit, garnering the Australian actor a Golden Globe Award for best actor and an Academy Award nomination for best screenplay.

Hogan’s lawyer, Andrew Richardson, told Reuters that Grill’d had agreed to withdraw the controversial sleeves at all their outlets, pay Hogan A$10,000 for his legal costs, and donate another A$10,000 to the charity Cure Cancer Australia.

“We are pleased to have settled this issue with Paul Hogan and proud to donate the money to Cure Cancer, and such a worthwhile cause,” Grill’d director Simon Crowe said in emailed statement. Hogan, a longtime supporter of Cure Cancer Australia, said the donation was chosen because cancer is one of the country’s leading causes of death.— Reuters

Robin Williams’ death linked to rise in copycat suicides

LOS ANGELES — Suicide rates in the United States spiked almost 10 percent following the death in 2014 of actor Robin Williams, and spiked even more among men and those who ended their lives, like Williams, by suffocation, according to a study published on Wednesday.

The study, published in the scientific journal PLOS One, found that in the five months from August to December 2014 some 18,690 deaths by suicide were recorded - an increase of 9.85 percent from the expected number of cases for the period.

Williams, the Oscar-winning star of “Good Morning, Vietnam” who was beloved for his humor, died in August 2014 at age 63 in a suicide that shocked fans worldwide. Authorities said he died of asphyxia after hanging himself at his home in northern California. An autopsy found that Williams was suffering from Lew body dementia, which causes a progressive decline in mental ability.

Suicides following Williams’ death rose by 12.9 per cent in men aged 30-44, and the study found a 32 per cent increase in the number of deaths from suffocation. Although the study could not prove a definitive link, it said there appeared to be a connection.

Extensive media coverage of Williams’ death “might have proved the necessary stimulus for high-risk segments of the US population (e.g. middle-aged men in despair) to move from suicidal ideation to attempt.”

While the effects of widely reported celebrity suicides have previously been linked to increases in the wider population, the study said media coverage of Williams’ suicide was particularly detailed and sensational and was amplified through social media.

The suicide in 1994 of Nirvana lead singer Kurt Cobain, for example, appeared to have had a minimal impact on suicide rates in his Seattle home town, partly because of more restricted reporting, the study said. — Reuters
Shinhan Bank donates ambulance to Yankin Children’s Hospital

Employees of the Shinhan Bank in the Republic of Korea donated an ambulance to Yankin Children’s Hospital yesterday to celebrate the long friendship between Myanmar and Korea.

Ms. Chaewon-ri, Vice President of Shinhan Bank, handed over the vehicle with the name “Ambulance of Love” worth US$20,500 (Ks27.28 million) to Dr. Myint Myint Khang, Medical Superintendent of the hospital.

Mr. Hwang Won Rae, Chairman of the Korea Labour Welfare Centre, explained the purpose of the donation at the ceremony held yesterday at the hospital.

At the ceremony, U Tauk Tun, the managing director of Kyal Sin Arr Man Co., Ltd. was also honored for helping bring the ambulance from Korea to Yangon—Saw Thein Win

Lagos art lovers get chance to bid for long-lost masterpiece found in London

LONDON/LAGOS — A portrait of a Nigerian princess that was lost for more than 40 years has been found in a London flat and will be sold at an auction screened live in Lagos, allowing Nigerian art lovers to make bids direct from the West African mega-city.

“Tutu”, by Nigeria’s best-known modern artist Ben Enwonwu, was painted in 1974 and appeared at an art show in Lagos the following year but its whereabouts after that were unknown until it re-surfaced in north London.

“It was his greatest masterpiece and people have been asking ‘where is Tutu?’ So to have this image turn up is extraordinary,” said Giles Peppiatt, an expert in modern and contemporary African art at London auction house Bonhams, who identified the painting.

The portrait of Adetutu Ademiluyi, who was a grand-daughter of a revered traditional ruler from the Yoruba ethnic group, holds special significance in Nigeria as a symbol of national reconciliation after the 1967-1970 Biafran War.

Enwonwu belonged to the Igbo ethnic group, the largest in the southeastern region of Nigeria that had tried to secede under the name of Biafra.

The Yoruba people, whose homeland is in the southwest, were mostly on the opposing side in the war.

Enwonwu painted three versions of the portrait. The other two remain lost, although prints first made in the 1970s have been in circulation ever since and the images are familiar to many Nigerians. Enwonwu died in 1994.

Oliver Enwonwu, the artist’s son, is president of the Society of Nigerian Artists. “This is a very significant discovery, given my father’s contribution to Nigerian art and African art, more broadly,” he told Reuters in Lagos.

Peppiatt said it had come as a shock to him to find the painting hanging in a north London home where he was called to examine it, because he had been on several wild goose chases in the past in search of the originals.

The owners did not wish to be identified, he said.

The work will be sold on 28 February in an auction at Bonhams in London that will be shown live at the Wheatbaker, a boutique hotel popular with artists in Ikoyi, a wealthy neighborhood of Lagos.

The price estimate is between 200,000 and 300,000 pounds ($277,600-$416,400). “We are quite hopeful about it because the market for Nigerian modern art is really strong at the moment. I’ve been in the market for 12 years and it’s as strong as I’ve ever known it,” Peppiatt told Reuters.

—Reuters

China to establish ocean science research center

QINGDAO — An ocean research center will be built in east China’s Shandong Province.

The Center for Ocean Mega-Science will be located in a science and education park in Qingdao, a coastal city in the province. Thirteen institutes of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) including the Institute of Oceanology, will help establish the new center.

Work on the center is to be completed in December 2019. Teams and talent from the 13 institutes will work at the center to integrate oceanology and other sectors, said Wang Fan, director of the CAS Institute of Oceanology. The center will be home to a team coordinating the work of 10 research ships from subordinate institutes.

Wang, who is in charge of the preparatory work for the new center, said they hoped that the projected facility would serve as an open base for innovation, capable of training talent in ocean science and offering support in expediting China’s building into a strong nation in oceanology and boosting its capabilities of exploiting marine resources.

—Xinhua
SPORT

Allardyce can get me firing again at Everton—Walcott

LONDON — Everton striker Theo Walcott said manager Sam Allardyce was the key factor in his decision to sign for the Merseyside club from Arsenal last month and believes the former England boss can extract the best out of him.

Walcott, 30, hit the ground running at Everton and provided the assist for fellow forward Oumar Niasse’s leveller in the 1-1 draw with West Bromwich Albion. He then scored both goals in the 2-1 win over Leicester City. “Sam was one of the main reasons why I came to the club. I wanted a manager like that who could get the best out of me,” Walcott told the club’s website.

Walcott, who started six league games for Arsenal this season apart from playing five Europa League matches and four more in domestic cup competitions, said he could not turn down the opportunity to work with Allardyce.

“I had that short stint with Sam with England and to see it now every day, the way the intensity of training is and how demanding it has been great. I like to go into training every day and try to be better than the day before.”

Everton are 19th in the league with 31 points and go into Saturday’s home Premier League clash against Crystal Palace on the back of a 5-1 thumping by Arsenal but Walcott said Allardyce was working hard to turn things around.—Reuters

Cyclists contest with their best effort in 2018 Asian Road and Para Cycling Championship in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: KYI SOE LIN (SPORTS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION)

2018 Asian Road and Para Cycling Championship begins

KyawZin Lin

MYANMAR is the host of the 2018 Asian Road and Para Cycling Championships that began in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The tourney is comprised of several competitions: Men’s-U23 184km road race; Men’s-Junior & Women’s Elite 103 km road race; Men’s Elite TTT & Women’s Junior 72km road race; Men’s Elite 182.6km road race; Men’s Junior, Women’s Elite & Para Cycling 27.7km and Men’s-U23 ITT 33.5km Women’s Junior & Para Cycling 11km and Men’s-Elite ITT 48km.

A total of 22 countries excluding Myanmar representing seven ASEAN countries and 15 Asian countries are participating in the tourney.

This is the second time Nay Pyi Taw has hosted the Asian Road and Para Cycling Championships. The city previously hosted the event in 2015.

The event aims at promoting cycling sports along with para cycling events in Myanmar.—KyawZin Lin

Triple hat trick from Win Theingi scores big win for Myawady

DEFENDING Champion Myawady made a tremendous win over Gandamar (20-0) with a triple hat trick from Win Theingi Tun in yesterday’s KBZ Bank Women’s League at Aung San Stadium, Yangon.

As Myawady was composed of all the perfect players mainly from the Myanmar National Women team and other well-experienced senior players, they could grasp nearly every opportunity to score goals and tire out Gandamar players.

Girls from the Gandamar team lost their concentration from the kick-off. The loss of concentration and courage from the youth team was the opening the senior team needed to dominate the playing field.

Even as early as the 3 minute mark, Win Theingi Tun scored the opener. Then three minutes later, Hla Yin Win made the second goal with great pass.

Yuper Khaing from Myawady scored the third in a minute after.

The flawless goals were seen with Mi Set scoring at 33 minute mark while Hla Yin Win at 37 minute and Yuper Khaing at 35 minute.

There were two more goals along with a garnering hat trick scored by the best player of the match Win Theingi Tun in the last minute of the first half at the 40 and 43 minute mark.

The second half play of brilliant team Myawady was seen dominating more over Gandamar.

The three more consecutive goals at 48, 49 and 50 minutes were scored by football hero Win Theingi Tun and another consecutive score by Yuper Khaing at 53, 56 and 58 minute mark.

An own goal was garnered at 32 minute by the defending champion team as the ball changed its direction by hitting Gandamar’s players to enter directly into their net.

There are more goals scored by the team’s hero Win Theingi and Yuper Khaing in the last minutes. Surprisingly Win Theingi scored the nine goals and Yuper Khaing scored seven goals in single match of yesterday.—KyawZin Lin