

Women's Week-Myanmar Press Conference

THE Ministry for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Yangon Regional Government and Kanbawza Group of Companies held a press conference concerning Women's Week-Myanmar at Strand Square on Strand Road in Yangon yesterday.

Director U Myo Sett Aung of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement delivered the opening speech, and Head of UN Women Dr. Jean D'Cunha together with SMBC (Yangon Branch) General Manager Nobuyasu Akagi and Daw Yu Wai Maung from Kanbawza Bank Ltd. CSR Department answered questions by members of the media.

Women's Week is to be held from March 6 to March 12 and programmes include informative videos, discussion presentations, reviews of movements in the sports sector, literature reviews and other topics.

Women's Week is a tribute to International Women's Day, which falls on March 8 and celebrates empowerment of current



Head of UN Women Dr. Jean D'Cunha answers questions raised by media members at Strand Square in Yangon. PHOTO: THURA LWIN

and future generations of women both in Myanmar and internationally. It also aims to increase the understanding of women's value in society to both men and women in Myanmar. The event also presents a rare opportunity to meet and talk with top female leaders working in the government sector, NGOs and the private sector.

Women's Week-Myanmar is an effort to promote gender equality and raise women's capabilities as part of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals #5.

The opening ceremony will be held in Nay Pyi Taw on 6 March.—Thura Lwin

Upgrading of Myanansankyaw golden palace expected be completed no later than March

UPGRADING of the Museum at Mandalay Palace, also known as Myanansankyaw, will be completed at the end of March, according to U Nyo Myint Tun, Director of the Mandalay branch of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum and library.

Myanansankyaw was up-

graded because it was built in 1857 and suffered damage over the years. Currently, the golden palace upgrading is completed by over 70 per cent. Myanansankyaw is expected to reopen not later than March.

To be able to maintain the Mandalay Palace for posterity, renovation is being done with

the use of Carbon Fiber technology, Brick Stitching technology, and Lime Grouting technology.

The 100-year-old Mandalay Palace and Myanansankyaw palace are of great historical interest to local and foreign tourists. With visitors in mind, there are plans to build gardens on the grounds for tourists.—200

Man dies from exhaustion in Kyaikhtiyo

A 43-YEAR-OLD man died from exhaustion after climbing up to the Kyaikhtiyo pagoda from Kyikan Pasat, a popular pilgrimage site in Kyaikto township, Mon state on Thursday, according to the Thaton district police force.

"The man visited Kyaikh-

tiyo pagoda together with his family. He went down from the pagoda platform to Kyikan Pasat. Then, he climbed up again. He said that he got dizzy when he was on board the car. So, his son sent him to the clinic on the pagoda platform but he died on

the way," said an official from Thaton district police force.

The police identified the man as U Hla Nu Maung, from Yangon. The police sent the corpse to Kyaikto general hospital for postmortem.—Myitmakha News Agency

Under-age suspect discharged from Buthidaung hospital

AN UNDER-AGE suspect culprit detained by Rakhine, Buthidaung No.3 Border Guard Police has been discharged from the general hospital following his recovery.

Yasim, 16, was detained under Penal Code 302/34 (Child Unlawful Association Act 17(1)/

(2) and (Child) Weapons Act Section 19 (E) by Ngakhura Police Station (Pa) 35/2016. Yasim was admitted to the hospital for the second time due to stomach ulcers and weak muscles on 1 March and discharged on 2 March.—Myanmar News Agency

Mandalay trade fair and workshop held

A TRADE fair was held in Mandalay in conjunction with a workshop to promote export and protect consumers on 2 March at the Mandala Thiri sports ground on 73rd street between Theikpan street and Ngu Shwe Wah street in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay.

The opening ceremony was jointly organised by the Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization and Yadanabon Trade Center. Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung, Mandalay Mayor Dr Ye Lwin, cabinets members from Mandalay Regional Government, merchants from Mandalay, Chairman of Mandalay Region Federation of Commerce and Industry (MRFCCI) U Aung Than and businessmen attended the opening ceremony.

Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung, Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization Director-General U Aung Soe and Chairman of MRFCCI U Aung Than formally cut the ribbon

to unveil the trade fair.

Afterwards, the workshop was held and the Mandalay Region Chief Minister delivered the opening speech. Chairman of MRFCCI also discussed matters concerning cooperation with international organizations and protection measures for consumers.

The exhibition displayed cotton clothes manufactured by Wundwin Township in Mandalay Region, Inngyin handicrafts from Natogyi Township, coffee from PyinOoLwin and Ywangan Townships, tea leaves from Namhsan in Shan State, Myanmar Traditional foodstuffs from Mandalay, earthen utensils, thanakhar (Myanmar traditional make-up), cosmetics, wooden sculptures, traditional medicine products, bamboo wares, food stuff and clothes from Sagaing Region.

The trade fair exhibits over 40 showrooms where products will be sold from 9 am to 9 pm between 2 March and 4 March.—Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung and cabinets members visit trade fair. PHOTO: THIHA KO KO (MANDALAY)

Mayang Chaung check point reopened in Kyaikto

AN OLD Mayang Chaung check-point which has been closed for five years was reopened in Kyaikto township, Mon State on 1 March, according to the Mawlamyine Customs Department.

The old checkpoint was reopened because there have been many instances of illegal trading in unhealthy food, lower quality goods, illegal goods, arms and ammunition after the checkpoint was closed. "There is only Myawady trading zone in our side. But the goods are entering our country without crossing the legal trading

zone. Many illegal trading gates are opening on the river side. So we reopened the old checkpoint to stop the illegal goods, said U Tin Tun Thu, Director-General, Mawlamyine Customs Department. Reopening of the old Mayang Chaung checkpoint was aimed at increasing the government's revenue and preventing smuggling from other countries. In the current fiscal year, 13,830 items were exported using the Mandalay-Muse Highway, whereas 13,080 items were imported. Additionally, 416 vehicles for export and 5,883 vehi-

cles for import have journeyed on the Yangon-Myawady Highway.

An inspection team will be formed at the checkpoint to prevent traffic problems. Also, CCTV and mobile X-ray will be installed at the check point. To prevent bribery, the checkpoint team must check the vehicle within a described area. The media will be allowed to observe the checkpoint, and informants will be paid 50 per cent of the value of seized illegal items. Not all agreed with the re-opening.

"The Mayang Chaung check-

point has been closed since the previous government. The check-point should be opened only in the border gate. We don't need to open the check point in Mayang Chaung if the border gate checkpoints are conducting systematically. Our association doesn't agree to reopen Mayang Chaung check point," said U Hla Shin, chairman of the Mon state Merchant Industry Association. The customs checkpoint was opened in 2003 and has closed in 2012. The check point was reopened on 1 March.

The Mayang Chaung check-

point will be staffed by 11 combined teams comprised of members of the Customs Department, the Customer Protection Department, the Police Force, Traffic Police, the Road Transport Administration Department, the Immigration and Population Department, the Fisheries Department, the Agriculture Department, the Business License and Transport Supervisory Department, the Information & Public Relations Department and the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.—Myitmakha News Agency